

Unique look at artist's outback encounters



THE OUTBACK: Rhonda Campbell, *Land Traces* 2021, ink, acrylic, pastel, graphite on Awagami bamboo paper, 56 x 76cm. Photo: CONTRIBUTED

AT THE GALLERY

BY LUCY STRANGER

NOW showing at Orange Regional Gallery is 'Layered Landscapes' by local artist Rhonda Campbell.

Rhonda Campbell has been visiting the outback of Australia over the last 30 years.

In 'Layered Landscapes' she presents a series of works on paper made in response to time spent working and travelling throughout the Kimberley region, Tanami desert, Flinders Ranges and Curtin Springs, NT.

Working en plein air and then returning to the studio, her work is an interpretation of her studies and memories

spent in these landscapes.

Moving between painting and printmaking, she pushes the potential of landscape by layering imagery and embedding physical traces of the land into her artworks.

Campbell has built a visual language that flows between representation and abstraction.

A significant turning point in her work was in 2014 when she studied printmaking at TAFE.

The cyclical process of printmaking that she discovered there informed the way in which she now builds, layers, and works back into her compositions.

In her interpretation of her experiences within the land-

AT THE GALLERY

All about our city's centre for art

■ The Gallery is open from 10am-4pm daily (closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday).

■ AT: Located on 149 Byng Street, Orange, NSW 2800

■ PHONE: (02) 6393 8136

scape, Campbell's works on paper play with the real and imagined.

Familiar imagery such as boab trees, Mount Conner, termite mounds and scribbly gums act as an anchor for the viewer, and from this she pushes into gestural abstrac-

tion with collage, graphite and pastels to evoke the epic expanse of the outback.

In this process Campbell has created her own visual language.

After working at Curtin Springs, Campbell was able to incorporate paper made with native grasses into her work, resulting in works that are embedded with the material of the places she has visited.

'Layered Landscapes' celebrates the potential of mediums and the ways in which they inform the artist's understanding of landscape.

Through printmaking, collage, painting and drawing, Campbell evokes her memories and feelings of the Out-

back. 'Layered Landscapes' runs until Sunday 24 April.

The Gallery's autumn holiday program is now live and ready to book via our Eventbrite page.

Our team of artist educators will be delivering a range of activities inspired by 'William Kentridge: I am not me, the horse is not mine' including drawing, collage and paper puppets workshops for younger children and a smart phone animation workshop for teens.

Visit orangeregionalgallery.eventbrite.com.au for more information and bookings or contact our Public Engagement and Education Officer Cecilie Knowles on 6393 8133.