

# JULIAN MEAGHER

‘Alone in the Sun’ 3 - 27 November 2015

Catalogue of Works

555 Brunswick Street New Farm QLD 4005 Australia  
Tel 07 3358 6555 Mob 0412 301 355  
[gallery@edwinacorlette.com](mailto:gallery@edwinacorlette.com)

EDWINA  
CORLETTE  
GALLERY

Growing up around the foreshore of Sydney Harbour, an area comprising some of our country's most significant historical and cultural sites, has made Julian Meagher something of a spirit wrangler. An artist whose deep sense of history informs his perception of the world, his work explores notions of legacy and inheritance, and how the ghosts of our past shape our present day.

In *Alone In The Sun*, Julian expands on his previous examinations of ritualised masculinity and Australia's drinking culture, looking to our white colonial past for answers to some of our most challenging contemporary problems. Continuing to question how much of his own identity has been shaped by our collective history, Meagher began dissecting the most pervasive and revered myths upon which our national pride was founded – myths of bushmen, booze and the birth of a nation. Looking to what we know of the early colony, where drunkenness and violence impacted heavily on social and familial relationships, and comparing it to today's continual cycle of drinking away problems only to create even larger ones, his delicate compositions of empty bottles become symbolic of broken lives and bad decisions. Though repurposed now as vases and objects d'art, they remain stamped with the markings of their origins, the addition of single stems of native bush flowers situating them squarely in the Australian landscape.

The wounds of British invasion and convict settlement, and uneasy relationship with guilt and culpability that has passed down the generations, have become increasingly important in Meagher's exploration of contemporary Australian culture. Rather than shying away from his own links to white settlement, Meagher turned to the stories of his pioneering ancestors, particularly those of his great-grandmothers and the sense of isolation and foreignness he inferred from their experiences of colonial life. Their portraits, rendered ghostlike and ethereal in Meagher's signature style, are in stark contrast to the bottles and flora surrounding them. Set against the still life compositions, the portraits evoke the loneliness and displacement the women surely felt as they created a life for themselves in a new land.

As we continue to seek ways to reconcile Australia's tumultuous past, *Alone In The Sun* is a reminder that we remain unable to resolve our collective history until we shine a light on the restless ghosts who dwell there. [Carrie McCarthy](#)



'The Nights Will Flame' 2015  
oil on linen  
120 x 90 cm  
\$8,800 SOLD

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'Running from the Sun' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000

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'Black Sun' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000

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'The Seed That Fell' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000 SOLD

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'Burnt by the Midnight Sun' 2015  
oil on linen  
153 x 182 cm  
\$14,000 SOLD

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'Alone in the Mountains' 2015  
oil on linen  
120 x 90 cm  
\$8,800

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'The Night Races' 2015  
oil on linen  
120 x 90 cm  
\$8,800

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'A Light in the Dark' 2015  
oil on linen  
120 x 90 cm  
\$8,800 SOLD

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GALLERY





'Going Mad in a Row Boat' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000

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CORLETTE  
GALLERY

'Alone in the Ocean' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000 SOLD

EDWINA  
CORLETTE  
GALLERY







'The Clouds Came Down' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000 SOLD

EDWINA  
CORLETTE  
GALLERY



'Alone in the Sun' 2015  
oil on linen  
183 x 150 cm  
\$14,000

EDWINA  
CORLETTE  
GALLERY



'A Shining Diamond' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000 SOLD

EDWINA  
CORLETTE  
GALLERY



'All the Nights'  
oil on linen  
120 x 90 cm  
\$8,800 SOLD

EDWINA  
CORLETTE  
GALLERY





'Alone on the Shore' 2015  
oil on linen  
90 x 120 cm  
\$8,800 SOLD

EDWINA  
CORLETTE  
GALLERY

'Leave Me Here' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000 SOLD

EDWINA  
CORLETTE  
GALLERY







'Midnight' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000

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CORLETTE  
GALLERY

'Lost in the Fire' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000 SOLD

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CORLETTE  
GALLERY







'All the Sunken Ships' 2015  
oil on linen  
71 x 52 cm  
\$4,000 SOLD

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'The Fatal Shore (Island Life)' 2015

Wynne Prize Finalist

Art Gallery of New South Wales

oil on linen

153 x 180 cm

\$14,000 SOLD



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JULIAN MEAGHER  
CV

## EDUCATION

- 2003 Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery, University of New South Wales
- 2000 Portrait Painting at Charles H Cecil Studios, Florence, Italy
- 1997 Julian Ashton Art School, Sydney

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 Alone in the Sun, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane  
Drinking with the Other Sun, Olsen Irwin Gallery, Sydney
- 2014 The Sky Still Breaks, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles
- 2013 The Space Between Clouds and Mud, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane
- 2012 Pressure Makes Diamonds, Aratong Galleries, Australian High Commission, Singapore  
As a Matter of Fact, 52 Tins flight QF1, Art Vault, Mildura, Victoria
- 2011 Blue Ribbon, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney  
The King of Good Times, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane  
Strong Men Also Cry, Lindberg Gallery, Melbourne
- 2010 Small Heroes, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney  
Portable Shrines, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane
- 2009 Mikoshi, Scott Livesey Gallery, Melbourne  
Inks in Oil, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
- 2008 The best gesture of my brain, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney  
Scrub Series, Upstairs Flinders Gallery, Melbourne
- 2007 Integument, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 Melbourne International Art Fair, Edwina Corlette Gallery
- 2013 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Chalk Horse Gallery  
Fhloston Paradise, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles
- 2012 Miami Scope Art Fair, Chalk Horse Gallery  
Melbourne International Art Fair, Chalk Horse Gallery  
New Collectors, Edwina Corlette Gallery
- 2011 Miami Scope Art Fair, Chalk Horse Gallery  
Lust, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney  
Wattle, Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2010 Tatau, BMGART Adelaide  
Shanghai Art Fair, Future Perfect Contemporary Art Platform, China

- Melbourne Art Fair, Chalk Horse Gallery  
Aratong Gallery, Singapore
- 2009 The Horn of Plenty, Para/site Gallery, Hong Kong  
Inks, Concord Library, City of Canada Bay Sydney  
Smoking Guns, The Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2008 Chalk Reindeer, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney  
My Body, My Business, At The Vanishing Point Gallery, Sydney
- 2007 Chalk Reindeer, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney  
Australia Council of the Arts Window Box Show, Sydney  
New Artists Collective Exhibition, McCulloch Gallery, Melbourne

## AWARDS

- 2015 Archibald Finalist, Art Gallery of New South Wales  
Wynne Prize Finalist, Art Gallery of New South Wales  
Doug Moran National Portrait Prize Semi-Finalist, Sydney  
Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery
- 2014 Archibald Prize Finalist, Art Gallery of New South Wales
- 2013 Mosman Art Prize Finalist, Mosman Gallery, Sydney
- 2012 Australia Council New Work Early Career Grant  
Doug Moran Portrait Prize Finalist, Sydney  
Metro Art Prize Finalist, Melbourne  
Salon Des Refuses Finalist, S.H. Erwin Gallery, Sydney
- 2011 Metro Art Prize Finalist, Melbourne
- 2010 Black Swan Prize for Portraiture Finalist, Perth  
Metro Art Award Finalist, Melbourne  
Salon Des Refuses Finalist, S.H Erwin Gallery, Sydney
- 2009 RBS Emerging Art Award Finalist  
Blake Prize Finalist, Art Gallery New South Wales  
Metro 5 Art Prize Finalist, Melbourne  
Doug Moran Portrait Prize Finalist, State Library NSW  
Salon Des Refuses Finalist, S.H Erwin Gallery, Sydney
- 2008 Australia Council Emerging Artist New Work Development Grant

## COLLECTIONS

- Artbank
- Australian War Memorial, Canberra
- St Paul's College, Sydney University
- St John's College, Sydney University
- St Vincent's Private Hospital, Sydney
- Private collections Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Paris and Hong Kong

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