

Christopher McVinish
Recent Paintings

2021

mw

CATALOGUE

Exhibition statement

In this, my sixth, solo exhibition for Maunsell Wickes, I have drawn on two divergent landscape themes.

The first group of paintings is from my 'Garden Series'. These are paintings of the Shangri-La that is Mount Wilson, 40 minutes drive from the Blue Mountains, and the stunningly beautiful gardens that arise out of volcanic soil there. This subject has been so rich and varied in compositional interest for me with its mix of romantic European trees, quintessential grand Australian bush and ravishing blossoms.

The second group of paintings, 'The Silverton Paintings', take their inspiration a thousand kilometres to the west of Katoomba, painted from a recent trip to Broken Hill and the nearby mining town of Silverton, just north of there. I'd never spent much time in the Outback but it was a revelation: I found the landscape in and around Silverton breathtaking in its colour and almost lunar terrain - ancient, peaceful and mysterious. These works continue my long-standing interest in documenting time-weathered buildings of small town architecture. Silverton's heritage as the birth place of the Australian mining industry with its abandoned stone miner's cottages proved to be particularly affecting and engaging to me in its 'Mad Max' splendour, its palpable traces of human endeavour and dreaming.

These two very different groups of works depict how extreme the Australian landscape can be, but are to my mind more akin to portraiture - portraits in praise of the spirit of place.



Kingdom of flowers (Garden series)

\$13,000

oil on linen
92 x 122cm



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Timeless moment (*Garden series*)

\$8,500

oil on canvas
61 x 122cm



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Contemplation (Garden series)

\$7,500

oil on linen
61 x 91cm



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All that you see (*Garden series*)

\$7,500

oil on linen
61 x 91cm



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Radiance (Garden series)

\$7,500

oil on linen
61 x 91cm

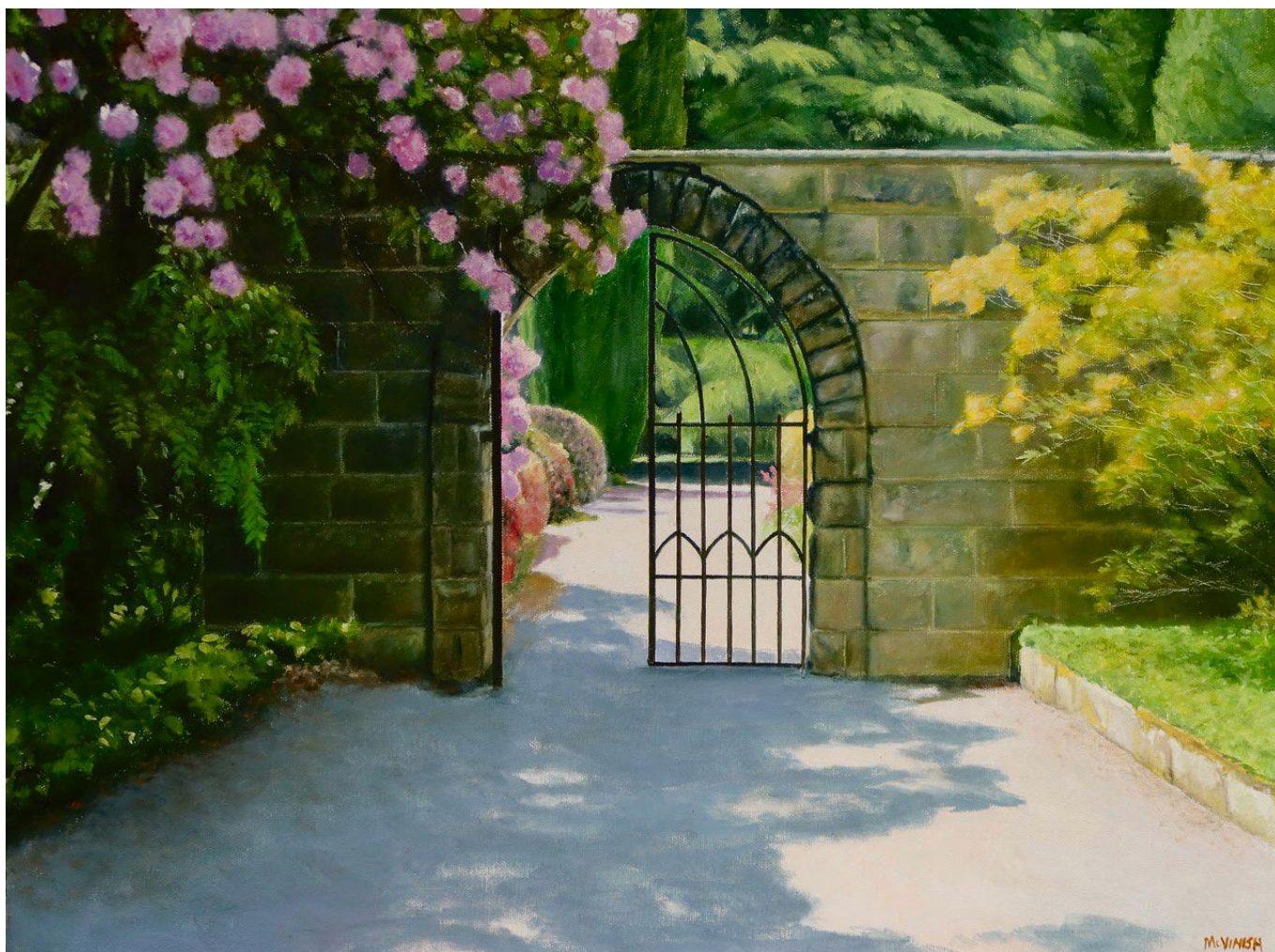


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The garden beyond the gates (Garden series)

\$4,500

oil on canvas
46 x 61cm



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Shadow play (Garden series)

\$4,500

oil on canvas
46 x 61cm



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In a quiet place (Garden series)

\$4,500

oil on canvas
46 x 61cm



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Private view (Garden series)

\$4,500

oil on canvas
46 x 61cm



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Once upon a time in the west (Silverton series) \$17,000

oil on canvas
91 x 152cm



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Silverton landscape no.3 (Silverton series)

\$11,000

oil on canvas
101 x 101cm



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Silverton landscape no.4 (Silverton series)

\$9,000

oil on linen
76 x 101cm



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Silverton landscape no.5 (Silverton series)

\$9,000

oil on canvas
76 x 101cm



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Silverton landscape no.6 (Silverton series)

\$9,000

oil on canvas
76 x 101cm



About the artist

Contemporary Realist painter Christopher McVinish is a master of light. It is essentially this element of his work which invites us to see the commonplace as special and suffused with potential. McVinish's urban and outback landscapes, parklands and garden paintings tell intriguingly oblique narratives revealing contemporary life as a kind of half-remembered dream.

In recent years McVinish has garnered a significant profile for portraiture with sitters from industry, the legal and medical professions, and the Arts. His portrait of actor Robyn Nevin, OA, was selected for the 2011 prestigious Archibald Prize, and another of actor Colin Friels, took out the 2013 Salon des Refusés Holding Redlich People's Choice Award. McVinish has been a finalist in many other awards including the Wynne Prize, Mosman Art Prize, Paddington Art Prize, Tattersalls Landscape Prize and the Eutick Memorial Still Life Award.

McVinish's art is represented in Australian public and university collections including the Tweed Regional Gallery, Toowoomba City Council, Gold Coast Council, Redcliffe City Council, Griffith University, Swinburne University of Technology, the University of Queensland Press, the University of the Sunshine Coast, the County Court of Victoria and the Australasian Royal College of Surgeons. His work is also held in numerous private collections in Australia and internationally.





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maunsell wickes

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tues-sat 11-5.30pm sun 12-5pm
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