

*Portal Paintings*  
54 Waterloo St. Surry Hills

**Patrice Wills**

<https://patricewills.com/>

**Exploring the relational intersections between people, place and paint, Patrice aims to capture her experience of what is seen and felt, through the process of painting. The work delves into the overlaps between personal response to places, and the embedded human histories. These ideas emerge visually through the interconnectedness of the figure and the land, sensitive portraits, and moody landscapes, captured through colour, tone, and an intimist sensibility.**

Patrice has an extensive professional background working and training in the realms of visual arts, education, and community health. Patrice brings this life experience to her work which reflects and explores the human condition and spirit, utilizing a painterly materiality often to fuse the figurative and the abstract.

Patrice exhibits regularly and is often selected as a finalist in major art awards including the 2023 Archibald Prize after winning the Blackstone works on paper prize and Hunters Hill small works in 2022. Her work is accrued in private and public collections.

**Selected Awards (post 2019)**

- **Finalist** Archibald Prize. Art Gallery of NSW. 2023
- **Winner** Blackstone works on paper prize. Blackstone Gallery Newcastle 2022
- **Winner** small works Hunters Hill Art Prize. Town Hall Hunters Hill. NSW 2022
- **Finalist** Fishers Ghost Art Award. Campbelltown NSW 2022, 2021, 2020
- **Highly Commended**, John Copes Portrait Prize. Bowral. NSW 2022
- **Finalist** 'John Villiers Outback Art Prize' Outback Regional Gallery. Winton. QLD 2022
- **Finalist** 'Lethbridge Landscape Prize' Lethbridge Gallery. Paddington. QLD 2022
- **Winner** Fairfield City Art Prize – traditional. Fairfield Art Society. NSW 2021
- **Finalist** Blacktown City Art Prize. Leo Kelly Blacktown Art Centre. NSW 2021
- **Highly commended** Portraiture DAS Open Art Prize' Drummoyne. NSW 2021
- **Highly commended** Contemporary DAS Open Art Prize' Drummoyne. NSW 2021
- **Finalist** Waverly Woollahra Landscape Prize. Waverley Art Centre. NSW 2020, 2019
- **Finalist** 'Little Things Art Prize' Saint Cloche Gallery. Paddington. NSW 2020
- **Finalist** 'Pro Hart Outback Art Award' Broken Hill Regional Gallery. Broken Hill. NSW 2020
- **Finalist** 'Lethbridge 20000' Lethbridge Gallery. Paddington QLD 2020, 2019

**Portal Paintings** *Unstretched, oil on poly 1m x 1m with collaged canvas board \$1700*

Active Melancholy



I frequently walk by a particular stagnant pond and the psychogeography of its sadness resonates and pulls you in. However, the practice of walking is way of resetting oneself and an antidote for melancholia. Walking becomes a way of lifting back up again.

Endlessly Renewed



A small landscape on board acts as a portal into the feeling world that resides in the walking body.

Fierce See-er



The call of the vast desert hints at a promise of finding that point from which everything is seen from a new perspective.



Live Through This oil on (stretched) linen 50cm x 40cm \$715

*A young person sits by the canal, after Munch's 'Girl on the Bridge' 1899. On the boundary between childhood and adulthood in the midst of our unprecedented times.*



The Rocky Bed oil on unstretched poly. 80 x 60cm \$900 (unframed)

*Choices in life and in painting lead to making our own beds in which we have to lie.*



The Heavy Compassion oil on paper 50 x 35cm \$500 (unframed)

*Connecting to a place means absorbing its history of land and humanity, which can be heavy with trauma and also love.*



The Wanting Heart oil on paper 50 x 35cm \$500 (unframed)

*The wanting heart continues to pull us forward. But what is around the corner and is it better than what we leave behind?*



Making Tears oil on paper 20 x 30cm \$350 (window mounted- unframed)

*There is an alchemy at play with the figure a catalyst for transformation, embedded in a tear shaped refuge in the earth.*

*Get in touch for quotes on framing and delivery.*

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