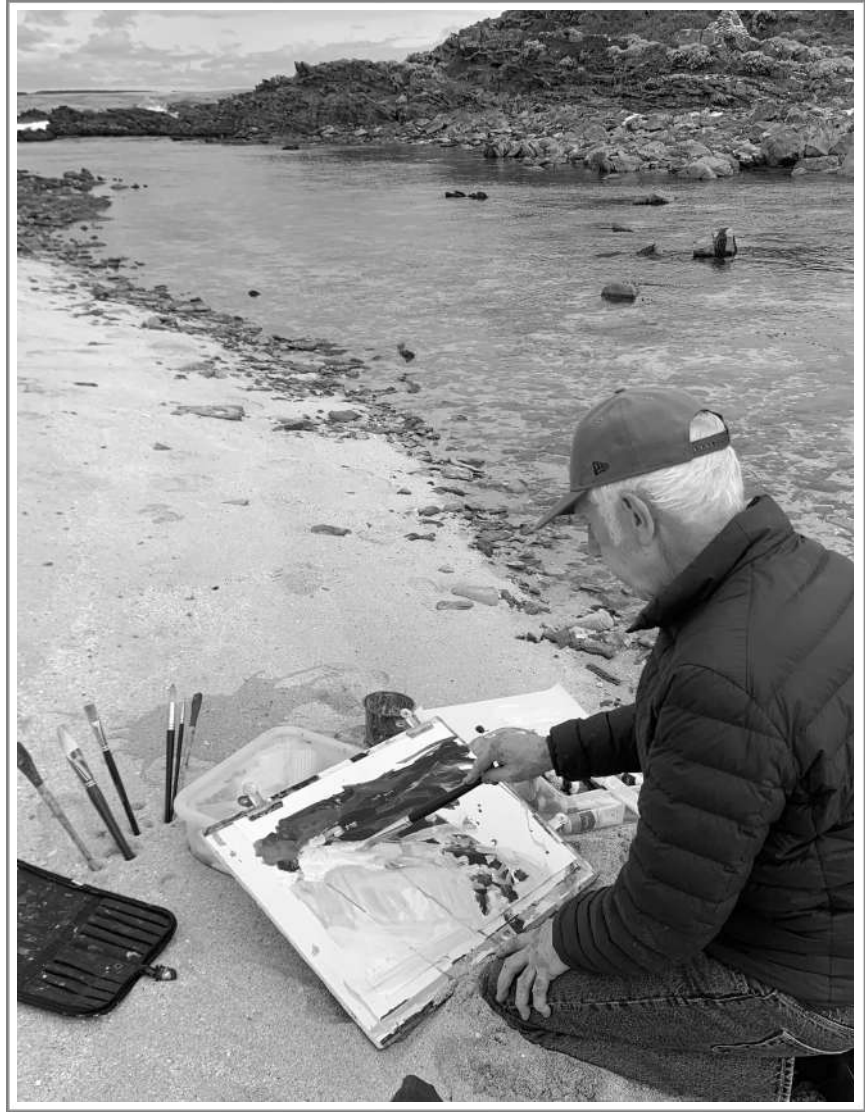


# ENCOUNTER

TWO ARTISTS, ONE JOURNEY



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TWO ARTISTS, ONE JOURNEY

10 - 24 November 2023

In the far reaches of the Tasmanian wilderness, Debbie Mackinnon and Mike Staniford unearthed nature's most awe-inspiring secrets. Here, amidst glorious colour palettes, spectacular skies, and the freshest air in Australia, they immersed themselves in the untamed beauty of these remote landscapes, each interpreting what they saw through their unique artistic lenses. Debbie and Mike are not only life partners but creative collaborators, travelling and working side-by-side. Their conversations with each other and with the landscape led to a multitude of studies and drawings made en plein air.

Back in their Sydney studios, they utilised these field notes to create larger works on canvas, panel and paper. Their distinctive bodies of work reveal two very different interpretations of the same journey through Tasmania, epitomising the immortal words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "the landscape belongs to the person who looks at it".

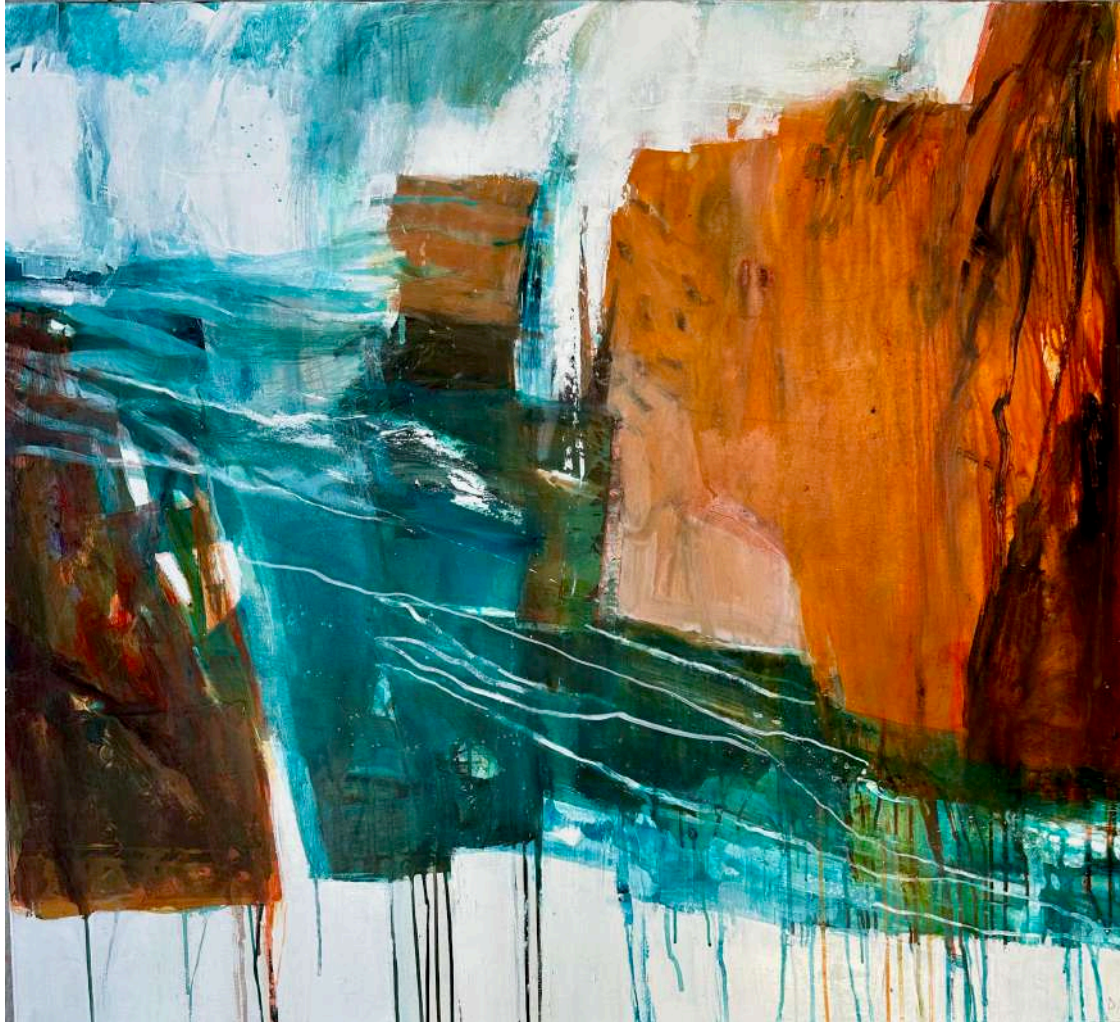


## **DEBBIE MACKINNON**

Debbie Mackinnon loves to be immersed in nature. Walking and drawing outside are fundamental to her creative process. A keen observer, she draws inspiration from the colours and forms of the Australian landscape. Her images of rugged coastlines and wild bushland are abstracted, combining multiple elements observed over time. As such, her work is a record of the sensory experience of a place.

During her travels through Tasmania, Debbie was most inspired by the coast. She spent time observing the ebbs and flows of the tide; the changing light over grand, orange rock formations; the brilliant aqua of the ocean against turbulent, stormy skies. She responded intuitively, creating numerous fast-paced studies on location. As always, her sketchbook was an essential travel companion which she used to record her surroundings. To create the final paintings she utilised acrylic in a multi-layered technique, also embedding elements of collage and mono-prints made on site. The resulting works are energetic and tactile, celebrating both the landscape and the art-making process.

Debbie was born in England and worked in London as an art director in publishing for many years. She now lives and works in Sydney. She has presented multiple solo exhibitions over the last 15 years and been a finalist in numerous prizes, including the Moran Portrait Prize, Mosman Art Prize and Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing. In 2018 she won the Art in the Open Prize. Outside the studio, she facilitates sold-out creative workshops around the world.



**Debbie Mackinnon**

*In Deep, 2023*

Acrylic and mixed media on polycotton

101 x 111 cm

\$5200



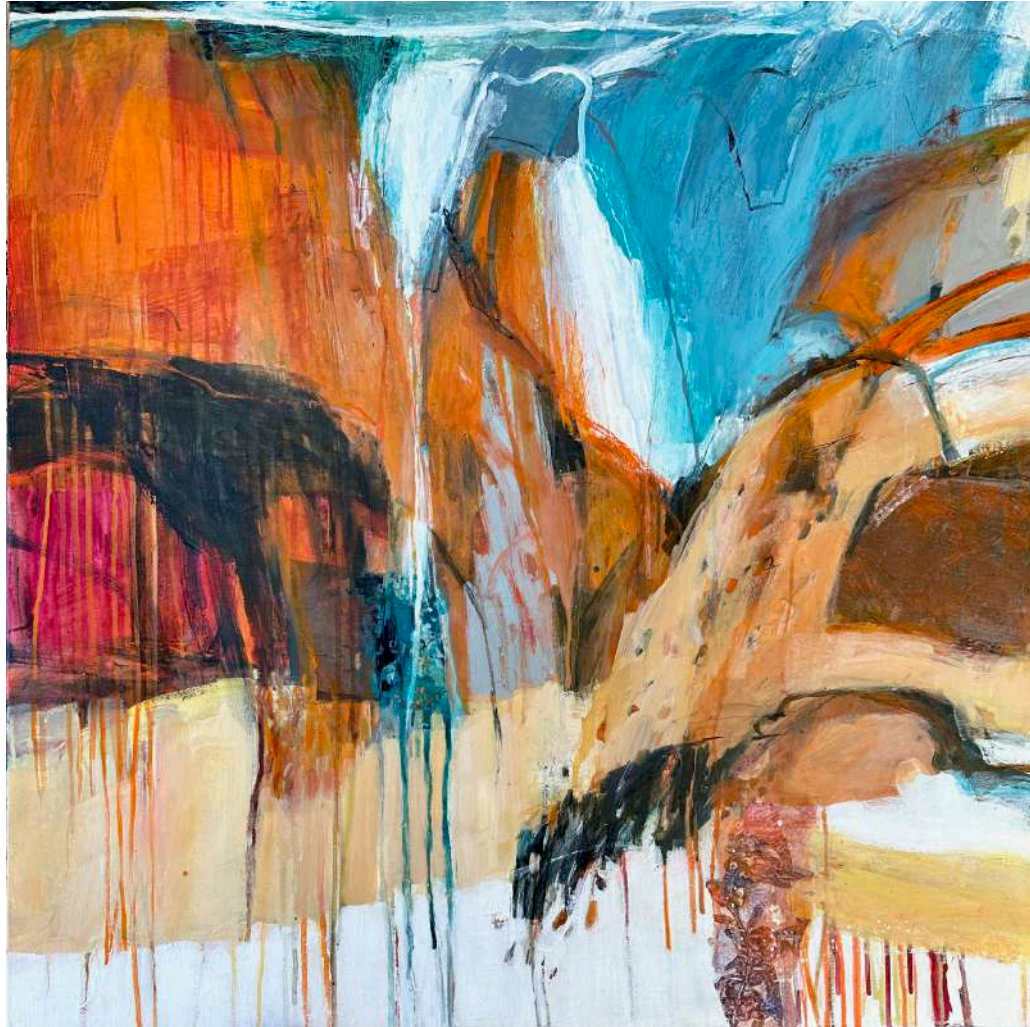
**Debbie Mackinnon**

*Both Sides Now*, 2023

Acrylic and mixed media on polycotton

101 x 111 cm

\$5200



**Debbie Mackinnon**

*My Soul is Wandering, 2023*

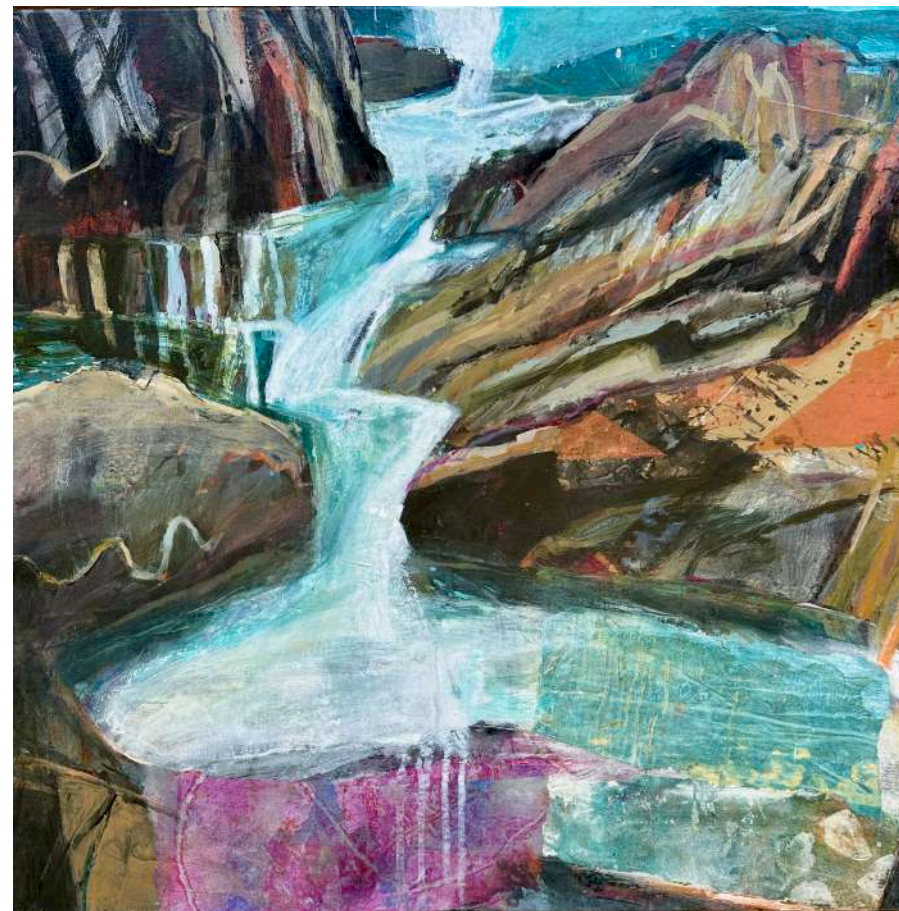
Acrylic on polycotton

83 x 83 cm framed

\$3800



**Debbie Mackinnon**  
*Bliss of Solitude, 2023*  
Acrylic and mixed media on birch panel  
63 x 63 cm framed  
\$2800

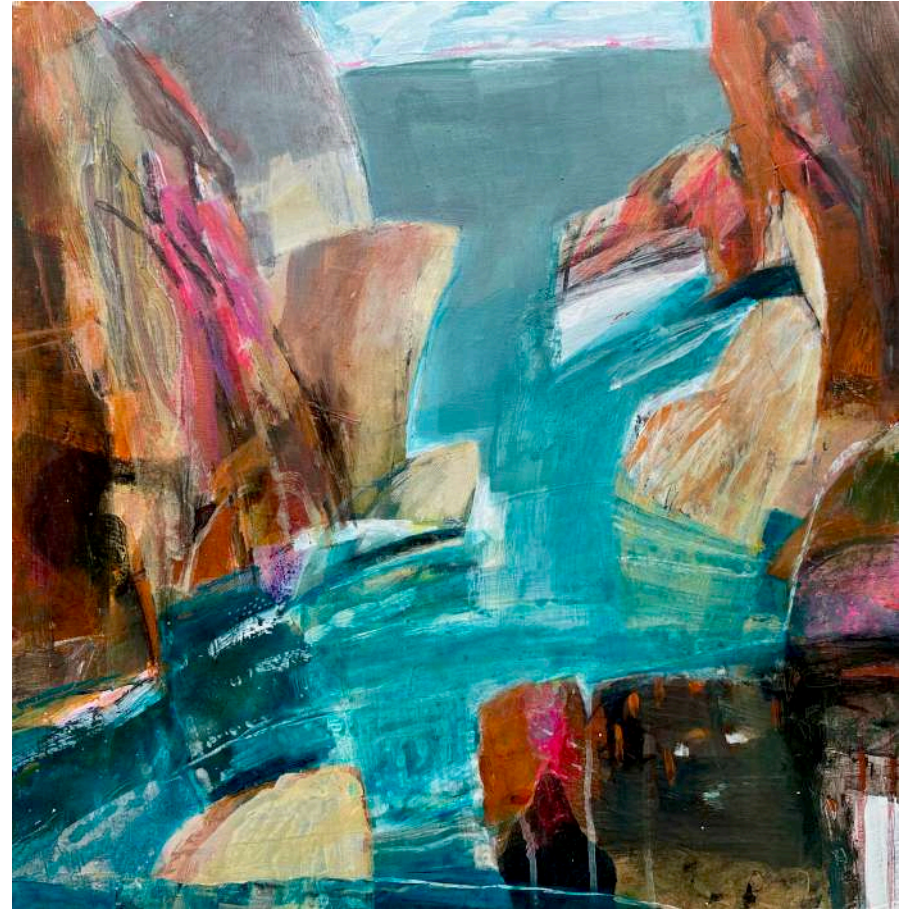


**Debbie Mackinnon**  
*Tumble Through Beauty, 2023*  
Acrylic and mixed media on polycotton  
63 x 63 cm framed  
\$2800





**Debbie Mackinnon**  
*Passage of Time, 2023*  
Acrylic and mixed media on birch panel  
63 x 63 cm framed  
\$2800



**Debbie Mackinnon**  
*The Air That I Breathe, 2023*  
Acrylic and mixed media on birch panel  
63 x 63 cm framed  
\$2800



**Debbie Mackinnon**

*Saltwater, 2023*

Watercolour, ink and mixed media on Arches paper

62 x 76 cm framed

\$1800



**Debbie Mackinnon**

*Tenacious Fragility, 2023*

Watercolour, ink and mixed media on Arches paper

62 x 76 cm framed

\$1800



**Debbie Mackinnon**

*Each & Every Day, 2023*

Watercolour, ink and mixed media on Arches paper

62 x 76 cm framed

\$1800



**Debbie Mackinnon**

*How Deep is the Ocean, 2023*

Acrylic and mixed media on birch panel

43 x 53 cm framed

\$1650



**Debbie Mackinnon**  
*I Could Give All to Time, 2023*  
Acrylic and mixed media on birch panel  
43 x 53 cm framed  
\$1650



**Debbie Mackinnon**  
*Embrace Each Day, 2023*  
Acrylic and mixed media on birch panel  
43 x 53 cm framed  
\$1650



**Debbie Mackinnon**  
*Quietly Waiting*, 2023  
Acrylic and mixed media on birch panel  
33 x 43 cm framed  
\$1200



**Debbie Mackinnon**  
*Standing Steady*, 2023  
Acrylic and mixed media on birch panel  
28 x 33 cm framed  
\$850



## **MIKE STANIFORD**

Mike Staniford is inspired by the emotive qualities of light and weather. His paintings are intuitive and gestural, seeking to reinterpret the landscape; to distill down its complexity and eliminate the unnecessary while capturing the bold colours and forms of nature. Driven by the dynamism of interpretation, Mike paints with a strong commitment to the loaded brush. His paintings are imbued with a sense of energy, both in the ever-changing landscape which they represent and in the expressive nature of his practice.

Whilst in Tasmania, Mike was drawn to the trees and the impact of light across the landscape, both central features in his work. From the late afternoon light across Cradle Mountain to the autumnal foliage of Battery Point, his works reflect the diversity and vastness of Tasmania. He produced numerous studies on location, recording the complexities of colour, form and texture that he observed. Back in the studio, these studies evolved into a significant body of work which chronicles the artist's journey through place and time.

Mike spent many years as an international creative director in the branding industry. He left the industry in 2016 to commit to his art-making practice full-time. In recent years he has been a finalist in a number of prizes, including the Muswellbrook, Lethbridge and Gosford prizes, as well as the Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing and the Fleurieu Biennale. His works are held in private collections in Australia, New Zealand, North America, Europe and the United Kingdom.



**Mike Staniford**

*Tranquil Waters, 2023*

Acrylic on polycotton

122 x 138 cm

\$6500



**Mike Staniford**

*Open Country, 2023*

Acrylic on polycotton

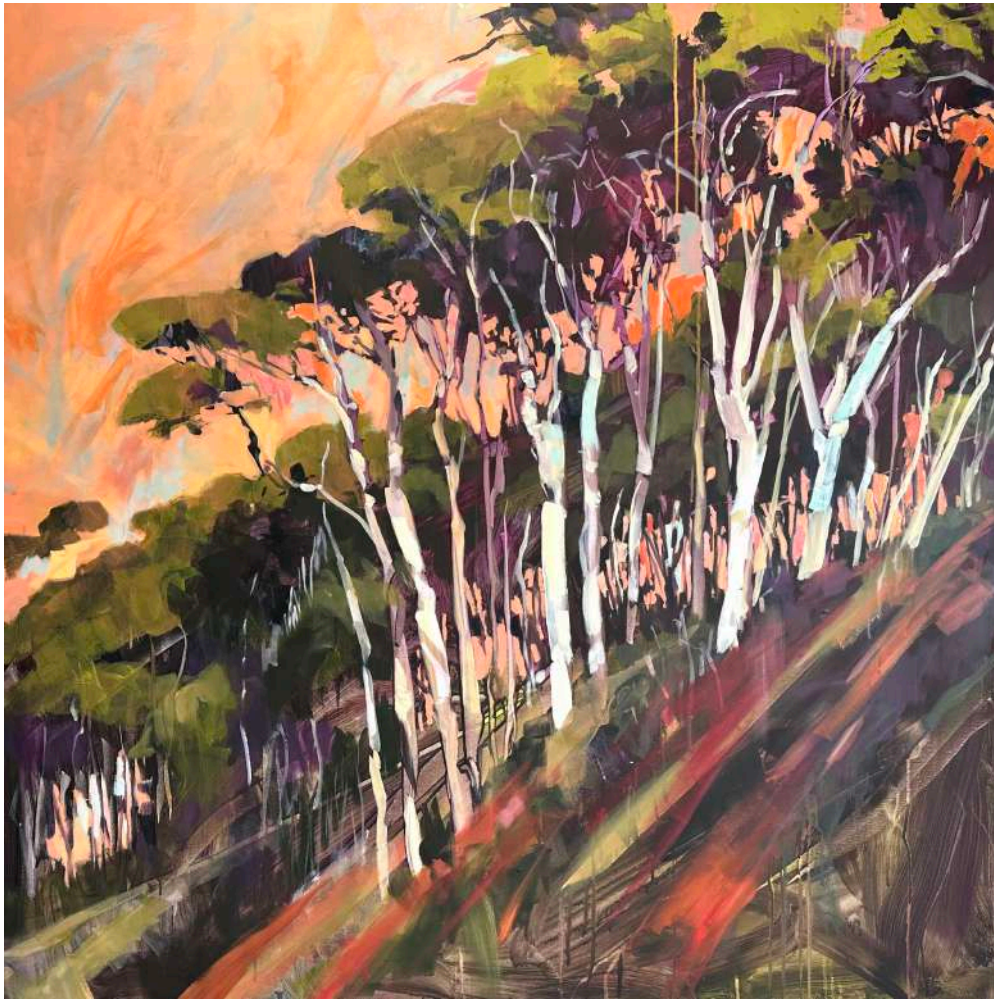
122 x 138 cm

\$6500





**Mike Staniford**  
*Afterglow, 2023*  
Acrylic on board  
113 x 125 cm framed  
\$6000



**Mike Staniford**  
*Rise*, 2023  
Acrylic on polycotton  
122 x 122 cm  
\$5850



**Mike Staniford**  
*Wetlands*, 2023  
Acrylic on polycotton  
104 x 104 cm framed  
\$5250



**Mike Staniford**  
*Road to the Promised Land, 2023*  
Acrylic on polycotton  
82 x 104 cm framed  
\$4500



**Mike Staniford**  
*Path Less Travelled, 2023*  
Acrylic on board  
87 x 100 cm framed  
\$4500



**Mike Staniford**  
*Flatlands*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
64 x 64 cm framed  
\$2950



**Mike Staniford**  
*Flaxen Field*, 2023  
Acrylic on polycotton  
64 x 64 cm framed  
\$2950



**Mike Staniford**  
*Jacaranda*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
49 x 63 cm framed  
\$1900



**Mike Staniford**  
*Arrival*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
43 x 53 cm framed  
\$1650



**Mike Staniford**  
*Autumn Scarlet/Battery Point, 2023*  
Acrylic on board  
43 x 53 cm framed  
\$1650



**Mike Staniford**  
*Autumn Gold/Battery Point, 2023*  
Acrylic on board  
43 x 53 cm framed  
\$1650



**Mike Staniford**  
*Path to the Wild, 2023*  
Acrylic on board  
43 x 53 cm framed  
\$1650



**Mike Staniford**  
*The Witness Trees, 2023*  
Acrylic on board  
43 x 53 cm framed  
\$1650



**Mike Staniford**  
*Arboretum 1*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
53 x 43 cm framed  
\$1650



**Mike Staniford**  
*Arboretum 2*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
53 x 43 cm framed  
\$1650





**Mike Staniford**  
*Arboretum 3*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
43 x 43 cm framed  
\$1500



**Mike Staniford**  
*Arboretum 4*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
43 x 43 cm framed  
\$1500



**Mike Staniford**  
*Last Remaining Light*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
43 x 43 cm framed  
\$1500



**Mike Staniford**  
*Windswept*, 2023  
Acrylic on board  
33 x 43 cm framed  
\$1400

**Becker Minty Hobart**

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