



RIVER

Some decades ago I moved to Tasmania and moved into a dilapidated home on the banks of the River Derwent. No one seemed to want this home despite its location and after the move it became clear that every evening a brown tide of effluent greeted the evening, making the real estate undesirable. When the equinoxal winds howled our little cove was thick with plastic and boating waste and every morning the *Anson* carried industrial waste from the Zinc works to drop over the edge of the continental shelf. After every weekend the children discovered saturated tennis and soccer balls that made their way to us via stormwater drains.

It's good to remember how it was because today the river like the house has been renovated. As with other renovations it's a constant battle to maintain the space.

The River Derwent has another name, *timtumilli minanya*, that it was given by the indigenous people who lived along its shores. They used it for fishing, gathering and hunting and there are middens underfoot today. They understood both then and today how important the river is as a source of water and food.

Today our water comes from the tap and it still seems like magic to me. Water treatment is far better now and it's much cleaner water that returns to the river though stormwater compromises the quality through its taint of detergents, chemicals and oil.

This exhibition is an abstract consideration of then and now after living in Montagu Bay for well over 30 years. The beauty of the river, the mountain and the sky is ever present here so I have shown this using imagery shared by abstract artists such as Wassily Kandinsky and Max Ernst. Inputs, outputs, from drains to tributaries are shown. My means include ink pours (moderated by the hose) in bottom layers and a simple form of print-making where a plumbing pipe is dipped into liquid colour and printed onto the canvas. The subsequent layers are formalised in oil paint.

This pipe is from our house renovation and reminds me that water is neither literally nor figuratively free.

Betty Nolan 2022



RIVER

timtumilli minanya
Oil on canvas
126 cm x 158cm

BETTY NOLAN

Nolan



Timumilli Minanya
126cm x 158cm
Ink and oils on canvas
\$4250 fr



Splash
Ink and Oils on canvas
85 by 77 \$1800 fr



Pebble Splash
Ink and Oils on canvas
76 x 87cm
\$1800 fr



Max Ernst's Moon
Ink and Oils on canvas
116 x 113cm \$3,650 fr



River Entity
90 x 95
Ink and oil on canvas \$2300 fr



All The Moons
Ink and oils on canvas
78cm x 122cm \$2600 fr



Supermoon
Ink and oils on canvas
90 x 90cm \$1900 fr



Bounce
Oil and Inks on
Canvas
171cm x 86cm fr
\$3950 fr



Coral
Ink and Oils on canvas
171 x 74.2 \$3500 framed