

Nikki Perzuck

Festive Journey

Nikki Perzuck is a Melbourne based artist who uses vibrant colour and dynamic abstraction to create works that invite viewers to explore Australian landscapes with an uplifted spirit. Perzuck draws inspiration from Australia's vast skiescapes, country vistas and coastal panoramas. Her works are a celebration of the simple things in life, and she captures her subjects by employing eclectic imagery set in fluid motion.

“Along the pathways I create, I try to combine movement between interwoven shapes and forms. I like to use interesting colour mixes and layered textures to translate this energy into imagery. I tend to immerse myself in this journey and infuse into my work both nature and the diverse cultures that have shaped me.”

Festive Journey includes works from Perzuck's Unearthed Series, in which she transforms aspects of nature and everyday life into newly discovered forms; a deep connection to nature is apparent, and by following exploratory processes Perzuck offers a subjective representation of her environment, striving above all to capture its essence. To this end she deploys dynamic spurts of vibrant colour and rich textural effects, all the while moving between real and imagined landscapes. Carefully chosen colour palettes and layered textures evoke an emotional response while drawing the viewer into a meditative state.



Deep blue ocean, Acrylic on canvas, 182x182cm, \$5,450



Tropical moment, acrylic on canvas, 122x152cm, \$3,450

Festive Journey also includes work from Perzuck's Whimsical Series in which she casts characters into dream like scenes. Inspired by the spontaneous creativity of her children, their shared interactions with nature, and her extensive travels, Perzuck's irregular and painterly approach celebrates imperfection and revels in the freedom and quirkiness of her characters. In this series Perzuck explores the idea that we should all make time in our lives to dream.

Perzuck graduated from Monash University with a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Graphic Design. Before devoting herself to painting full time she has worked in product development, colour forecasting and textile design for fashion and interior design companies.

She has exhibited works at the 'Affordable Art Fair' in Singapore, the 'Spirit of Art' exhibition in London, the 'Little Treasures' Exhibition in Bologna, and at the 'Creative Energy' exhibition at the Estense Castle in Ferrara. She has also been the feature artist for the Canterbury Art Show and the Balmain Art Show in Sydney, and she is a regular contributor to Art Melbourne and Art Sydney.



Bohdie's bird, acrylic on canvas, 50 x 50cm, \$480



Nikki Perzuck, 2016

Nellie Zimmerman

Scape Artist ... Evolving Forms

As an emerging artist Zimmerman studied oil portraiture under the Russian painter Joseph Edelman, and so when she embraced abstract expression it involved freeing herself from the constraints of 'technical correctness' and the necessity of pleasing models and teachers. This shift enabled a rediscovery of the spontaneous, carefree side of her practice resulting in works at once wild, colourful and dynamic.

Strength, perseverance and regeneration are recurring themes, and this reflects both the bold and colourful characters of her childhood and the rugged beauty of the Australian landscape.



When the Desert Blooms, acrylic and collage on canvass, 150x120cm, \$3,950



Synergy, acrylic and collage on canvass, 150x120cm, \$3,950

Zimmerman now rarely employs the brush, preferring to apply paint generously before using a variety of materials to create a textured base. Multi-layered acrylic and collage combine to achieve interesting surface effects.

Her art draws on a love of Australian nature and the urban environment, and central to the symbolism she employs is an intuitive sense of placement and balance. The conflicting and contrasting elements of the Australian environment inform the three series of works that make up Scape Artist ... Evolving Forms.

In 'The City Grid' series Zimmerman takes as her subject Melbourne city as seen from above. Works in this series offer new interpretations of suburbia: colourful roof-tops, moving traffic, backyard pools and green garden beds are portrayed with a broad but harmonious palette in dots, lines and swirls. Begun in a state of fever and completed with a feeling of unity, 'The City Grid' series is an accomplished artistic contribution to notions of the urban environment.

Zimmerman's 'Under the Sea' series moves from Brighton Beach to the Mornington Peninsula, taking viewers into the shallow rocky waters of Rye Back Beach and into explorations of subaquatic microcosms, kelp forests and cities of rock.

The 'Red Centre' series involves an imagining of aerial views of the harsh, dry Australian outback: 'the ochre hues of a panorama that writhes under sweltering mirages and threatens to explode into the setting sun before dying into the blue, chill serenity of a starlit night – this is my inspiration.'

The deeply tactile nature of Zimmerman's work was inspired by her firstborn daughter Lara's obsession with touching different surfaces. 'It is a fascination that never really leaves us - as adults we still harbor that desire to touch beautiful and interesting objects.' Zimmerman associates the layered effect and the build-up of textures to a lifestyle characterised by continual interruptions. Acrylic dries quickly, so within an hour of finishing one layer she can start applying the next, and so the depth and texture is formed.

While the skills of the fine artist dominate her creative output, a diploma in Computer Aided Graphic Design and a successful career as a Graphic Designer continue to influence her work.

In 1979 Zimmerman emigrated from Kharkov in the Ukraine, and the freedom of form in her art reflects the opportunities and optimism she has found in Australia. She now lives in Melbourne with her husband and her two daughters Lara Bella and Ariella.



Great Barrier Reef Flora, acrylic and collage on canvass,
120x120cm, \$3,850



Nellie Zimmerman, 2016