

Contemporary Fine Art

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SARA MAHER

Sara Maher lives in Hobart. She works in large and small dimensions, across the disciplines of painting, printmaking, sculpture and installation. Predominantly, her work arises from her solitary encounter with landscape and the liminal space between physical and intangible experience. Her large abstract works on paper explore memories of space, isolation and solitude, and the experience of co-existing in states of absorption and unease within the dark and starkly beautiful landscape of Tasmania. Each work is a distillation of sensory immersion - linking the almost meditative spatial/temporal experience of its creation in the studio, and the coalescing of liquid media on/into paper, with the experience of immersion in the source of inspiration itself (the landscape). Dombrovskis Parks and Wildlife Residencies have been highly influential in the development of her work.

Training at the Sydney Institute of Technology (1993 -1995) instilled in Maher a material driven approach to painting, whereby conceptual understanding emerges intuitively through her making. Since relocating to Hobart she has completed post-graduate studies at the University of Tasmania (2005) and undertaken a succession of residencies in Tasmania and nationally.

Maher has had a number of solo and group exhibitions in Tasmania and across the country. Most recently her work featured in Arts in Parks, Lake St Clair, Tasmania (2017), a curated exhibition celebrating the Dombrovskis Residency Program of which she was a recipient (2006, 2010 and 2016). Other recent exhibitions include: How We Disappear... Bett Gallery, Hobart (2014); Biophilia, Beaver Galleries, Canberra (2014); and Where The Shadow Falls, Queenstown Heritage and Arts Festival (The Unconformity Festival), West Coast Tasmania (2014). Maher has been a finalist in numerous national art prizes including the Burnie Print Prize, Tidal : City of Devonport Art Award, and the City of Hobart Art Prize. Her works are held in private collections, both nationally and internationally.