

Artist: Julien Playoust

Exhibition: *Landscape, Existence*



Codex 1, Standing by the road just out of Dalby, 2020
charcoal on paper 41 x 31 cm



Landscape II, 2021, oil on canvas board. 61 x 51 cm

About Julien Playoust

The artist focuses primarily on plein air and narrative studio painting. Working from preliminary sketches, memory and montages, Playoust explores themes of landscape and labour, and our common human experience. He has a lifelong passion and commitment for painting and art. It is only over the last number of years that Playoust has established a dedicated studio practice with a permanent painting studio based in Sydney, and he has been included in exhibitions since 2019. *Landscape, Existence* is the artist's first solo exhibition.

<https://julienplayoust.com/>

From the artist

'The Landscape Codex' is a book that forms a set of 24 drawings I did in 2019 at our property Millambri. Each are 30 x 42 cm or else double-paged 30 x 84 cm, and all are featured on my website in 'Landscape'. Most are charcoal & chalk, some with sepia ink & watercolour and they have provided inspiration for future paintings. (The naming convention follows in the footsteps of James Gleeson's 'Peregian Codex', a set of 22 works by Gleeson done at Peregian Beach in 1983 that became the 'typology' for many of his subsequent large paintings.)

Studying

- Look at the two landscapes above and note the materials used in each and describe how the art elements of colour, tone, line and form create different visual qualities in each work.
- What does the text from the artist tell you about how artists learn from other artists?
Research Playoust's artist/art inspiration.

Making

- Playoust has drawn and painted a familiar and personal location. Select a location that is familiar to you and sketch it using charcoal. Produce several sketches by rotating where you are and drawing what is beside or behind you.
- Redraw/reinterpret one of your drawings on a canvas or board and paint it using acrylic paints. Ensure you consider the focus of your work, and the mood and feeling.