



MEAGAN JACOBS  
*North of Capricorn*

# MEAGAN JACOBS

## *North of Capricorn*

30 August – 20 September 2025

Meagan Jacobs is a rarity. Rare in the subtlety of her colour and rare in her soulful and concrete commitment to landscape. Composed of strong interlocking forms, her work is meditative, both tightly knit and unpredictably expansive.

“It’s strange” she admits “to fit the whole of the desert into the small square of a painting. Looking out into this amazing vista, how do you compress it? I guess my discipline is to distil. What is physically available becomes a template for the infinite.”

Jacobs’ desert is a polyphony, both verdant or parched. Working on boards with oils, she enjoys the luxury of time and the chance to scrape back sheer passages or intensify her paint in rich layers. Her compositions bear the freedom of collage. Their forms can look torn open or delicately fused. Wed to abstract lineage, the paintings cleave between a basis in nature and the raw energy of geometry. In many you can find mountains, branches and ravines but they also converge. In her hands the conventional process of breaking down a physical form into an abstract shape is not predictable. Jacobs has such a firm grip on pure abstraction that her work satisfies completely polar axioms: the romantic landscape and the compelling void.

Informed by her passion for cartography, the paintings can float or feel anchored an magnetic; carved with the monumental density of rock. Her line and forms speak of geology in an intimate way, almost as if her expeditions into crags and foothills forged an earth-bound cosmology. “Nothing changes and everything changes. Roads, rocks, land formations, distant views, and mapping are the ‘subjects’ that matter to me. I’m compelled by geometry. My paintings are the mapping of where I’ve been. When you spend a deep amount of time in a vast place you begin to notice confluences between the patterns of rocks, land and trees. And formally the work contains those layers, the strata built by time. I like the history of what’s come before to come through, so I fracture the surface.”

The influence of mountains and boulders lends a replete quality to her paintings. Each piece locks boldly into place. The sharp contrasts of colour work like tectonic plates, thrusting landforms from their ancient roosts, presenting an earth that is volatile and alive. Wedding bare expanses of colour to pockets of intricate pattern, the impact is tactile. While most of the paintings are not massive in scale they are immersive. A potent yield of so many years in wild places. Jacobs takes pleasure in mixing every shade and says she has a keen memory for every mutation of colour. “Nothing straight from the tube” is her rule and it seems to reflect her way. A deeply personal perception of nature. And, through hard won communion, a language that is hers alone.

Essay excerpt by Anna Johnson



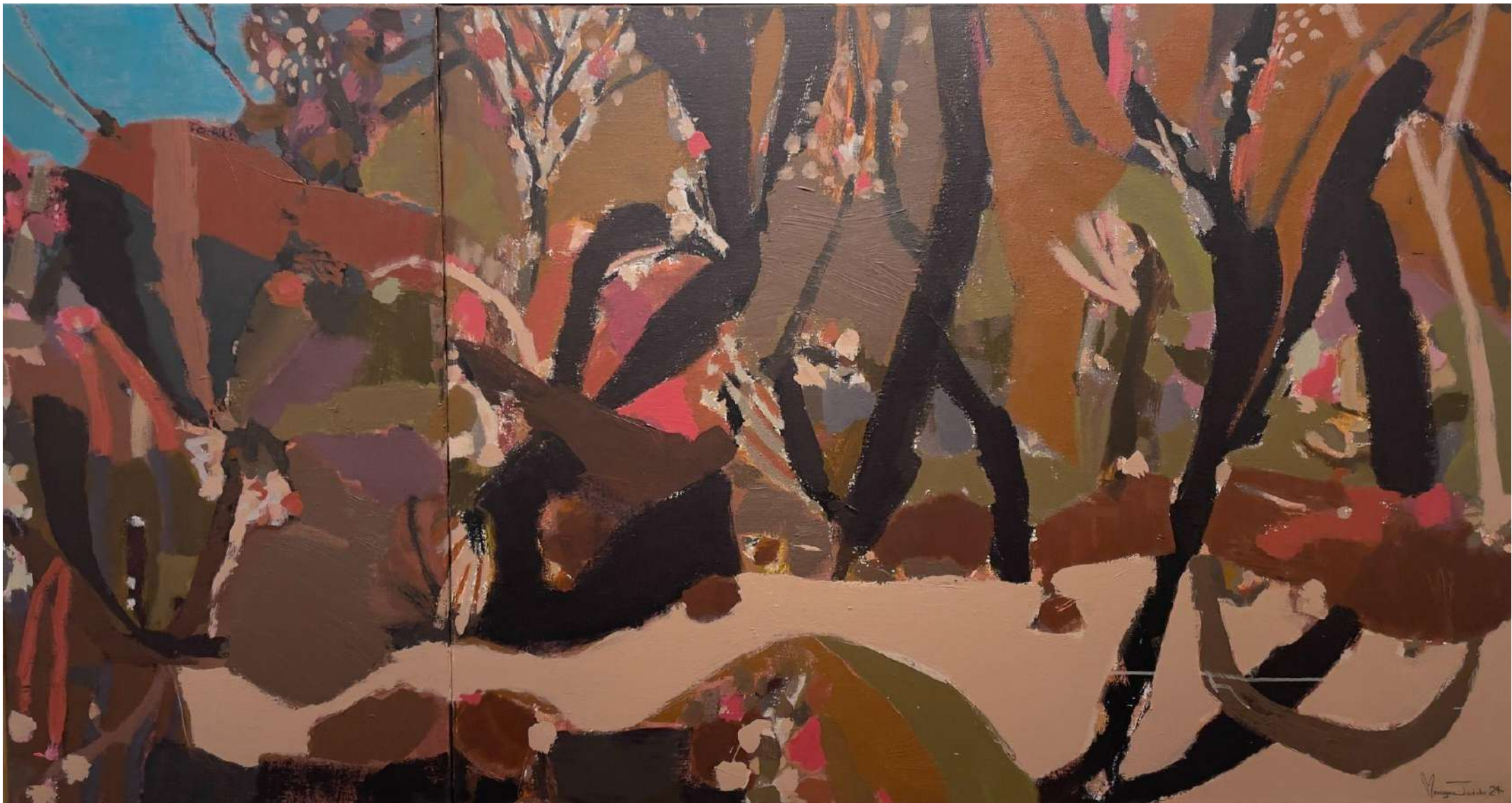
*Sighting Harts*

acrylic on linen

152 x 122 cm, 155 x 125 cm (framed)

\$6,900





*North of Capricorn (diptych)*

acrylic on linen

91 x 172 cm, 94 x 175 cm (framed)

\$6,600



*Capricorn Heat*  
acrylic on Arches paper  
56 x 76 cm, 72 x 91 cm (framed)  
\$2,800





*Afterburn*

acrylic on linen

122 x 107 cm, 125 x 110 cm (framed)

\$6,300



*Will the Clouds Turn Green*

acrylic on Arches paper

56 x 76 cm, 72 x 91 cm (framed)

\$2,800





*Rolling Thunder*

acrylic on linen

107 x 107 cm, 110 x 110 cm (framed)

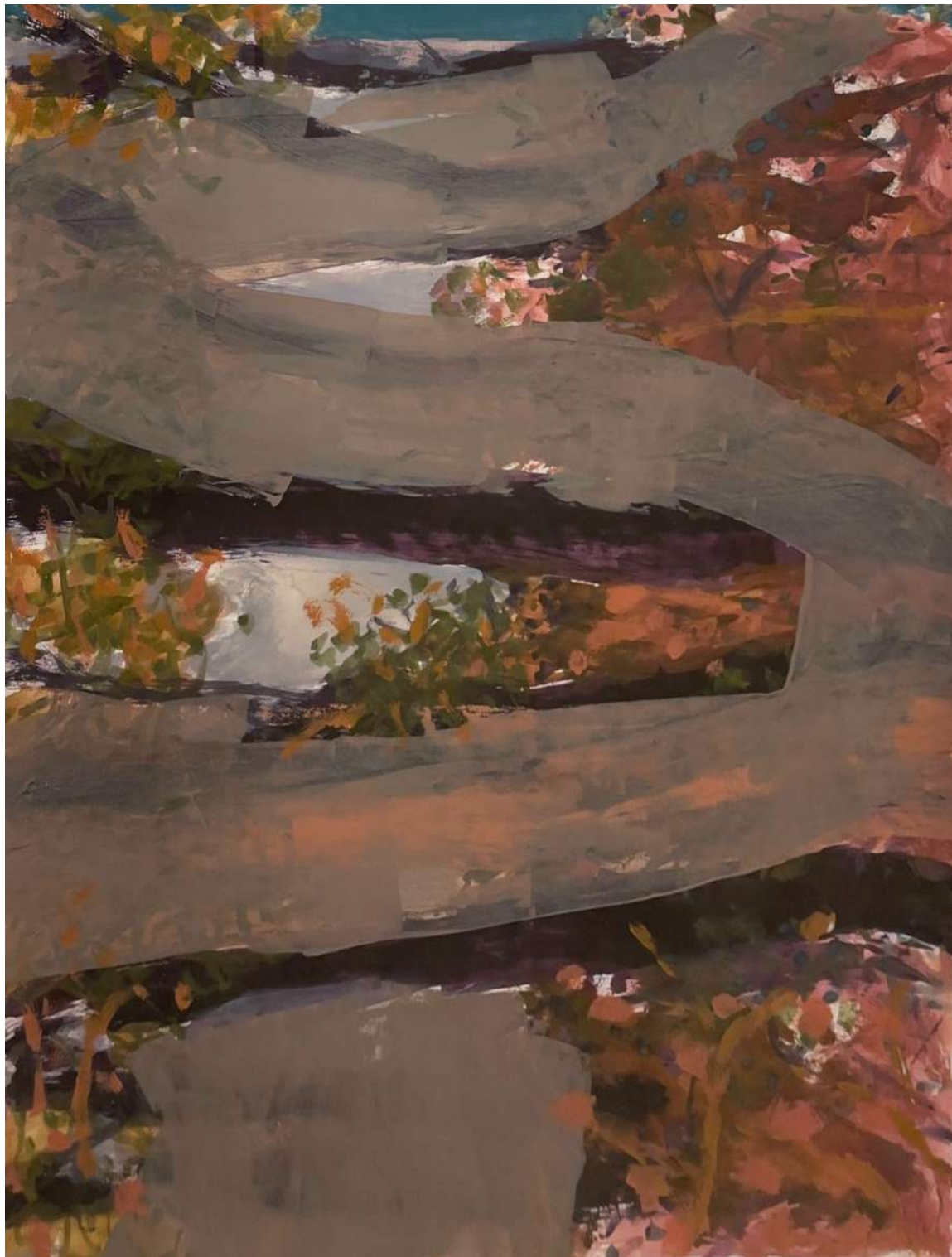
\$5,200





*Sandover*  
acrylic on linen  
91 x 122 cm, 94 x 125 cm (framed)  
\$5,200

*Flood*  
acrylic on Arches paper  
76 x 56 cm, 91 x 72 cm (framed)  
\$2,800

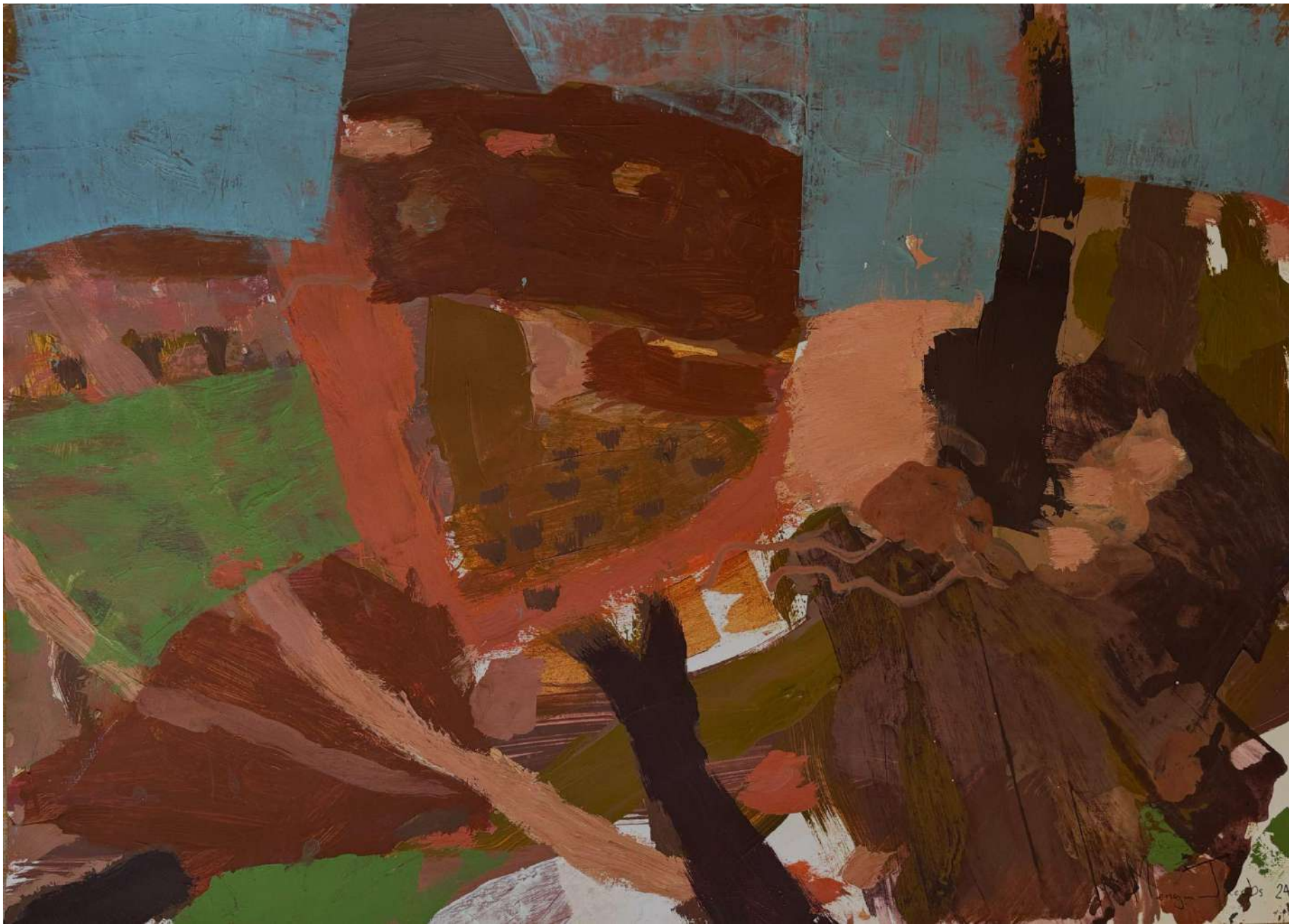






*Storm Shift*  
acrylic on linen  
91 x 122 cm, 94 x 125 cm (framed)  
\$5,200





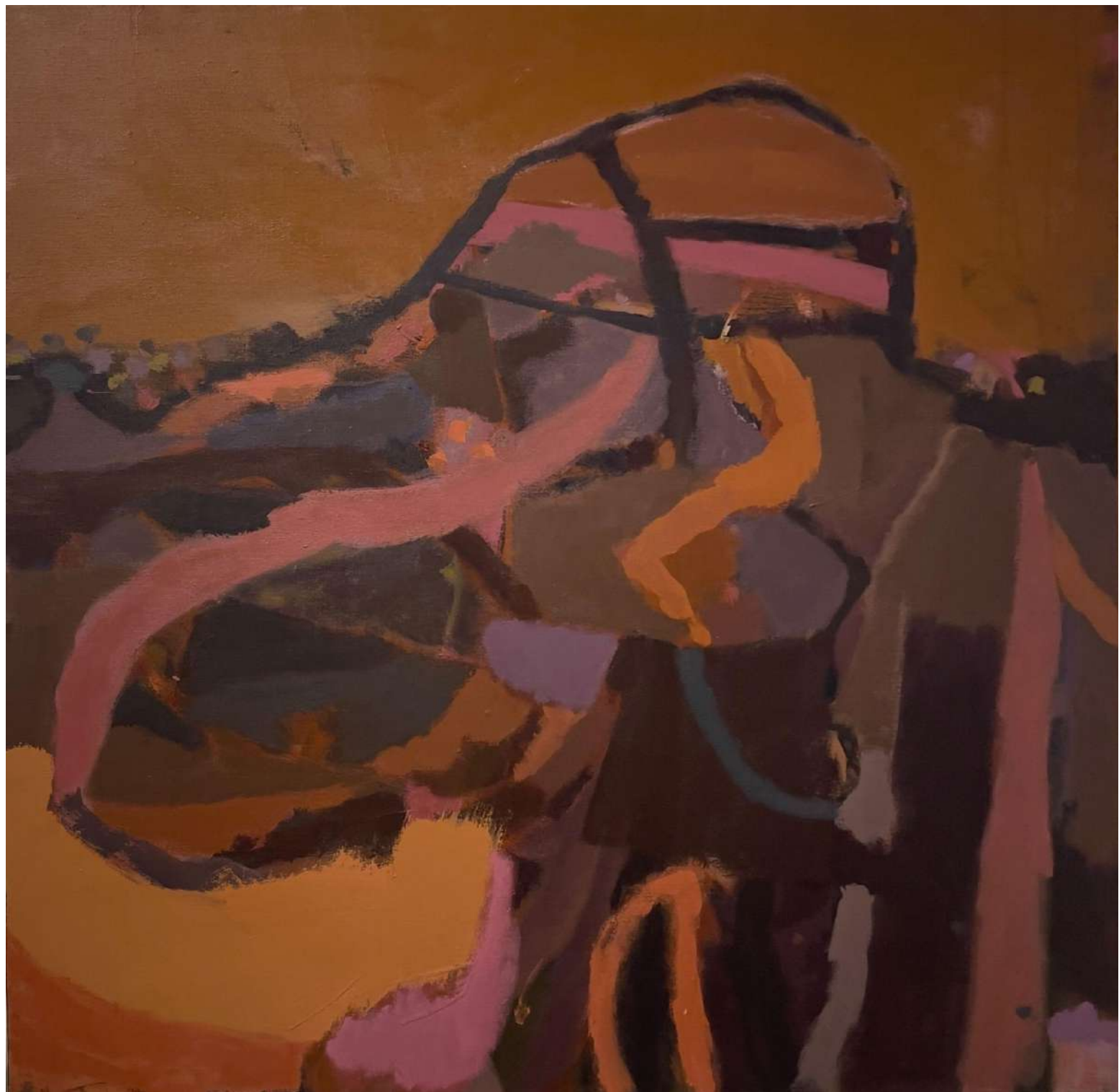
*Verdant II*

acrylic on paper

50 x 70 cm, 63 x 82.5 cm (framed)

\$2,600





*Harts Bluff*

acrylic on linen

122 x 122 cm, 125 x 125 cm (framed)

\$6,500



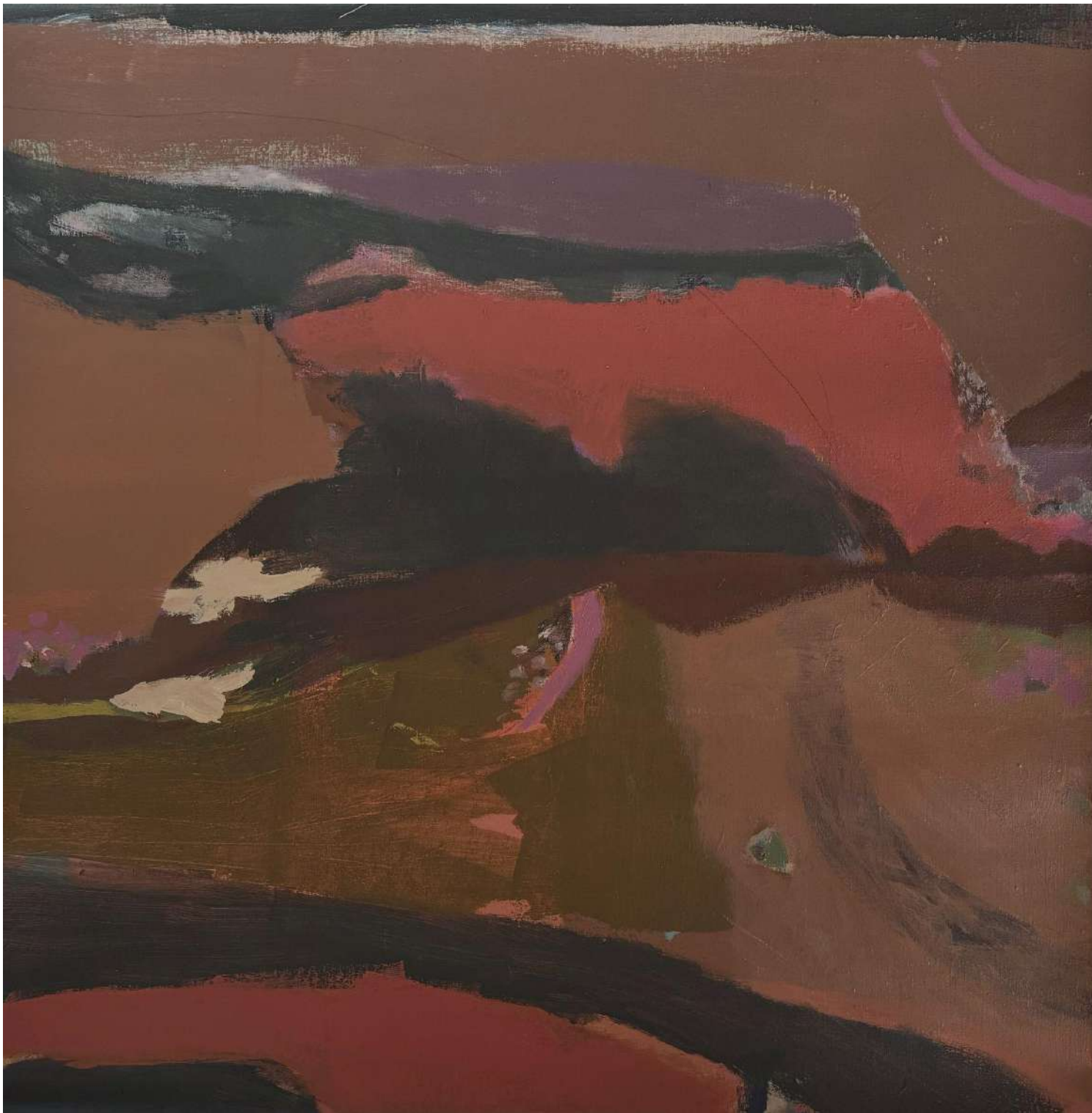
*Lining up Utopia*

acrylic on linen

91 x 122 cm, 94 x 125 cm (framed)

\$5,200





*Back Track*  
acrylic on linen  
76 x 76 cm, 79 x 79 cm (framed)  
\$3,500



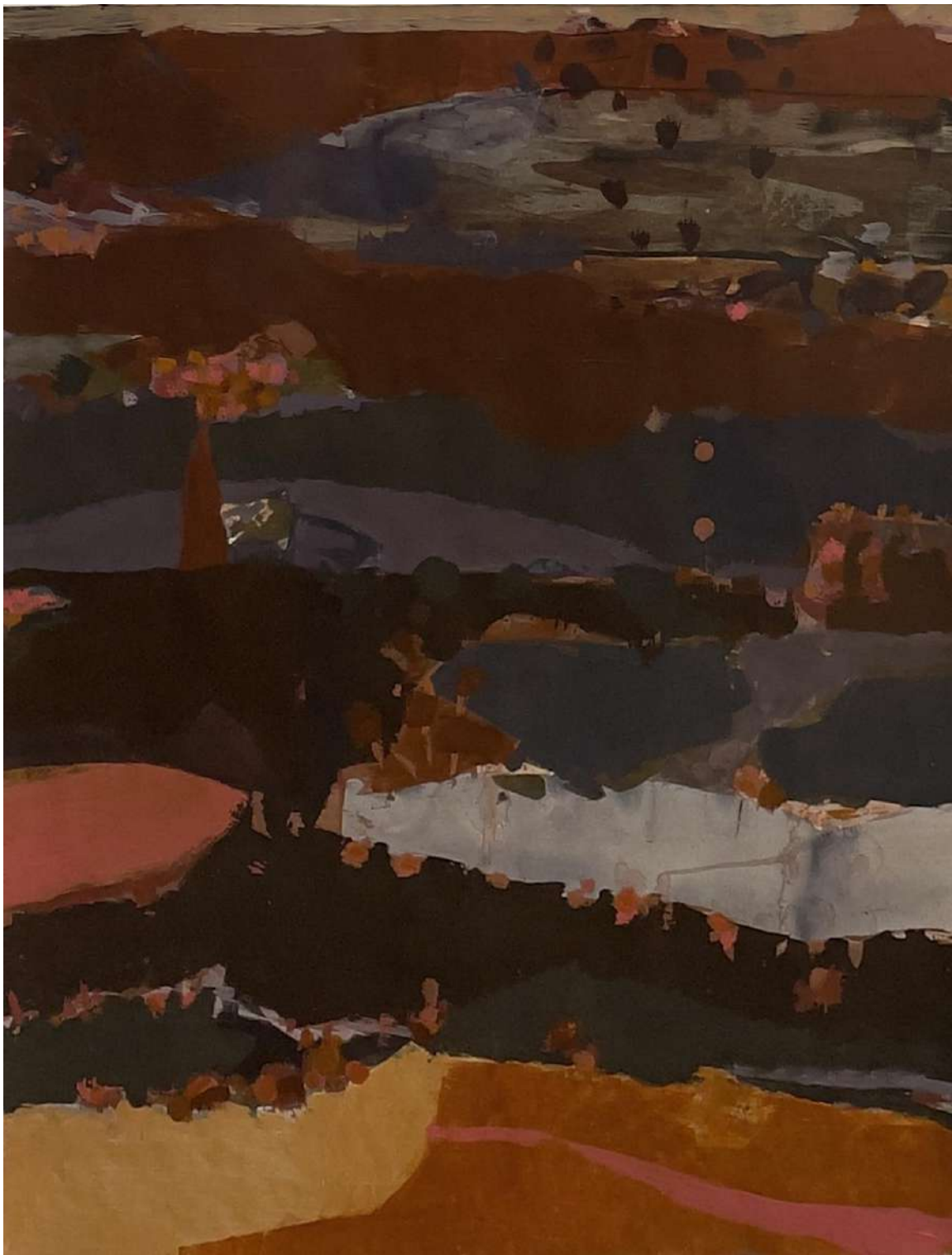
*The Greener the Grass*

acrylic on paper

50 x 70 cm, 63 x 82.5 cm (framed)

\$2,600





*Land Salt*

acrylic on Arches paper

76 x 56 cm, 91 x 72 cm (framed)

\$2,800

MEAGAN JACOBS CV

Education

2023	Diploma Creative Arts & Health, University of Tasmania
2001	Fine Arts Certificate II Drawing, Illawarra Institute

Solo Exhibitions

2025	North of Capricorn, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
2023	Ground Up,Gallery Alchemy
2022	Landlines, AK Bellinger Gallery
2021	Earth To Sky, AK Bellinger Gallery
2020	Land Of Many Islands, AK Bellinger Gallery
2018	Shadow Place, Shoalhaven Regional Gallery
2017	Sunday Road, Gallery East, Clovelly
2016	Heartland, Tallwood, Mollymook
	Walking Thru The Land, Gallery East, Clovelly
2015	Desert, Dogs & Dust, Cupitts Winery
2014	Unearth III, Shoalhaven Regional Gallery
2012	Unearth, Ulladulla Guest House Gallery
2011	Round a Lazy Bend, Ulladulla Guest House Gallery
2010	Imagining Rub, Ulladulla Guest House Gallery
2009	Embellish, Ulladulla Guest House Gallery
2007	My Space, Shoalhaven Regional Gallery

Group Exhibitions

2025	Terrain, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
2023	Painted River Project, Bank Art Museum, Moree
	Back Country, AK Bellinger Gallery
2022	When All The World Was Green, Slow/Escape Artfest
2019	Memory and Land, AK Bellinger Gallery
	Modern Love, AK Bellinger Gallery
2016	After Silence, Beth Hulme Gallery, Fitzroy

	Interconnected, Form Studio & Galleries, Queanbeyan
2014	Lost in Waste, Shoalhaven Regional Art Gallery
2013	Broken Hill Solar Powered Film Festival – Broken Hill
2012	Eight Shades of Red, Alley Gallery, Ulladulla
2011	Summer on the Coast, Alley Gallery, Ulladulla
2011	Alley Archies, Alley Gallery, Ulladulla
2010	Black & White, Alley Gallery, Ulladulla
2009	Uke & Art, King Studio, Milton
2009	La Vita Artistica, Salmon Gallery, McMahons Point
	Playful Art, Salmon Galleries, McMahons Point
2008	Scissors Paper Rock, Shoalhaven Art Gallery
	From the Ground Up, Coast Gallery, Milton
	Group Show, Michael Commerford Art Gallery
2007	Mountains to the Sea, Coast Gallery, Milton
	Global, Coast Gallery, Milton
2006	Abstraction, Global Gallery, Paddington
	Spring, Green House Gallery, Milton
2003	Group Show, Salmon Galleries, McMahons Point
2002	Blend, Tabula Rasa Contemporary Art Festival

Awards & Residencies

2012	COA Award, Alley Gallery, Ulladulla
2009	Meroogal Women’s Art Prize, Finalist
2008	Meroogal Women’s Art Prize, Finalist
2006	Meroogal Women’s Art Prize, Finalist

Indigenous Arts Centres

Artists of Ampilatwatja, Ampilatwatja, NT (Art Centre Manager, November 2023 – Present)  
Warlukurlangu Aboriginal Art Centre, Yuendumu, NT (Studio Coordinator, June 2019 – April 2021)





**DEFIANCE**  
**GALLERY** at Mary Place | Est 1995

12 Mary Place Paddington NSW 2021 | 02 9557 8483 | [defiancegallery.com](http://defiancegallery.com) | [enquiry@defiancegallery.com](mailto:enquiry@defiancegallery.com)