
DESIRED LINES

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Simone is an artist who has run an e-bike business from home for the past 14 years while raising three children and loves most things about living in the “People’s Republic of O’Connor” (Inner North, Canberra). Simone graduated with an MBA (Strategic Operations Management) from Charles Stuart University a long time ago and a BA in Visual Arts (Painting) from the Australian National University a very, very, long, long time ago. Contrary to the view of recent Australian Governments, Simone believes her time at Art School was instrumental in making her an innovative, useful, and engaged member of society and not just a functionary of the economic system.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

In urban and transport planning ‘desire lines’ refer to the unofficial paths that collective feet make through the landscape over time. These well-trodden paths are both subversive, being illicit, and conversely, the path of least resistance. Desire Lines are paths that form themselves and are evidence of both humanity and the impact of humans in the environment.

The desired lines in these paintings are personal and reflective. The marks made by the paint brush, are lines with hindsight (hence the use of past tense). Expressing both what was yearned for in life and what has come to pass, as well as hinting at the unformed road ahead.

In these paintings the desired line in the landscape often signifies both the passage of time, consequential change, and its impacts on individuals. Landscape, and elements within the landscape are used to explore what I’m thinking about ‘in the moment’.

The moment (or muse) can include an emotion or idea, such as gratitude to a friend or joy in life’s journey; the path taken. Often, the inspiration for a painting, is a personal reaction to the zeitgeist and current bigger picture concerns. For example, reflecting on suburban life during the January 2020 bush fires, the climate change emergency, and our ongoing journey with the Pandemic.

In these paintings, I try and take the high road. For example, some of the paintings contain discarded and throwaway items such as cardboard packaging. The collage on the surface creates another layer and changes my relationship with that surface and an image. Collage acts as a filter between me and the image that I am using. It’s like a personal lens that abstracts slightly and removes the image from being entirely representational. It shifts my focus onto what’s happening on the canvas in front of me. Collage is a device that changes my mindset from what I’m trying to represent, to how I want a painting to feel. The collage on the surface is like the desire line on the ground. Evidence of environmental impact and a tool for collaboration, creating a new pathway for the paint on the surface of the painting.

Many of my paintings juxtapose ‘natural’ elements such as trees, grass, light, shadow and sky with the built environment, mostly suburban and domestic structures, such as roads and houses. This is both for allegoric or symbolic, as well as, aesthetic reasons. A road sign or writing on a road (or the road itself) can be aesthetically pleasing itself, or as a contrast to a moody sky, or symbolic of something else. Likewise, a moody sky might be symbolic of deeper emotions or just aesthetically beautiful or somewhat ambiguously, both. I can get side tracked.

While context (and the path taken) is important to me personally, I also hope that people can find their own meaning in the works or just enjoy the paintings from a visual perspective. More information about specific paintings can be found at my website www.simoneannis.paintings.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Ngunnawal people, the traditional Owners of the land on which we gather today. Indigenous people have used visual art as a way of telling stories, expressing, and strengthening culture for thousands of years. It feels right that I acknowledge this connection to our gathering here and I would whole heartedly like to pay my respects to Elders past and present.

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LIST AND LOCATION OF PAINTINGS

In the Chapel corridor:

Cupped, February 2022
Mixed media on canvas,
60cm x 45cm x 4cms
\$150

Baller 1, January 2022
Mixed media on canvas board
(unframed),
40cm x 50cm x .5cm
\$200

Ski Jump, January 2022
Mixed media canvas,
45cm x60cm x 4cm
\$150

In the Chapel:

On Edge, May 2022
Oil on plyboard
130cm x 60cm x 4cm
\$400

Hesitation, October 2021
Oil on canvas,
77cms x 102cms x 1.5cms
\$400

From the heart, May 2022
Oil on plyboard
130cm x 60cm x 4cm
\$400

Yellow Waters, January 2022
Oil on canvas,
152cm x30cm x 4cm
\$700

Phobjikha Valley, Bhutan,
January 2020
Oils on canvas
124cm x 44cm x 4cm
Not for sale

Wimbie St, July 2021
Oil on canvas,
153cm x 102cm x 1.5cm
\$500

Bunbury, WA, April 2020
Oil on canvas,
62cm x 76cm x 4cm
\$250

In the central corridor:

Homage to Horse Park, October
2020
Oil on canvas,
153cm x 102cm x 1.5cm
\$700

62 Miller St, September 2020
Oil on canvas,
72cm x 61cm x 1.5cm
\$250

Soleful, February 2021
Oil on canvas,
70cm x 70cm x 1.5cm
\$300

**Self Portrait with dogs. And
smoke**, February 2020
Oil on canvas,
75 cm x 102 cm x 4cm
Not for sale

Vast & Majestic China No 2,
January 2020
Oil on canvas,
76cm x 51cm x 4cm
\$200

In the Gallery corridor:

Road trip 1-6 (from left to right),
March 2021
Oil on ply board,
50cm x 41cm x 2cm
\$100 each or \$500 for all 6

Roadside, sideroad, Little Vic,
May 2022
Oil on plyboard
130cm x 60cm x 4cm
\$400

Crossroad, January 2021
Oil on canvas,
62cm x 92cm x 1.5cm
\$300

Bruce Ridge, November 2020
Oil on canvas,
77cm X 102 cm x1.5cm
\$400

O'Connor bike path, April 2020
Oil on canvas,
76 cm x 102cm x 1.5cm
Not for sale

Black Mountain Run, August
2020

Oil canvas,
77cm x 102cm x1.5cm

Not for Sale

Lucy & Willow, O'Connor oval,
April 2022

Mixed media on canvas,
76cm x 76cm x 1.5cm
\$400

Afterglow, August 2021

Oil on canvas,
76cm x 76cm x 4cm
\$400

In the dining area/kitchen:

Trig Point, May 2022

Mixed media on canvas
99cm x 99cm x 2cm
\$600

**The Chief Economist (in crimson
rosella garb) on a rainy-day dog
walk**, May 2022

Mixed media on canvas
61cm x 76cm x1.5cm
\$200

Family Portrait, September 2021

Oil on canvas, 102cm x 76cm x
1.5cm
Not for sale

A flower with no backstory,
December 2021

Oil on board,
45cm x30cm x 2cm
\$100

At the hospital, June 2020

Oil on canvas,
72cm x 56cm x 1.5cm
\$250

**Vast & Majestic Domestic China
No 1**, December 2019

Oil on canvas,
77cm x 61cms x 1.5cm
\$200