

JACLYN POKE – Artist statement

Landmarks is a series of paintings that captures personal memories embedded within the Tasmanian landscape. These natural spaces—places I return to time and again—inform my work in a way that feels both comforting and familiar, like revisiting old friends.

I feel most at ease when immersed in secluded nature, where the noise of everyday life fades and space opens for reflection. These places offer solace and rest—a chance to simply dwell in the present moment. Through this series, I aim to paint not just a place, but a feeling: the calm that washes over me in landscapes that quiet my inner world. If a viewer is drawn into that stillness—if they feel even a moment of calm—then I've achieved my goal.

While I was once captivated by water, I've recently been drawn more deeply into the rugged beauty of Tasmania's bushland. There's something wild, textural, and uniquely raw about it—unlike anywhere else in Australia. I want to celebrate this wilderness, to pause and take in all that it offers.

Though my paintings are often layered with pattern and texture, leaving little negative space, the process of creating them is deeply meditative. Through this layering, I strive to evoke a moment of peace—not emptiness, but the fullness of presence.