

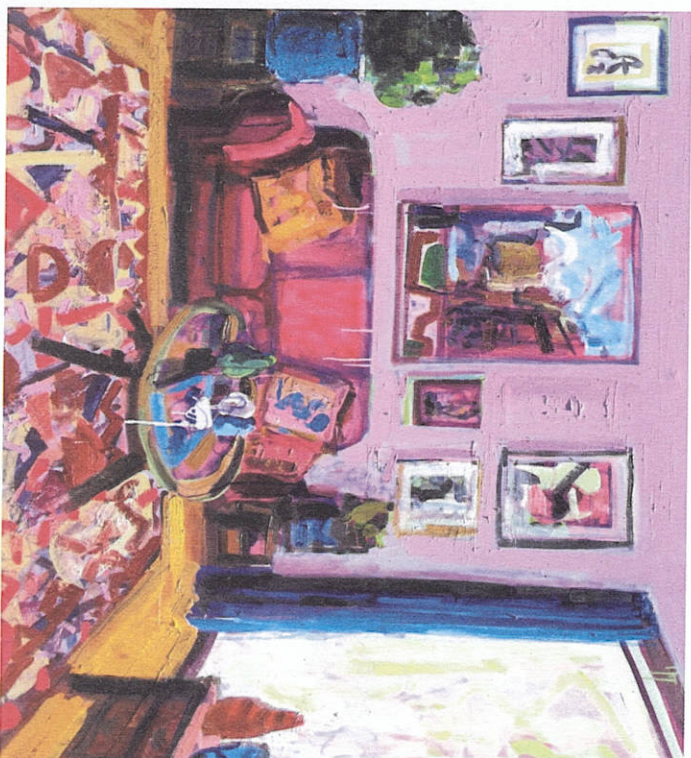


## Min-Woo BANG

### *Moment of Tranquility*

2019 | oil on linen | 122 x 91cm

I portray captured moments in time, allowing an emotional connectedness. Layers of paint, like the layering of time, build surfaces that give land and clouds form and meaning. This painting, *Moment of Tranquility*, explores ephemerality to form complex surface textures and an ageless sense of place. The physical elements and forces of nature are interdependent in this atmospheric landscapes and the experience of nature's transformation is balanced by physical and emotional connection to places.



## John BOKOR

### *The Red Velvet Lounge*

2018 | oil on linen | 137 x 152cm

This painting was part of a series of interiors that I made in 2018. I started 14 large paintings and kept working on them for most of a year. *The Red Velvet Lounge* was one of the works I was happiest with.

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### *Cross C*

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## From the ARTS CENTRE

In 1958, the culmination of many years of hard work by the Muswellbrook Art Prize Committee saw the establishment of the *Festival of the Valley Art Prize*; an open, Australia wide acquisitive painting prize designed in the words of the Council, 'to foster the interest in and understanding of art in the Upper Hunter Valley area and to play a part, however modest, in the promotion of art and the encouragement of artists generally, throughout Australia, the prize winning works to form the nucleus of a Muswellbrook Municipal Council Collection'.

From the two winning paintings in 1958 - *Death of Voss* by Thomas Gleghorn and *Rock Patterns* by Viola Bromley, Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre today holds just shy of 1,000 artworks in what is now known as the Muswellbrook Shire Art Collection. The core of the Collection are the some 200 works acquired as a direct result of the Muswellbrook Art Prize. Along with paintings, the Collection includes examples of printmaking, drawing, sculpture, photography and ceramics, and features some of the most important Australian artists of the past sixty plus years along with many local artists from the Hunter Region; a major regional resource providing extensive exhibition,

education and artistic support.

Since 1958, the Muswellbrook Art Prize has grown and evolved and is today one of the richest prizes for painting in regional Australia. The Prize has always attracted artists from across the country and of the highest caliber. This year has been no exception. 61 Finalists across the three categories of Painting, Works on Paper and Ceramics vie for a total of \$71,000 prize money.

Well-chosen since the beginning, the duty of the adjudicator is not easy with a Prize that attracts entries from across Australia and has always had an open subject. With the addition of the Works on Paper Prize in 1965 and the Ceramics Prize in 1971, judging the Muswellbrook Art Prize has become a multi-disciplinary task. The Arts Centre and Muswellbrook Shire Council are pleased to welcome Natalie Wilson, Curator of Australian & Pacific Art at the Art Gallery of New South Wales as adjudicator of the 46<sup>th</sup> Muswellbrook Art Prize.

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre would like to thank all the entrants, the major sponsor Bengalla Mining Company Pty Limited, and the adjudicator Natalie Wilson, and we hope the viewing public enjoys the exhibition of the 46<sup>th</sup> Muswellbrook Art Prize.

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Bengalla Upper Hunter Muswellbrook Art Prize local community significant the Musy acquisiti Collectio in our co enjoy.

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