susan simonini —

glimmer



This exhibition is a celebration of the serendipitous moments and small details that compel new creative pathways and punctuate my journey as an artist.

In psychology, a 'glimmer' appears as the opposite of a 'trigger'; a moment that inspires feelings of joy, peace, and safety, and in turn has a positive impact on mental health. Working in series, I begin each painting with gestural mark-making, from which I visualise shapes materialising. Often these shapes are informed by my environment in rural Tasmania; the angular design of a farm gate, a patchwork of fields, or the curving tractor lines etched into crops. Embracing these initial glimmers, and following the pathways they present, loose geometric patterns begin to emerge. Each painting informs the next, creating a fluid connection or conversation between them all.

While my practice belongs to the lineage of Geometric Abstraction, there is an informality to my works. The compositions aren't constrained to hard-edged precision, and instead the patterns bleed, shift, and breathe. Rather, the formality of the process is in my devotion to colour theory, which informs my warm, harmonious colour palettes. My process of layering and the constant addition and subtraction of paint, creates a depth of texture inspired by the weathered patinas of old buildings and farm machinery. In this way the paintings pivot at a point of association between the old and the new. I aim to create a sense of nostalgia into the work that feels almost carnivalesque, reminiscent of childhood memories of the circus and agricultural festivals.

new paintings

12.04.24 —— 29.04.24

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The title Glimmer also captures my emotional state when I am painting, a state of unapologetic joy and happiness. By imbuing these emotions into the work, I hope that they will also emanate from the paintings themselves. In this way, for the viewer, each painting might be understood on a vibratory level as a 'glimmer' in and of itself – an affective object that has the power of shaping us in meaningful and uplifting ways.

new paintings

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