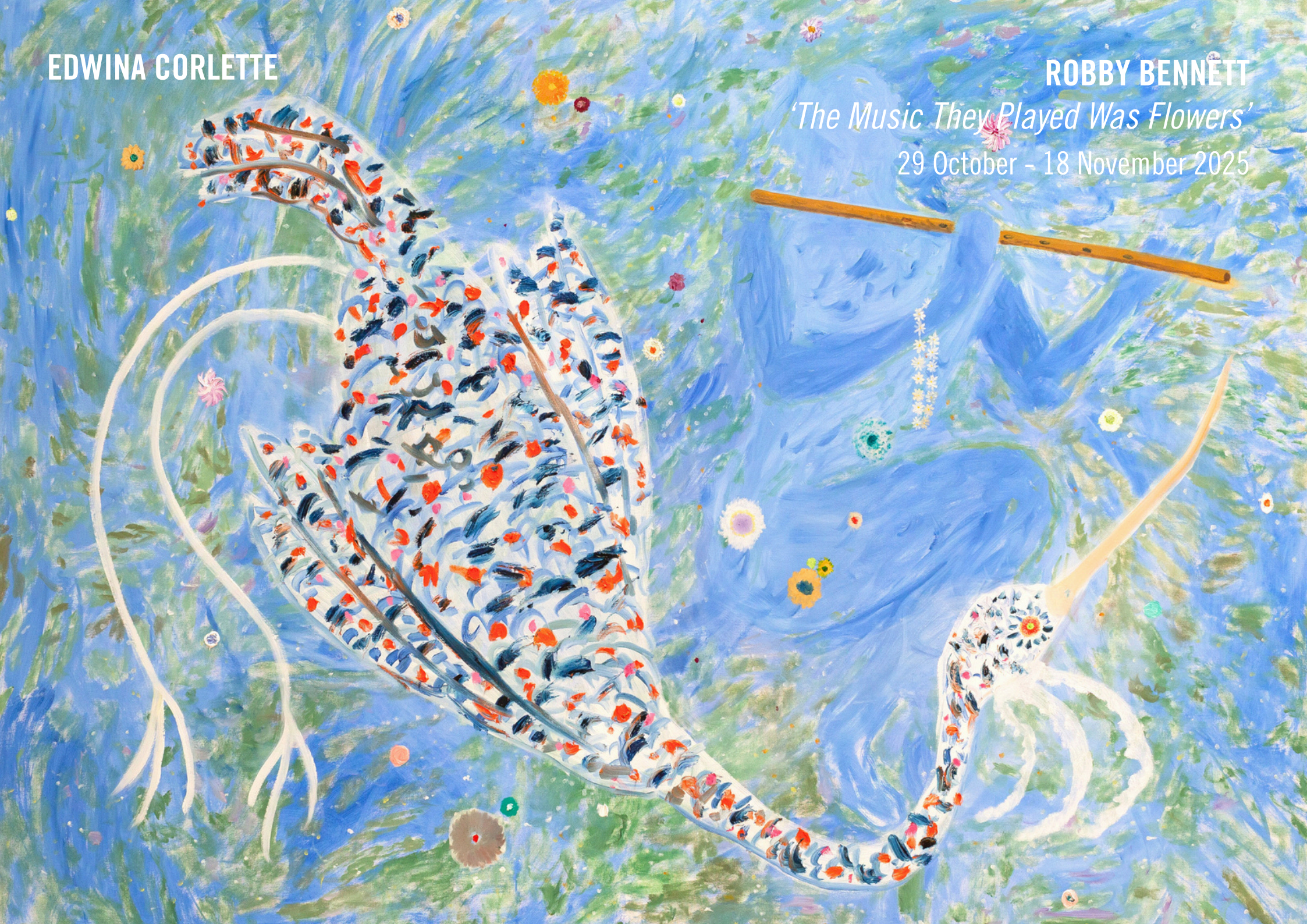


EDWINA CORLETTE

ROBBY BENNETT

'The Music They Played Was Flowers'

29 October - 18 November 2025



The Music They Played Was Flowers

Robby Bennett's paintings present playful compositions of mysterious symbols and cultural references, reflecting how reality and fiction shape our perceptions. Drawing from art history and his rural upbringing, Bennett creates both vibrant and monochrome artworks that spark curiosity and thoughtful reflection.

Bursting with rhythm, radiant colour, and emotional energy, *The Music They Played Was Flowers* invites us into a world where music acts as a generative force, shaping space, mood, and meaning.

Inspired by André 3000's 2024 album *New Blue Sun*, Robby's paintings explore how sound and imagination intertwine. Figures emerge within lush, dreamlike environments, surrounded by floral motifs, egrets, and flowing patterns. Bold brushwork and layered compositions echo the improvisational nature of music, balancing spontaneity with careful intention.

Focusing on the role of imagination and creativity in shaping our desires and environments, Robby's practice delves into the spiritual and symbolic potential of mark-making. Drawing from myth, music, and inner worlds, these works invite viewers to experience a space where sound becomes image and emotion takes form.

Robby Bennett, October 2025



Moon on the water meets the Wind in September 2025
oil on cotton
160 x 180 cm
\$11,200



Invitation to the Wind (Diptych) 2025
oil on cotton
120 x 200 cm
\$10,400

Flutist, Flock and Flowers for Growth 2025
oil on cotton
120 x 100 cm
\$5,800





Lavender Fills the Bowl 2025

oil on cotton
180 x 160 cm
\$11,200



Zephyr on the Water 2025
oil on cotton
120 x 150 cm
\$7,500

ROBBY BENNETT

Robby Bennett's paintings explore the relationship between reality and imagination through varied arrangements of symbols and abstract forms. Influenced by his rural upbringing and art historical knowledge, his work encourages viewers to consider how personal experience and context shape understanding. Bennett's paintings combine experimentation with careful composition, and invite viewers to engage with the ways symbols, culture, and history influence how we see and interpret the world.

He completed an Honours of Fine Art (First Class) at Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney in 2016, following a Bachelor of Fine Art from the National Art School, Darlinghurst (2015) and a Diploma of Fine Art from St George College, Kogarah (2012). Bennett has been recognised through several Australian art prizes. In 2025, he won the Georges River Art Prize at Hurstville Museum as well as the Vincent Prize at Scratch Art Space, Sydney. He was also a finalist in the MAC Yapang Art Prize and the Gosford Art Prize.

ROBBY BENNETT CURRICULUM VITAE

Lives and works in Sydney

EDUCATION

2016 Honours of Fine Art (First Class), Sydney College of The Arts/ Sydney University, 2016

2015 Bachelor of Fine Art, The National Art School, Darlinghurst, 2015

2012 Diploma of Fine Art, St George College, Kogarah, 2012

EXHIBITIONS

2025 'The Music They Played Was Flowers', Edwina Corlette, Brisbane

2024 'Beyond Darkness', Cassandra Bird Gallery, Sydney

Summer Salon, Cassandra Bird Gallery, Sydney

2023 'Open House', SODA + AHNESS, Adelaide

2022 'No Punchline', Peach Black Gallery, Sydney

2021 'While We're Still Here', Ambush Gallery, Canberra

'While We're Still Here', Ambush Gallery, Sydney

'Manipulated Moments', China Heights, Sydney

2019 'Friends & Family', Daine Singer Gallery, Melbourne

'Waters Meet', Maggie Wrens, Melbourne

'Waters Meet', QBank Gallery artist in residency, Tasmania

AWARDS AND PRIZES

2025 Winner, Local Prize, Georges River Art Prize, Hurstville Museum, Sydney

Winner, The Vincent Prize, Scratch Art Space, Sydney

Finalist, MAC Yapang Art Prize, Museum of Art and Culture, Lake Macquarie

Finalist, Gosford Art Prize, Gosford Regional Gallery

2023 Finalist, Georges River Art Prize, Hurstville Museum, Sydney

2016 Winner, Deans choice award for honours year painting, Sydney College of the Arts

2015 Winner, John McCaughey Prize for a Graduate Student, National Art School

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