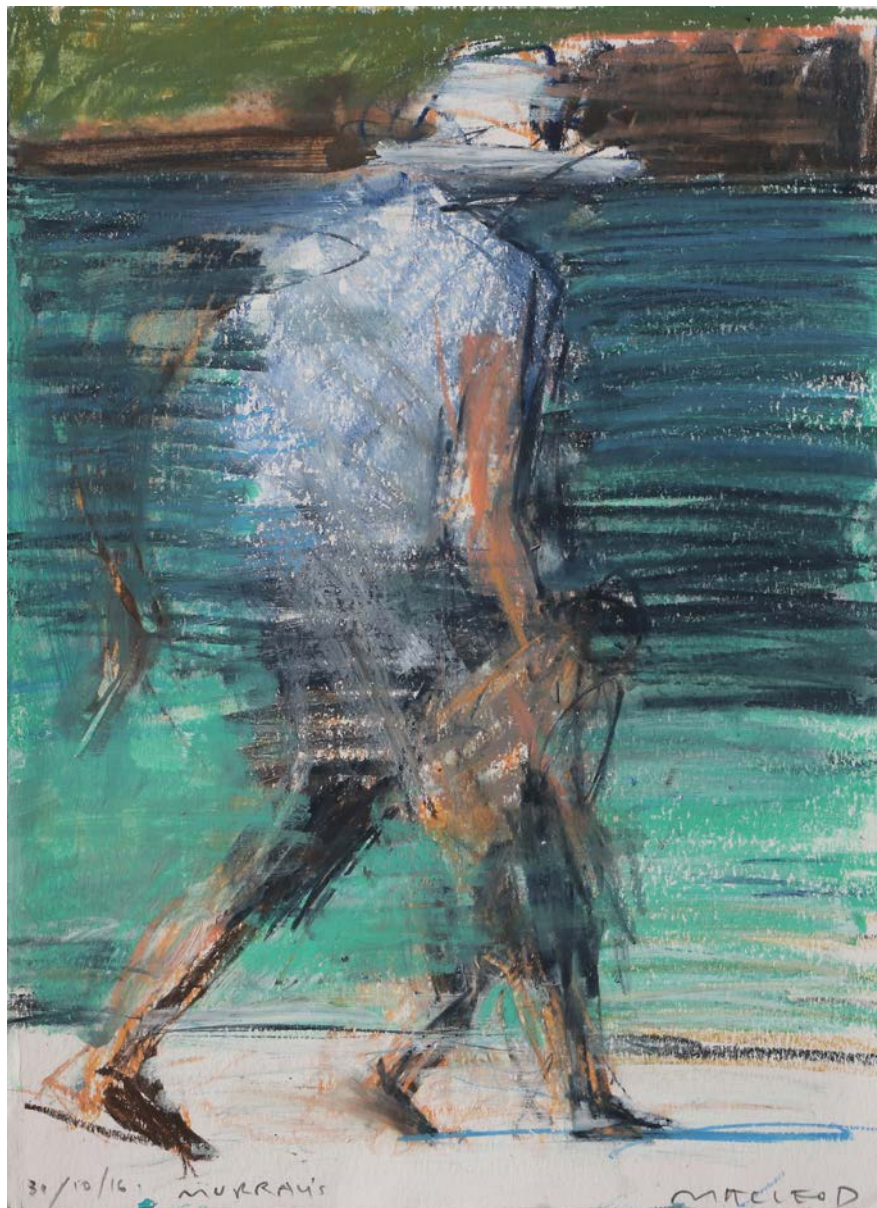


# Euan Macleod Plein Air



<https://www.euanmacleod.com/>  
<https://kingstreetgallery.com.au/artists/euan-macleod/>

All artworks copyright Euan Macleod

Cover: *Adult/ Child at Murrays*, 2016, crayon on paper, 29 x 21 cm  
Courtesy the artist and King Street Gallery on William

# Euan Macleod Plein Air

## 30 March to 14 April 2022

Presented by 3:33 Art Projects Young Curators, with Abbotsleigh  
and Hornsby Girls High School.

3:33 Art Projects has created the Young Curators program to partner with secondary schools and arts education whilst supporting Australian artists.

Young Curators have focused on Euan Macleod's practice of plein air, selecting more than 60 paintings and drawings. These works are taken from three areas – his travels to Hong Kong and China, visits home to New Zealand and Australian beach holidays. Along with these works is a series that reflect on the development of Macleod's ideas from sketch, to print and to canvas.

*With en plain air I really do use what's in front of me rather than think about 'finished' paintings. They really are about enjoying myself. These paintings can be an end in themselves or like the Yellow mountains one can be used to develop further works. Euan Macleod*

**All artworks courtesy the artist and King Street Gallery on William**

# From the Young Curators

## our experience

As young curators, our artistic journey with Euan Macleod has been one of insight, inspiration and collaboration. Following the fresh trail of Macleod's oeuvre, through the home of Max Germanos to the artist's studio, we witnessed the unification of his mind, eye and hand as his emotions and thoughts were artistically transposed onto canvas and paper. For the first time, the backstage of the contemporary art scene was unlocked to us through this opportunity to synthesise and curate the works of Euan Macleod.

## artist practice

Pronounced, even behind the muted colours and heavily textured surfaces, rapid and vigorous brushstrokes define his work. Macleod's process is kinetic – not polite, as he slaps, smudges and smears paint on with tempo and bold virtuosity to match the ephemerality of time and the vitality of the scenes.

## en plein air

Macleod uses an expressive en plein air technique to capture ephemeral moments in time. Such scenes depict experiences from the enlivening beach on a sweltering day to the foggy waterfront cityscape. Macleod's paintings and drawings evoke feelings of familiarity and alienation in revealing both quotidian and secluded landscape scenes from a new light. His stylistic fluidity and expression displaces even the viewer, who partakes in the raw emotion of Macleod's primordial virgin landscapes. These highlight the extremes of the environment and its wild spirit, delving between malevolent, eerie scenes and luscious, pristine coastal expanses.

Nature's abundant beauty is vibrantly identified, and its underlying and unyielding power recognised within Macleod's New Zealand series. Macleod interweaves a potent cultural dialogue of his personal connection to the country and draws upon his New Zealand heritage. Within his renderings of the nation's grand terrains, Macleod locates a sense of quiet intimacy which reverberates through his warm colour palette and organic forms.

In his Hong Kong series Macleod reframes this sublime of nature installing urban centres, skyscrapers, and motorways in lieu of New Zealand's coastal shorelines. Macleod revitalises the bustling heart of Hong Kong – one that is powered by dynamism and vigour, electrifying the humdrum.

The Beach series presents a departure from Hong Kong's hyperactive intersection between man and landscape. Leisurely and gentle, these paintings autobiographically record family vacations to Jervis Bay and other beaches, revisiting the same tranquil ease of Macleod's New Zealand series.

# figure and landscape

Drawing from his personal interpretation of landscapes, Macleod juxtaposes lively crowded scenes from the beach and fast-paced city with works that depict anonymous looming figures, surrounded by a sweep of natural scenery. He conjures lone figures, real and imagined, within dynamic en plein air landscapes. As they freely roam, they dangerously teeter on the frontier between the natural sublime and the repressed uncanny, unleashing a sensory experience as figures become an embodiment of the suffocated Everyman, trapped within an encroaching landscape.

Thank you to Euan Macleod and Max Germanos for providing this unique opportunity to understand and experience the role of the curator.

## **Abbotsleigh**

Jane Choi, Matilda Clarke, Lucie Gallichan, Olivia Hosie, Amelia Kirkby, Tamsyn Ling, Alysia Mao, Skye Weston, Serena Yu

## **Hornsby Girls High School**

Ariel Angelica, Victoria Lee, Erica Seo, Rachael Ye, Carolyn Zhuang



*Amphibian*, 2007/8  
oil on poly canvas  
100 x 124 cm  
Courtesy Germanos Collection



*Barrow One*, 2007  
etching, edition 19 of 30  
42 x 47cm print;  
55.5 x 60.5 paper



*Barrow Two*, 2007  
 etching, edition 11 of 30  
 42 x 47cm print;  
 55.5 x 60.5 cm paper



*Push*, 2010  
 coloured etching,  
 edition 16 of 30  
 17 x 27 cm print;  
 30.5 x 40 cm paper



*Pram Study*, 2011  
oil on Canvas  
51 x 38 cm



*Barrow Study*, 2013  
acrylic on paper  
66 x 79 cm



*Sunset Sitting Study*, 2020  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Sunset Study*, 2020  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Deadman/Walking*, 2021  
oil on canvas  
65 x 82 cm



*Study Sleeping in Snow  
(Gordon), 2020*  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Study for Gordon Sleeping,*  
2020  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm

# Plein Air Hong Kong and China

The artist has visited Hong Kong and China on numerous occasions. Initially for family holiday, but then through connections with the Nock Art Foundation.



*Buses and Taxis Causeway Bay,*  
2013  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Causeway Bay,* 2013  
acrylic and crayon on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*From Causeway Bay Barges,*  
2013  
oil on canvas  
56 x 76 cm



*From Causeway Bay  
Thunderbird,* 2013  
oil on canvas  
56 x 76 cm



*From Peak,* 2013  
oil on canvas  
56 x 76 cm



*From Sue Chings Shanghai,*  
2013  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Guilin,* 2013  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Kowloon from HK,* 2013  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Kowloon (Pink Sky)*, 2013  
acrylic and crayon on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Motorway Hong Kong*, 2013  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Shek-O HK*, 2013  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Street Scene Shanghai, 2013*  
acrylic on paper  
58 x 38 cm



*YWCA from Metro Park  
Kowloon, 2013*  
acrylic on paper  
58 x 38 cm



*Star Ferries*, 2014  
oil on canvas  
56 x 76 cm



*Cave Entrance Study*, 2016  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Yellow Mountain Golem Study*,  
2016  
acrylic on paper  
58 x 38 cm



*Yellow Mountain Study*, 2016  
acrylic on paper  
40 x 30.5

This study was not completed en plein air, but developed from other works from the same spot, and painted in the studio.

*This distance, away from the subject can give you more freedom to consider what you want, rather than what you've got, and consider the role the figure might play.*  
EM 2022



*Mist V*, 2016  
acrylic on paper  
50 x 33 cm

# Plein Air New Zealand

Ever since moving from Christchurch to Sydney in 1981 Macleod has remained connected to both countries.



*Climbing Mount Herbert Study,*  
2017  
acrylic on paper  
66 x 82.5 cm



*Akaroa,* 2018  
acrylic and crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Café Akaroa, 2018*  
acrylic and crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Mt Tamatea & Green Roof, Church Bay, 2020*  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*View from Mum's, Church Bay, 2020*  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58cm

As the artist had his breakfast each day with this view he was attracted to the angles of the road, lights and the hill.



*Remarkable and Plane*, 2021  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Cave Rock*, 2016  
acrylic and crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Church Bay Sunset Figure*,  
2020  
acrylic on paper  
38 x 58cm



*From Charteris Bay, 2021*  
acrylic on Paper  
38 x 58 cm

# Plein Air Australian Beach

Paintings completed during beach holidays, particularly family visits to Jervis Bay.

*I draw wherever I go and that usually determines the subject, but the beach is special as I have lots of models and everyone else is relaxing.*

*Drawing is my way of relaxing. The result is far less important than the process. EM 2022*



*Adult/ Child at Murrays, 2016*  
crayon on paper  
29 x 21 cm



*Paddleball, Murrays, 2016*  
 acrylic on paper  
 38 x 58 cm



*Susan, Murrays, 2016*  
 acrylic on paper  
 38 x 58 cm



*Walking / Lying Murrays, 2016*  
 acrylic on paper  
 38 x 58cm



*Family under umbrella*, 2017  
acrylic on Paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Figure with Snorkel*, 2017  
acrylic on Paper  
38 x 58 cm



*Sunbathers and Swimmers*,  
2017  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Warship from Hyams*, 2017  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Sunbather*, Hyams, 2018  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Hyams Back*, 2019  
crayon on paper  
30 x 42 cm



*Hyams, 2019*  
crayon on paper  
30 x 42 cm



*2 Figures with Bats,*  
*Chinaman's, 2019*  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Thinking about Ollie,*  
*Chinaman's Beach, 2019*  
crayon on paper  
26 x 36 cm



*Sunset, Chinaman's*, 2019  
crayon on paper  
26 x 36 cm



*Point Perpendicular from Chinamans*, 2019  
crayon on paper  
25.5 x 35.5 cm



*Murrays and Bowen Island*, 2019  
crayon on paper  
30 x 42 cm



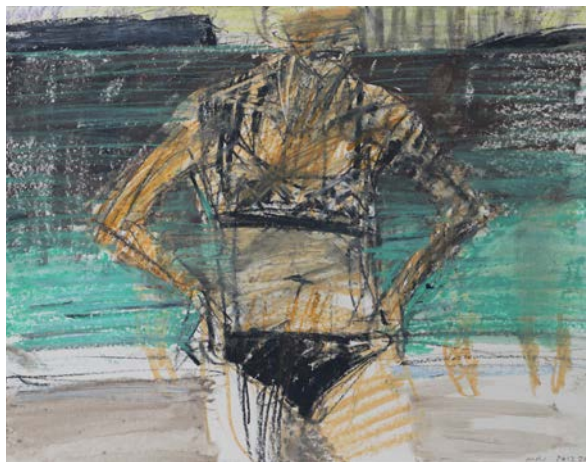
*2 Heads, Diamond Harbour,*  
2020  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*2 sitting Figures COVID,* 2020  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*3 Figures, Greenpatch,* 2019  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Bridget, Hyams, 2020*  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Aussie Flag, Greenpatch, 2020*  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Warship, Greenpatch, 2020*  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Birdlings Flat, 2020*  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Dog at Hyams, 2020*  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Hyams: Going Home, 2020*  
crayon on paper  
28 x 36 cm



*Yellow Sea, Hyams, 2020*  
 crayon on paper  
 28 x 36 cm



*David, Blenheim, 2020*  
 crayon on paper  
 28 x 36 cm



*Milton, 2020*  
 acrylic and crayon on paper  
 28 x 36 cm



*Jervis Bay (painted in Townsville), 2021*  
 acrylic on paper  
 38 x 58 cm

Young Curators from Abbotsleigh and Hornsby Girls High School visit Euan Macleod's studio to select works for the exhibition



Visit to the Max Germanos collection



Abbotsleigh and Hornsby Girls High School Young Curators in the Grace Cossington Smith Gallery 2021





Gallery hours Tues to Sat 10 am-5 pm | FREE ENTRY | Gate 7, 1666 Pacific Highway, Wahroonga  
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