

Natural impressions

Joanna Logue offers a filtered view of the landscape, writes **Andrew Frost**.

How does a painter go about creating the impression of a landscape? This question occupies artist Joanna Logue, who, in her latest show with King Street Gallery on William, has created a series of canvases that are as much about the techniques of painting as they are about an experience of the natural world. Working from her studio in Oberon, Logue has painted the views she sees through its windows; phantom landscapes that coalesce from layers of thick paint.

Logue uses brushes and trowels to build up the detail in her pictures and then scrapes the surfaces back to create these evocative, dream-like mirages. In *Essington - Window VI*, the blues, browns, blacks and whites combine to create the impression of trees and fields but on closer inspection, the image gives



Through the panes ... Joanna Logue's *Essington - Window VI* (left) and *Window IV* explore abstraction.

way to a luscious abstraction. With other works such as *Willow Essington* - a large piece on four sheets of paper - the viewer has to stand well back before the image reveals itself.

This push-pull between recognisability and abstraction is the central experiment of the show and Logue has mastered this

technique to great effect. Paintings such as *Window III* and *Window IV* are recognisable instantly as landscapes of the Central Tablelands, with their rough roads, distant telegraph poles and lines of trees at the edges of farmland, but with the hazing of the brushwork, these places seem distinctly exotic.

An even bigger question of the



METRO PICKS

Synecdoche

Robyn Gordon's drawings and paintings on canvas and pewter sculptural pieces draw on the marine for inspiration. **Wednesday to Sunday, until July 4, Wilson Street Gallery, 30-34 Wilson Street, Newtown, 9516 3144.**

Seduction & Subversion

A 20-year retrospective of the work of James Guppy represents the growth and maturity of this artist's vision and his unwavering dedication to uncovering

the surrealistic, often disturbing, psychic discontinuities of reality.

Tuesday to Sunday, until July 25, Wollongong City Gallery, corner Kembla and Burelli streets, Wollongong, 4228 7500.

Small Worlds

Keith Loutit's charming video work uses tilt-shift imagery - a photographic method of creating shallow areas of focus - to turn the busy comings and goings of Sydney Harbour, the Mardi Gras, beaches and even monster trucks into a delightful series of animated models.

Daily, until July 4, Customs House, 31 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, 9242 8551.

Joanna Logue: 2010

Tuesday to Saturday, until June 26, 10am-6pm, King Street Gallery on William, 177 William Street, Darlinghurst, 9360 9727.