

# SUSAN MULCAHY - ARTIST BIO

## ~ A colourist & Expressionist

I am an emotional painter. A country girl at heart I love landscapes, Australian trees and the chaos of the bush. The way that the trees appear to 'dance' & the mystery of the bush is a delight & influences my art. Growing up on a farm in the hill country of NSW, I had freedom to explore: the bush, paddocks, orchards, & observing firsthand my wonderful rural environment. I loved to wander following the source of creeks & streams, observing flora & fauna amongst the rocky outcrops. These early years influenced my Art experience. My mother, an award winning Artist, provided me with insight in her Art practice, having the capacity to interpret the Australian landscape & it's colours & delving into the impasto technique.

As an adult I returned to the Art scene with water colours at Willandra, Ryde NSW. Here I was taught Art fundamentals producing images of colonial buildings in the Parramatta & Camden areas where my forebears held land in the 1800's.

After moving to WA a few decades ago, joining enthusiastic talented tutors who had honed their skills & generously sharing their valuable insights & experiences. Recently I have become a member of The Melville Community Arts Association & taken the role of MCAA Committee Secretary. In this setting I have taken advantage of the wide range of Art courses offered, including Watercolour, Acrylics & Multimedia. I have had the privilege to sit under many highly talented & qualified tutors & teachers, many from overseas who generously share their wealth of knowledge & experience with students. Prior to that I spent several years in country WA where I joined various Art Groups & benefitting from the variety of approaches to Art (painting, pottery, weaving, immersion in Indigenous Art).

My style has become colourist first & foremost always gravitating to light & colour, with line & forming later. I love expressionism, trees, landscapes, wiggly lines, not straight! I try to respond to the bush with curiosity & expectation.

Joining Melville Arts (Atwell Gallery) I began classes of Watercolour Mastery. The teachers were talented, experienced & challenging, urging students to paint in our individual styles. I recently been on a curious trail of Art experimentation in Acrylics & Palette Knife (Acrylics & Watercolour).

Artists have influenced me include: The Heidelberg School, Sam Broadhurst, John Lacey, Fred Williams & Bob Booth

# ART WORKSHOP

## With Sue Mulcahy

### Water Colours - MORE THAN MONET

# \$30

ONLY 15  
PLACES  
AVAILABLE



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# 27TH & 28TH SEPTEMBER 2023

## 9:30AM - 3PM EACH DAY

This course will explore the worlds of & aspects of contemporary water colour to discover fresh approaches such as interpretive, expressionist and inspirational.

### CLASS SIZE: 15 - VENUE ROOM: 18

Applications will be accepted on a first in first served basis with payment of \$30 (sorry, no refunds) Forms are available at the U3A Office

#### PAINT COLOURS:

Phthalo Blue (or Cobalt), Hansa Yellow (or Lemon Yellow), Permanent Rose (or Quinacridone Rose), or equivalent and White Gouache.

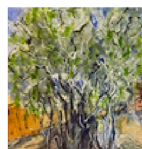
N.B. If you use Mon Marte or similar the result will be disappointing.

#### SUPPLIED:

Water colour paper Spray Mister, Old House Paint Brush, Tissues or Tissue Paper, Mixing Palette (can use a paper plate) and Mop Brush (note: bigger produces the most interesting strokes) You can also bring any of these from home.

## DAY 1

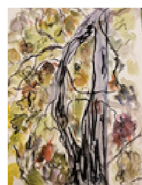
Welcome & Introductions  
Outline of the morning & afternoon sessions



Exploring the materials - papers, paints, brushes, tools  
Freedom drawings - free & loose  
Warm up drawings - free & unguided

#### Activity 1.

It's sharpies & super size paper, tones - how to, are they necessary? Explore colours & their personalities.



#### Activity 2.

Exploring our movement, testing water colour techniques  
Water & drop in colour - sticks/bamboo skewers, tilting.  
These are expressive, stimulating tools (freedom, loose, variety of approaches).

## DAY 2

Recap on day 1 - sharing what you learn/discover.  
Re-examine your warm up exercises. Understanding aerial perspective & tonal values.



#### Activity 1.

Decide on your theme (e.g. floral, garden, landscape)  
Preparation of your paper, commence your work with freedom & confidence.  
Refer to the handout of different ways of expression.  
Be bold & take confidence. understand how to apply your learning. Some may use Hake brushes - loads of diluted colour. Follow through with your body movements. Develop your composition, adding tones, referring to your drawings of how painting might progress. (refer to drawing for inspiration). Enjoy each brush stroke. Fill it, infuse it, load with tonal colours/depths.



#### Activity 2.

Progress to final stages, OR start a new painting. ?idea - consider doing more than one painting at a time. You can line them up & move from one to another (this prevents overworking, dabbing etc.)  
Problem solve your painting/s. Make corrections if needed.



#### PURPOSE:

- \*Have fun with colour & learn new personal art tips.
- \*To build creativity & boost confidence
- \*To explore the world of aspects & contemporary watercolours.
- \*To discover fresh ways of water colours, interpretive, expressionist, inspirational.
- \*Learn how to gain new pathways & new approaches.
- \*Revisit your creative inner self (control)

#### At the end of the workshop you will discover:

It is PROCESS not PRODUCT. How to tame 'control'. Discover restraint - when to walk away.  
Tonal values. Colour gymnastics. Reliable techniques