

## **Kathy Fahey - Artist Bio**

I am a Melbourne based artist and my practice includes painting, collage and artist books. One of the central motifs of my work is the depiction of the Australian landscape and the natural world. My recent work can be divided into two categories, landscape paintings in acrylic or oils and hand painted collages using acrylic, rice paper and Stonehenge Paper.

Central to my work is the very act of making art, mark making, colour, layering, space, movement and a painterly surface. My paintings are renderings of colour, light and form, they are as much about these elements as they are about birds, trees and skies. They are not photo-representative but rather an artist's interpretation of the natural world, slightly abstracted and expressive but still recognisable glimpses of green spaces.

My hand painted collages rely heavily on negative/positive space, the contrast between the painterly collaged elements and the plain white support of the Stonehenge paper. These collages depict elements of the landscape at any one unique moment of time. A bird lands and in an instant, takes off again. Sunlight falls on flowers lighting them up and then, in a heartbeat, disappears behind a cloud. A flower blooms and a moment later the petals are swept away by a sudden gust of wind. Nothing stays the same. These fleeting glimpses of time and place are made more precious and special because of their transitory nature.

As a practising artist I exhibit regularly both in Australia and abroad. In recent years I have completed a number of local and overseas artist residencies as a way to expand and develop my art practice. I also work part time at a vibrant Arts Centre in Melbourne as an art tutor and arts administrator.