



SYDNEY CONTEMPORARY

13-16 SEPTEMBER 2018
CARRIAGEWORKS

PRINCIPAL PARTNER

Deutsche Bank 

AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

TIM STORRIER

Wandering to Arcadia

MEDIA RELEASE

Stand E13, Carriageworks
245 Wilson Street
Eveleigh NSW 2016

VIP Preview: Wednesday 12 September 4pm - 8pm
Opening night: Thursday 13 September 5pm - 9pm
Thursday 13: 12pm - 5pm, Friday 14: 12pm - 8pm
Saturday 15: 11am - 6pm, Sunday 16: 11am - 6pm

Australian Galleries is thrilled to present a new series of work by renowned Australian artist Tim Storrier, *Wandering to Arcadia*, at Sydney Contemporary 2018. This exhibition showcases a suite of Storrier's mesmerising and masterfully realised paintings, complemented by a series of powerfully evocative figurative sculptures in varying scale.

The Gilded Space (the framing of distance)

I was taken to see a lot of paintings by my mother in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Sidney Nolan at David Jones Gallery, William Dobell's retrospective at the AGNSW in 1964, John Brack's and John Perceval's work at Clune Galleries in Kings Cross and of course the collection at the AGNSW. Streeton, Bunny, Ashton and Roberts to name a few transfixed me. Having grown up in the Western districts of NSW I related to their largely rural subjects. George Lambert's 'Across the Black Soil Plains' was a quiet and insistent inspiration. Their large canvases with their heavy gilded Victorian frames left a lasting impression. The frame holding the space and distance was a type of visual alchemy to my untrained eye. Today as I watch Modernism degenerate into Neo Marxist Post Modernism (NMPM) I look back on those paintings and their warm gold frames with nostalgia and affection. The 'A Distance Away' series of landscapes is a modest attempt to recreate the wonder and excitement I felt in the presence of those great paintings.

The Impedimenta Paintings and Sculpture

Impedimenta is an old word and simply means an obstacle to walking. Here he is, a personification of legends; Atlas, Sisyphus, "the swagman" or wanderer - always in search of sustenance or enlightenment. He is a surveyor or aesthete savant searching the horizon for unattainable indicators of beauty and tonal harmony. The depicted figures carry the practical tools of a painter; a palette, a case of paints, rolled paper, brushes and a stretched canvas. His water bag to quench thirst and meld colours. These figures are autobiographical and by implication a type of self-portraiture. A figure in the landscape can be imbued with many and subtle nuances; stance, the attitude of the head and equipment carried can indicate purpose, the time of day and the mood, if not his fate. In the end I suppose the dialogue in these works has to do with a lost fool trudging endlessly towards a glistening mirage. I paint such ephemerality as it is a poetic reality, possibly even a pessimistic delight for me. And so the musings of the Wayfarer go on as always..... futile. I may be painting pre Modernist pictures, maybe, I hope so.

- Tim Storrier, Bowral 2018

Wandering to Arcadia is current at Sydney Contemporary from Wednesday 12 September until Sunday 16 September 2018.

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