

emi pavlides —  
*up-and-coming*  
emerging artist exhibition



emerging  
artist

03.05.24 —  
20.05.24

Native Tasmanian bees, the unsung beings responsible for Tasmania's ecosystems, silently and tirelessly play a pivotal role in maintaining biodiversity. As vital pollinators, native bees ensure the health and sustainability of our native flora and fauna, and their diverse preferences in plants and nesting habitats make them essential to the intricate web of life in Tasmania.

One of the many artists that inspired me to display importance through large-scale works, was the artist Louis Masai, who uses street art to highlight the critical role of bees.

Through these works, I aim to highlight these often-overlooked creatures and challenge the audience to see the beauty, significance, and fragility of native Tasmanian bees. The hyper-realistic style brings forth the complex details and characteristics unique to each species, representing the individuality of every ecosystem. To accentuate the inimitability of each native bee species, I have focussed on different angles in highly detailed, realistic paintings.

To create my works, I photographed native Tasmanian bees from the TMAG Collections and Research Facility, then I experimented with oil paint to bring depth and vibrancy to my canvases.

The uncanny pin, a recurring motif in all my paintings, is a vital symbol for how we shift our focus on the concept of biodiversity. In my pieces where the pin is in focus, it represents the often-underappreciated role bees play in maintaining biodiversity. Conversely, in others, deliberately blurred, the pin vividly portrays the unfortunate reality of how these indispensable contributors to our ecosystem are routinely ignored and left out of focus.

My art is not just a visual representation; it's my passionate desire to present these remarkable creatures in their natural state using large-scale, hyperrealistic paintings.

Through my ongoing work, I want to inspire change to prompt viewers to recognize the intricate beauty of our world, and to appreciate the indispensable role played by Tasmania's native bees.