

RHONDA CAMPBELL

Trekking Kimberley, 2017. Oils, graphite, pigments, pastels, charcoal and cold wax medium on Birch board, 60 x 60cm (unframed). COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

NADINE It is obvious that **Rhonda Campbell** has spent time in this remote, rugged and hot landscape for among the heavy earthy tones, she finds soft pinks, delicate creams and gentle ochres. This indicates that there is in fact subtlety to be found in this land of extremes.

Natural ground materials from the Kimberley are used to incorporate texture into the surface of the painting to encapsulate the wildness and harshness of the climate. Sourcing pigments directly from the land, as the Indigenous artists do, gives the unique colour found only in the region, thereby creating a direct connection with the landscape and giving authenticity to the work. I would like to see this painting hung in the company of contemporary sculptures.

KERRY-ANNE **Rhonda Campbell's** painting *Trekking Kimberley* is expressive and striking. Her abstract painting presents a harsh landscape through colour, mood, surface texture and layered markings. She has transposed the essence of the Kimberley landscape – emphasising the rugged earth and warmth of colour. Her layered technique appears coarse and direct which suggests to me that she knows the subject very well and is conveying her personal experiences via the artwork surface. I adore the earthy palette and abrasive textures – I am transported right into the Kimberley with every glance. I would feature this work in a position where I could regularly admire it. The complex layering is a good point of interest and perfect for a high traffic zone such as a hallway or entrance way. Its warm tone would give depth and interest to these spaces which can often be overlooked when prioritising decor aesthetics.



REBECCA On first impression this work pulses with excitement and a sense of emancipation. The randomness of line and mark making is balanced by a colour palette that is tonally tempered and orchestrated leading the viewer on a journey through valleys of semi-representational elements and abstraction.

The layering and scraping back of medium creates many areas of focus, further enhancing the experience of

travelling around and through the painting. The work is commanding and with this strength could be placed in a focal area of a living or dining room, but it also has a warmth and ability to draw you in so could be situated in a study area or library for its nuances to be more closely surveyed and enjoyed.

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