

# ROSS LAURIE

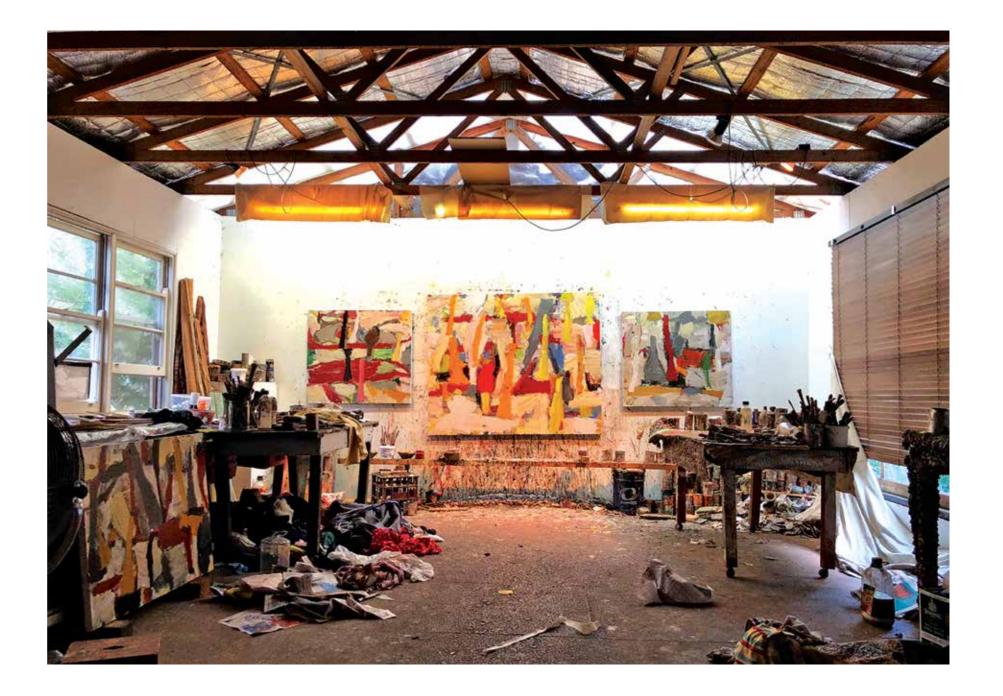
New paintings and works on paper

9 October – 3 November 2018



10am – 6pm Tuesday – Saturday 177 William St Darlinghurst NSW 2010 Australia T: 61 2 9360 9727 E: art@kingstreetgallery.com www.kingstreetgallery.com.au

Front Cover: *The visit* 2018 oil on canvas 140 x 170 cm (detail) Opposite: Studio, Walcha, NSW





Last of the green pick 2018 oil on canvas 92 x 102 cm



Sun and the moon for the king of the Delta 2018 oil on canvas 92 x 102 cm

### We see into the life

In his work, Ross Laurie takes you back again and again to his land in Walcha on the New England tablelands, urging that you engage as freshly as he does each time he paints it. He writes "The country here is home, in a spiritual sense", and we feel it. These are depictions of moments in a place he has known and loved all his life, perhaps without even being aware himself how deeply. Laurie left Walcha in the 1980s for busy Europe to pursue the study of art, but we feel that on some level in that time away he returned to this place again and again, as William Wordsworth's mind did to the banks of the River Wye:

'These beauteous forms,
Through a long absence, have not been to me
As is a landscape to a blind man's eye:
But oft, in lonely rooms, and 'mid the din
Of towns and cities, I have owed to them,
In hours of weariness, sensations sweet,
Felt in the blood, and felt along the heart ...'

### of things.

This landscape is a frame and a filter for all his moments. We feel that Walcha was always Ross Laurie's true north, 'felt along the heart': his fixed point in a spinning world. And that years of such feeling have taught him to see 'into the life of things' there.

In his paintings we see trees, possibly bushes, sweeps of ground, some horizons, shadows or rocks.

But then Laurie takes us on a journey into the life within these things. Painting wet on wet with bendy brushes, the gestures of his hand make shimmying marks that crackle with energy. His colours bounce off one another setting adjacent colours, and then the forms depicted by them, and then the whole landscape, into a rhythm that reveals to us its inner energy. Laurie is clearly in tune with 'A motion and a spirit, that ...rolls through all things'.

Sometimes his pictures arrive at a place more representational, and sometimes much less so, but he doesn't, in his words, "let the facts of the world get in the way of the painting being what it wants to be". Even after essentially six years of drought, Laurie's landscapes are

creamy, not dry. Try as he may, a dry earth palette just doesn't convey the intensity of feeling he has for his country. <u>Stripped down</u> is a nod in that direction, its forms are blood red, and like finger painting.

In <u>Landscape for lightnin'</u> rich sunset reds and warm grey blues arch and bend over themselves in what looks like the pleasure of stretching across grounds of off white and Naples Yellow. Laurie feels no duty to depict the land as others may expect of him.

We sense that each moment he spends painting this Walcha landscape provides Ross Laurie with creative 'life and food, for future years', and that with him we will continue to see, 'into the life of things'.

Sonia Legge, September, 2018

All italicised quotes are from William Wordsworth: 'Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey, On Revisiting the Banks of the Wye during a Tour'.

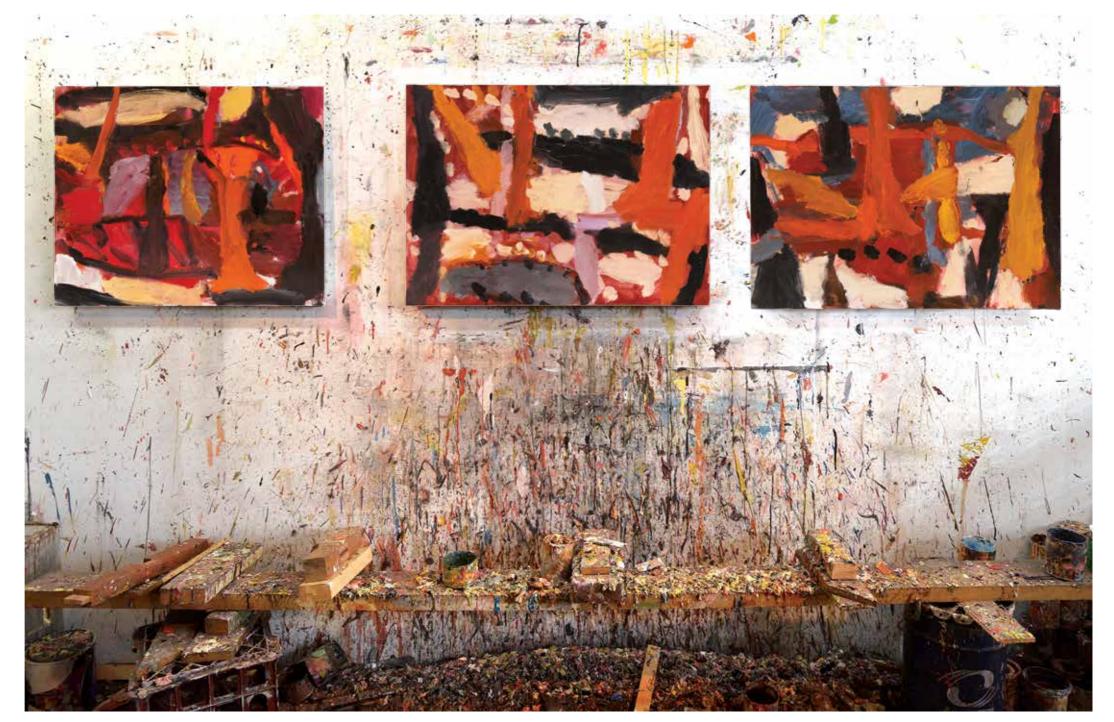




To Coppermine 2018 oil on canvas 65 x 82 cm



Stripped down 2018 oil on canvas 155 x 185 cm



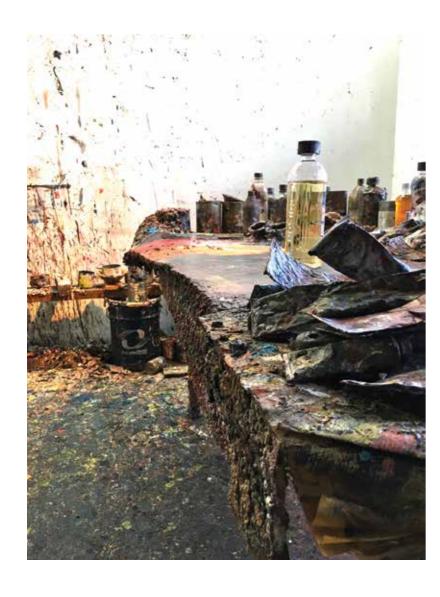
Painting with moonlight I 2018 oil on canvas 65 x 82 cm Painting with moonlight II 2018 oil on canvas 66 x 92 cm Painting with moonlight III 2018 oil on canvas 66 x 92 cm



Going home I 2018 oil on canvas 76 x 107 cm



Going home II 2018 oil on canvas 76 x 107 cm





Bone dry 2018 oil on canvas 140 x 170 cm



7 2018 charcoal on paper 29 x 38 cm



3 2018 charcoal on paper 29 x 38 cm



11 2018 charcoal on paper 29 x 38 cm



27 2018 charcoal on paper 29 x 38 cm



Airstrip for DAC 2018 oil on canvas 65 x 82 cm



From Jasper's to Sweeney's 2018 oil on canvas 65 x 82 cm



Early morning 2018 oil on canvas 185 x 240 cm



Django's return 2018 oil on canvas 76 x 107 cm



Jewel 2018 oil on canvas 115 x 140 cm



White day at Walcha I 2018 oil on canvas 140 x 185 cm



Painting for lightnin' 2018 oil on canvas 65 x 82 cm



Pastorale - trees and light III 2018 gouache on paper 51 x 76 cm



Pastorale - trees and light IV 2018 gouache on paper 51 x 76 cm



Pastorale - trees and light I 2018 gouache on paper 51 x 76 cm



Pastorale - trees and light II 2018 gouache on paper 51 x 76 cm



White day at Walcha II 2018 oil on canvas 140 x 185 cm

## Ross Laurie

Born 1961 Walcha

#### Studies

1986 Painting: Victorian College Praham, Melbourne
1985 Newcastle Polytechnic, UK
1984 Foundation Course, St Martins School of Arts, London
1983 Mitchell College, Bathurst
1982 Visual Art, Sydney College of the Arts

#### Solo exhibitions

Solo exhibitions	
2018	New paintings and works on paper King Street Gallery on William, Sydney
2016	New Paintings and Works on Paper King Street Gallery on William
2014	New Paintings King Street Gallery on William
2011	Paintings and Works on Paper Scott Livesey Gallery, Melbourne
	Paintings Damien Minton Gallery, Sydney
2010	Paintings and Works on Paper Damien Minton Gallery
2009	Damien Minton Gallery, Sydney
	Moree Plains Regional Gallery
2008	Damien Minton Gallery
2007	Damien Minton Gallery
2006	Damien Minton Gallery
2005	Damien Minton Gallery
	Wrestles with Landscape New England Regional Art Museum, NSW
2002	Damien Minton Gallery, Newcastle
1999	Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1998	Old School Gallery, Walcha
1997	Coventry Gallery
1996	Coventry Gallery
1995	Coventry Gallery
1994	Coventry Gallery
1993	William Mora Galleries, Melbourne
1992	New England Art Museum
1991	Tamworth City Gallery, NSW
	William Mora Galleries, Melbourne
	Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra
1990	Linden Gallery, Melbourne
1988	Girgis and Klym Gallery, Melbourne
1981	Tamworth City Gallery

Group exhib	itions [selected]
2018	Salient, Contemporary Artists at the Western Front National travelling exhibition Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
2017	Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
2016	Finalist Wynne Prize Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Salon des Refusés Mornington Peninsula Regional Art Gallery, Vic
	Paint My Place Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW
2015	Paddington Art Prize [WINNER]
	The Piano has been Drinking [Not Me] Maitland Regional Art Gallery, NSW
	Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
2014	The Dobell Drawing Biennale Art Gallery of New South Wales
2013	Walcha City of Art Walcha Gallery of Art, NSW
	Last but not Least King Street Gallery on William
	Parliament Plein Air Painting Prize Parliament House, Sydney, NSW
	Packsaddle New England Regional Art Museum, NSW Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
2012-14	In Two Art S.H. Ervin Gallery and touring
2012-14	Not the Way Home: 13 Artists Paint the Desert S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney and touring nationally
2012	Melbourne Art Fair Damien Minton Gallery and Artist Profile stands
	Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
	Big Picture Show King Street Gallery on William
	Landscape Show Defiance Gallery, Sydney
	Five Bells Damien Minton Gallery
	Dobell Prize for Drawing Art Gallery of New South Wales
2011	Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
	Works on Paper Award Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gymea, NSW
2010-11	Ross Laurie + David McBride: recent works Tamworth Regional Gallery and touring to Dubbo Regional
	Gallery and New England Regional Art Museum
2010	Dobell Prize for Drawing Art Gallery of New South Wales
	Melboume Art Fair
2009	Works on Paper Award Hazelhurst Regional Gallery
	New England Views New England Regional Art Museum
	Same Place, Many Views Defiance Gallery
0000	Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
2008	Melbourne Art Fair, Damien Minton Gallery
0000	Paddington Art Prize (winner of the COFA Print Award)
2008 2007	North South East West Damien Minton Gallery Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
2007	Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
2000	Regional Encounters Tamworth City Gallery
	Walcha – City of Art, Gallery Karlovy Vary, Ostrov, Czech Republic
	Same Place Different Views Defiance Gallery
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2005	The Year in Art S.H. Ervin Gallery (Going) Out There Ivan Dougherty Gallery, COFA, UNSW Country Energy Art Prize Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery and NSW Parliament House
2004	England Picture New England Regional Art Museum  Hazelhurst Work on Paper Award Hazelhurst Regional Gallery
2003	Surface Memories Tamworth City Gallery
	Country Energy Art Prize New England Regional Art Museum
	Walcha – City of Art, New Contemporaries Gallery, Sydney
2000	Melbourne Art Fair Bryan Hooper Gallery, Sydney
1999	Coventry Diary Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1998	Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
1995	Salon des Refusés S.H. Ervin Gallery
1991	Syme Dodson Gallery, Sydney
1989	Drawings William Mora Galleries, Melbourne
1988	New Art Melbourne Ivan Dougherty, Sydney
	Gallery Artists Girgis and Klym Gallery, Melbourne
	Moet and Chandon Touring Exhibition
1987	Moet and Chandon Touring Exhibition
1982	New England Artists Tamworth City Gallery
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Looking west 2018 oil on canvas 115 x 140 cm



On the stock route 2018 oil on canvas 140 x 170 cm



From Bob's Reserve IV 2018 gouache on paper 31 x 44.5 cm



From Bob's Reserve I 2018 gouache on paper 31 x 44.5 cm



King Street Gallery KS on William GW



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