

G O S T

janet jeffs

cox | jeffs | zalakos | EASS exhibition | 13-29 Oct 2023

Sky is an exploration my embodied relationship with the natural world through gestural abstraction. In the development of the work my focus is on images read as both manifestations of energized paint and of inchoate matter within the natural world.

These works are painterly, almost filmic illusions of the sky. This comes from a lived experience of a rural home in Yuin country near the source of the Shoalhaven River. Sky, and water have a strong connection with images of nature that are sensory and visual.

The title Sky refers to a sensation of eternity, a feeling of being one with the external world, through gesture, chance and disorder, emotions that embrace awe, delight, and foreboding.

Bodies of water, a precious resource, are so bound to our being and survival, particularly in the context of climate change. These ideas illustrate how my project has been contextualised over time into making large paintings with energy and ambition.

Janet Jeffs is a visual arts student, currently studying a fulltime double degree in a Bachelor of Visual Art, with a major in painting and a Bachelor of Art History and Curatorship at the ANU School of Art and Design. Janet completed a Diploma of Visual Art at Reid CIT in 2019.

Janet was a finalist in the ANU Drawing Prize in 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020. She exhibited in the 2023 Emerging Artist Support Scheme Curatorial Award at Tuggeranong Arts Centre: *Metamorphosis* curated by Poppy Thomson. <https://vimeo.com/842336165>. In 2023, Janet is one of three GOST EASS recipients showcasing her small paintings *Sky* as part of a group show in October.

The 2022 *School of Art and Design Graduation* show was a culmination of her current practice and Janet is currently working on a series of large textural paintings in her studio Ballalaba home on Yuin country.

Community exhibitions include *Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Art Awards* and *Braidwood Regional Art Group Members Exhibition* in 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019 and 2018. In 2022, the Studio Altenberg *Christmas exhibition*.

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