



Exhibition: Hornsby Local artists: David Collins, Matt Elliott and Hua Ye

1 to 17 May 2025



David Collins *Desert Oak*, 2024,
oil on canvas, 60x50cm



Matt Elliott *My studio window, Bundanon*,
2022-23, acrylic and oil stick on plywood,
92.7 x 123.6 cm



Hua Ye *Morning Mist*, watercolour,
56 x 76 cm

ABOUT:

The three featured Hornsby artists respond to landscapes around them using various painterly techniques.

David Collins, Matt Elliott and Hua Ye explore personal ways of seeing, experiencing and responding to landscape.

David Collins lives on Dangar Island in the Hawkesbury River NSW and exhibits with Defiance Gallery in Paddington. Bushwalking, rowing on the river and painting or drawing from its shores have been the major influences on his work and he paints plein air and in his studio.

Matt Elliott is an artist, living with Cerebral Palsy. He has been an active participant at Studio Artes NSW for 25 years. He explores the landscape and waterways, creating highly gestural paintings and drawings. Elliott works en plein air before completing the artworks back in the studio.

Hua Ye was born in China where he studied art for four years and learnt the skill of watercolour. He worked as a graphic designer before moving to Australia in 1990.

STUDYING

Landscape genre: Australians have a strong connection with their distinctive land, and landscape painting and it has been a dominant subject for Australian art throughout its history.

- Research these 3 styles of Australian art: Papunya Tula; Colonial painting, Heidelberg painters
- Research these painters - What can you see in common with the artworks above? Elisabeth Cummings, Euan Macleod, Queenie McKenzie.

Plein air painting: Artists who work outside - generally the work can be completed in one sitting

- Read this 2021 article from Arts Hub and make notes about characteristics of plein air artmaking.

<https://www.artshub.com.au/news/career-advice/why-painting-en-plein-air-is-booming-261899-2369948/>

MAKING

Create a plein air artwork

Choose surroundings you are familiar with to complete a plein air painting and/or drawings. It does not need to be country landscape, it could be city scape or suburban.

Choose either acrylic, gouache or watercolour paint or pencil, conte, graphite or charcoal

- Have the subject in full view, quickly sketch the arrangement of shapes - the basic forms and masses
- look at the sky, look at the ground, notice colours; what is in the distance; what is near; what is your angle of view or perspective;
- As you sketch the work consider the composition and light, mood and movement.
- Work quickly – complete the work in one sitting.