

mel aliendi —

up-and-coming
emerging artist exhibition



My paintings are a celebration of colour first and foremost. Colour possesses the incredible ability to alter our mood and shape the energy within a space. Did you know vibrant colours can trigger a release of dopamine in the brain? I tried painting with only earthy tones once...I lasted two weeks. The allure of vibrant hues will always pull me back. An unrestrained colour palette gives me freedom to create and be playful on the canvas.

Acrylics are my medium of choice as I have no patience for letting things dry. Initial layers are loose and free without preconceived ideas of what the outcome will be. If the painting begins to feel 'too tight' a fast and furious paint-over will occur. Each painting has multiple layers lying beneath which only adds to the texture. My mantra, "It's only paint" keeps me feeling brave and allows me to 'start again' many times over.

Observing this creative process, adding and subtracting, is what keeps me curious and coming back to the canvas. Which marks will be kept and what will be hidden forever? The process is a constant push and pull, a dance between the intentional and spontaneous.

The age-old genre of "still life" is a recurring theme...albeit in a reimagined and abstracted way. Organic shapes emerge quite naturally creating free flowing botanical forms. I paint entirely from my imagination and use my intuition to guide decisions.

Yet it always comes back to the colour! Colour is a natural wonder. Oscar Wilde said it well with his quote, "Mere colour can speak to the soul in a thousand different ways." I tend to agree with Mr Wilde.

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