

# Art2Muse

A vibrant art gallery

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Located in the heart of Double Bay, Art2Muse Gallery attracts locals, designers, national and international art lovers who can also view and purchase artworks online. Established in 2001 by Katrina Hampton, Art2Muse Gallery represents a diverse range of artworks from 45 established artists at an affordable price. The gallery has been operating in Double Bay since 2008 with an exciting program of regular exhibitions and provides ongoing personalised service. In November 2014 Art2Muse Gallery was the first Australian gallery to be invited to participate in the Contemporary Istanbul Art Fair in Turkey.

We offer a home consultation service to advise on artworks. An initial visit to your home or office will include photographing the space and discussing your preferences. We will then produce a catalogue of recommended artworks superimposed on your walls as a preview before trying the pieces in your home. The \$99 consultation fee is then deducted from your first art purchase.

Here is a selection of available artworks by Vanessa Stockard. Please feel free to contact us for high resolution photographs and catalogues of artworks you are interested in and to discuss your requirements.

Katrina Hampton

Director Art2Muse Gallery

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## **Vanessa Stockard**

Vanessa Stockard's delicate Still Life paintings portray the physical change and translocation from the bustling city to the relative cool serenity of the Southern Highlands where she lives. Having graduated from COFA with a Bachelor of Fine Arts majoring in painting, Vanessa studied Anatomy and Life drawing at the Julian Ashton Art School and Still Life and Landscape Painting at the North Sydney Art School as well as gilding and carving with Dane Wilson, Master Framer in the USA.

The Southern Highlands has great soil, and having my first garden is wonderful! I am a painter that has to work with my immediate environment - plucking blooms straight from the garden or a sprig of blossom from the back lane and painting them immediately is both a luxury and a necessity. Foraging in the garden for things to paint is always surprising. The pronounced changes the Highland seasons bring changes in turn to my work. Living in a city apartment for many years before moving to a beautiful 1850s sandstone house, my options for subjects that interested me were limited. I got to know the local florist very well, but that was a poor substitute for landscape and nature! Perfect petals and stems have little personality and often no perfume at all. Exploring the garden, sniffing the flowers, getting thorns stuck in my hands, methodically weeding and closely observing my little world, relaxes and stimulates me at the same time. I think this true connection to the planet is where happiness thrives.

Of course it is not just the objects of nature that fascinate me here. The sense of space in the Highlands has influenced both the composition and mood of my paintings.

The wide skies are not cluttered with lights and high-rise buildings, the air is pellucid and fresh, and my paintings have become more expansive as a result. My gradual adjustment to a slower, more intimate, life is reflected to me as I see each body of work become more peaceful. This increasing calm has not made me lazy, in fact it frees me to explore new subtleties with a muted palette and a sinuous line. It has also finally provided a mental space to develop my long-held concept of peripheral information gathering. The concept involves exploring that environment and sense of being experienced when staring into space in a landscape, just blissing out or not thinking much at all, then painting abstracted glimpses of things remembered, sensed or felt. This method of experience naturally creates abstracted work, with negative space as important as the imagery, and with the realisation of how much information you absorb peripherally.

I needed to move to the country to experience such luxuries. I hope these paintings will calm the minds of my city dwelling clients and help share my indulgent experiences. The Highlands really are the place for an artist.

This new collection of paintings celebrates my favourite Season, Spring. Living in the Southern Highlands, NSW, where the seasons are so contrasting has been inspiring to many artists that live there including myself. Spring here is incredible; the blossoms of varied ornamental plums, apricots and cherries puff up in candy floss pastel clouds and shower their petals all over the ground like coloured snow. This season I have been blessed with my first garden, the dormant stick roses, bulbs and other sad looking specimens we planted a few months ago proved to be transformative... the garden became alive with leaves and flowers. With little imagination, I painted this show entirely from this experience. Alongside

the bountiful blooms I have experimented with elements of space, subtle colour and combining the drawn line with painterly brush and palette knife marks. Colour wise I didn't want to add to the hues that were evident in the flowers and or bottles, soft blues complement the clear outdoors whilst the pinks and soft whites are reflected in the flowers. I use the line to imitate what is going on in the composition in front of me, sometimes to link spacial areas with more condensed expressionist formed flowers and transparent vases. This body of work, created during the past 2 months, have been lessons in breathing space, muted colour and relaxing compositions. I wanted to create works that were both fresh and graceful like their subjects alongside the tranquil joy experienced when I just sit and observe nature at its finest.

- Vanessa Stockard



## **Curriculum Vitae**

2006-2007 Gilding and Carving with Dane Wilson, Master Framer, Katayama, USA  
2003-2004 Julian Ashton Art School, (Anatomy and Life drawing)  
2002-2003 North Sydney Art School, (Still Life and Landscape Painting)  
1999-2001 The Framing School, Sydney, (Conservation and Object Framing)  
1995-1999 University of NSW, College of Fine Art, BFA  
1994 University of Sydney, Art History

## **Solo Exhibitions**

2015 La vie en Rose, Art2Muse Gallery, Sydney  
2013 Textura, Art2Muse Gallery, Sydney  
2013 The Garden, Maunsell Wickes, Sydney  
2012 Untethered, Maunsell Wickes, Sydney  
2012 Tenebrism, Charles Hewitt Gallery, Sydney  
2011 Vanessa Stockard, Artist's Deli, Bowral  
2010 Quiesce, Charles Hewitt Gallery, Sydney  
2009 Siren's Song, Charles Hewitt Gallery, Sydney  
2009 Taree Regional Gallery, Taree  
2007/8/9 Murdoch Collections, Portland, USA  
2007 Cork, Portland, USA  
2003/4 Don Adan Coffee House, Sydney  
1999 Dendy Cinema Sydney

## **Group Exhibitions**

2014 End of Year, Art2Muse Gallery, Double Bay  
2013 Something Small, Charles Hewitt, Marrickville  
2013 Is it a bird, Is it a plane, Charles Hewitt, Marrickville  
2013 Wombat Hollow, Maunsell Wickes and Michael Yabsley, Kangaloon  
2012 A Painterly Selection, Artist's Deli, Bowral  
2012 Views and Visions, Charles Hewitt Gallery, Sydney  
2011 Think Big, Charles Hewitt Gallery, Sydney  
2011 Mythos Fine Art, California, USA  
2011 Murdoch Collections, Portland, USA  
2010 About Flowers, Charles Hewitt Gallery, Sydney  
2010 Something Personal, Charles Hewitt Gallery, Sydney  
2009 Don Capon, Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney  
2009 Blank\_Space Art Gallery, Sydney  
2009 Perlcontemporaryart, Vaucluse, NSW  
2008 Taree Art Show, Taree, NSW  
2007 Katayama, Portland, USA  
2006/7 Guestroom Gallery, Portland, USA  
2005 The Art Lounge, Sydney  
2005 The Brush Gallery, Wingham, NSW  
2005 Kelmans Winery, Hunter Valley, NSW  
2003 Walcom Manning Art Prize  
2003 Moulton Art Gallery Mona Vale, NSW  
2002 Applause Gallery, South Melbourne  
1998/9 Woollahra Art Show  
1997-2004 Taree Art Exhibition  
1997 Seal Rocks Show, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, NSW

### **Notable Portraits**

2005 Bryan Doyle  
2004 Sir Lawrence Street  
2002 Stan Zemanek  
2001 Mike Munroe  
2000 Murray Tyrrell

### **Awards**

2018 Finalist – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
2017 Finalist - Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW



Autumn Arrangement

\$1,650 Acrylic on cradled board, 50 x 50cm



Brights

\$2,200 Acrylic on birch panel framed, 60 x 60cm



Roses with Golden Bunny

\$1,350 Acrylic on birch panel, 41 x 51cm



Mixed Bunch

\$2,200 Acrylic on birch panel framed, 60 x 60cm



Mixed Duo

\$1,500 Acrylic on birch panel framed, 50 x 50cm



Subtle Pinks

\$1,500 Acrylic on birch panel framed, 45 x 50cm



Study in Gold

SOLD Acrylic on birch panel framed, 50 x 50cm



Austin Blooms

SOLD Acrylic on birch panel in lime wash frame, 40 x 50cm



Mauve Rose

SOLD Acrylic on cradled board, 40 x 40cm