

Local artist returns to share a *visceral* experience close to home

Local Sydney artist Joshua van Gestel returns with his latest collection 'Visceral' at ARO Gallery in Darlinghurst, Sydney from Wednesday 23 August 2017.

Returning from a creative hiatus Joshua presents his most personal works; a collection inspired by the natural beauty of the Australian landscape and a reflection of his journey in finding love, growing a family and overcoming personal challenges.

"For many years my artwork focussed on distant and foreign subjects, often inspired by the grief, adversity and struggle I saw in the world around me. I found myself feeling creatively worn out, removed from my artwork and directionless with my inspirations."

"Slowly, during a time of significant personal change in my own life, the call to create became too loud to ignore and I found myself exploring a wide range of mediums and subjects which were much more personal and much closer to home."

The exhibition captures Joshua's views, perceptions and discoveries of self and the world around him through his paintings and drawings. Joshua takes audiences on a journey through Central Australia, the Daintree, Blue Mountains and across Australia's sweeping lands with his 'view from a plane' works.

"*Visceral* is a reflection of this moment in my journey: it has no clear beginning and no sudden end - instead it feels like a part of something greater. It reflects a journey of love, a journey of rediscovered passion, and a journey of home," Mr van Gestel said.

"*Visceral* combines all these works, born out of my rediscovered love for creating. The exhibition follows my own journey - in finding love and in growing a family. It depicts the journeys of love I have had during this period - in exploring the Australian landscape with my family, places that along the way I have found a strong connection and fondness for."

Joshua van Gestel is a self-taught Sydney-based artist who brings together a body of work created throughout the past decade and during a time of significant personal growth. *Visceral* is his fourth exhibit since 2001 and follows the success of previous exhibitions including 'Impressions of China' and 'The view from the outside', inspired by his travels through Australia, Asia and India.

Details:

ARO Gallery, 51 William St, Darlinghurst NSW. Free entry

- OPENING: 6pm – 8pm, 24 August 2017
- ARTIST TALK: 2pm – 4pm, 27 August 2017
- SHOWING: 23 August to 3 September 2017 (12:00pm to 6:00pm Wednesday to Sunday)
- ENTRY: Free
- WEB: www.vangestel.art

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