



SCENES FROM THE SOUTH

Scenes from the South is a glimpse into my journey through the landscapes of southern Italy and France. Before I left Brisbane to embark on this trip I studied old photographs from my parents' own trips to Europe, to see what they chose to document and value as a memory all those years ago. These aged photos, tinted with hues of orange and pink, showed grainy snapshots of landscapes, fruit stalls and shopfronts.

When I landed in Catania, Sicily I was overcome with excitement and emotion that continued as we drove past the villages nestled in the hills of Mt Etna, covered in olive groves and vineyards. I chose to begin my journey here to visit the towns my grandparents left in a time of extreme hardship to immigrate to Australia. My first stop was Nonna's village, Castiglione di Sicilia where I walked the steep path leading to the castle at the top to see the sun beaming down into the valley. The plants and trees reminded me of the garden my Nonna and Nonno carefully duplicated in their own home in Australia. I spent the day in this half deserted village and tried to imagine what it must have been like before many of the residents emigrated. Although it was quiet, the colourful buildings and streets lined with greenery evoked a sense of nostalgia. From there I travelled to my Nonno's village, the nearby town of Passopisciaro with similarly brightly coloured buildings contrasted against the purple and black rock of old lava flows from Mt Etna.

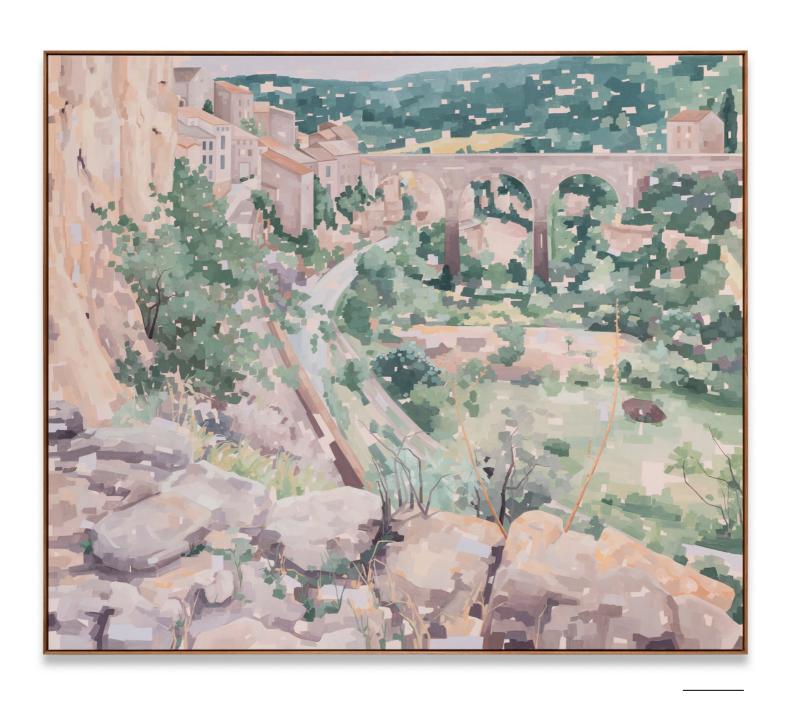
In Sicily, each day I was presented with familiar elements of this region that my family had surrounded themselves with in Australia. I continued to travel Italy collecting sketches and studies from each place I visited.

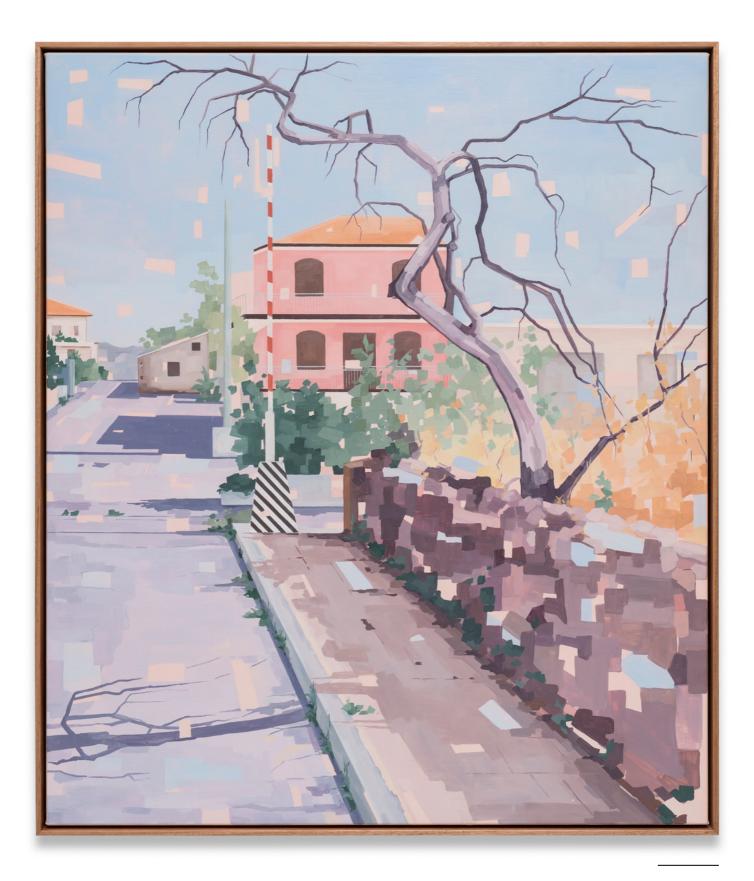
After my experience in Italy I visited the South of France spending the last weeks of my trip exploring its villages. Travelling from Nice to Carcassone I stopped in towns along the way exploring the region where I had longed to retrace the steps of some of my favourite artists. Here I saw the landscapes that inspired them and the studios where they finished these works. Scenes from the South is my diary of some of the places that captivated me and I will continue to reflect on them until my next visit. Like the orange and pink discoloured photos I discovered from my parents travels, with these works I have tried to capture a sense of the allure and warmth these places hold.

Julia Sirianni 2023









Searching for Nonna's House, Passopisciaro 2023 oil on linen 107 x 92 cm \$5,800



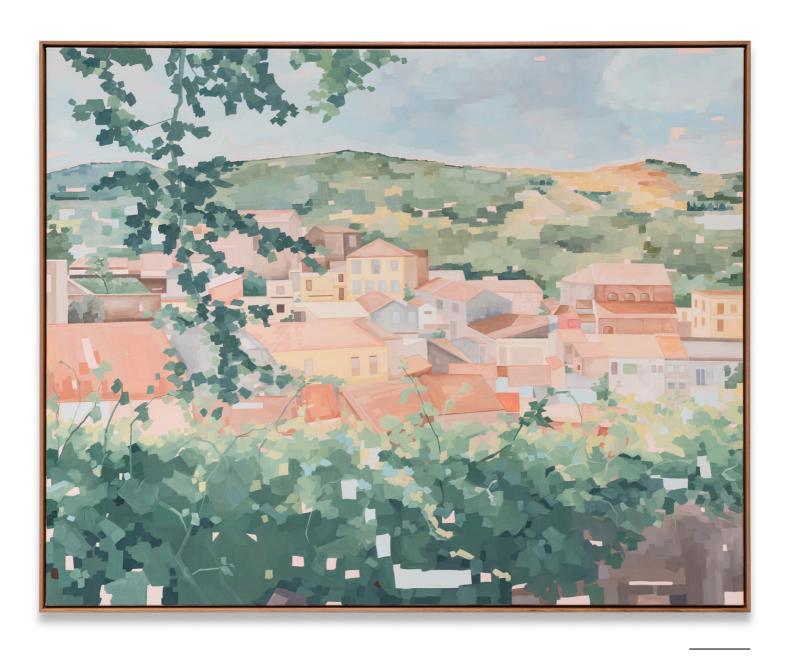


















JULIA SIRIANNI CV

EDUCATION

- 2020 Queensland University of Technology, Master of Teaching (Secondary) (Visual Art & FTV)
- 2015 Griffith University QCA, Bachelor of Fine Arts

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 'Scenes From The South', EDWINA CORLETTE, Brisbane
- 2022 'On My Mind', EDWINA CORLETTE, Brisbane
- 2021 'In the Distance', EDWINA CORLETTE, Brisbane
- 2020 'Suburban Sanctuaries'[Online], EDWINA CORLETTE, Brisbane
- 2019 'From Life', Innerspace Contemporary Art, Brisbane

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 'Sydney Contemporary Art Fair Online', EDWINA CORLETTE, Brisbane
- 2020 'My Imagination', EDWIAN CORLETTE, Brisbane
- 'Open Air', Brunswick St Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria'Macquarie Group Emerging Art Prize', Space Gallery, Sydney
- 2015 'Sculpture 15 Graduate Show', River Studios Griffith University, Brisbane 'Six Plus Seven', Red Door Gallery USQ, Toowoomba

AWARDS AND PRIZES

- 2020 Finalist, Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize
- 2019 People's Choice Award, Macquarie Group Emerging Art Prize, Space Gallery, Sydney Finalist, Rotary Art Spectacular, Queensland
- 2018 Finalist, Morris Art Prize, Gold Coast
- 2017 Finalist, Nundah Art Show, Brisbane
- 2016 Finalist, Brisbane Art Prize, Brisbane

RESIDENCIES

2019 Mitchelton State High School, Mitchelton, Queensland

PROJECTS

- 2016 Album Art, Maybe I Was A Beast, Buellers
- 2015 Album Art, Cassowary Rider, Buellers

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