

Anne Wallace  
Recent Work

26 August - 30 September 2023



# Anne Wallace - Recent Work

Anne Wallace presents three new large scale paintings in a continuation of her interest in time and place, human psychology, memory, music and the dramatic devices of literature and film.

In *Daydream* 2023, lush tropical greenery partially screens a tableau of two children warily eyeing something out of view while a woman muses obliviously in the foreground. The foliage, trees and plants of a Queensland childhood are a defining motif in Wallace's practice, framing or obscuring elements within the image, creating a spatial and temporal 'black spot' 1 We can't create a narrative or predict what will happen next. Behind the bushes, the large dog has not yet been disturbed but an ominous atmosphere suffuses the scene.

*Passing Moment* 2023 illustrates an imagined memory from the time before the artist was born when her parents drove around the UK and Europe in a Thames van. Before they returned to Brisbane and their 'real life' they sold the van to a rock and roll band who needed it to transport their gear. Wallace has wondered if that band ever went on to fame and fortune and includes the van in a depiction of a motorway restaurant at Watford Gap, the Blue Boar, which was favoured by touring bands travelling up and down the M1 as a place to break their journeys with a late night plate of egg and chips and a pint. Despite the prosaic nature of these facts, Wallace intends the painting to be a kind of lament for those lost times.

Her paintings often allude to music in references to song lyrics like *Poptones* 2015 or pop music history as in *The LSD Dentist* 2019. She painted two portraits of the Go Betweens in 2001. Record collections, turntables and hi fi systems appear in her work intermittently, inviting us to experience the work emotionally as with a favourite piece of music.2

Anne Wallace has been exhibiting since the early 1990s. Her first solo exhibition was held at Darren Knight Gallery in 1993. This is her twelfth solo exhibition with the gallery.

In November 2019, *Anne Wallace: Strange Ways*, a major survey show of Wallace's work curated by Vanessa van Ooyen and accompanied by a major publication, was presented at the QUT Art Museum, Brisbane. Earlier this year she was included in *Meet the artists*, curated by Julie Ewington at the State Library of Queensland, and *In the arms of unconsciousness: women, feminism & the surreal* at Hazelhurst Arts Centre, Sydney. In 2022 her work was included in *Call and Response*, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria, *Agent Bodies*, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne and *Cost of Living*, curated by Robert Cook, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth. In 2021 her work was part of *On fire: climate and crisis*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane and *Darkness within: weird and eerie works from the collections*, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, and in 2020, *Know My Name - Australian Women Artists 1900 to Now*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra and nationwide.

Wallace's work is included in the collections of the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Brisbane City Art Gallery and Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Queensland.

1. Vanessa Van Ooyen, *Anything But Ordinary*, *Anne Wallace: Strange Ways*, exhibition catalogue, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane, 2020

2. Francis Plagne, *Dreaming of a Song*, *Anne Wallace: Strange Ways*, exhibition catalogue, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane, 2020





*Daydream* 2023, oil on canvas, 152.5 x 183 cm, \$33,000.00





*Passing Moment* 2023, oil on canvas, 152.5 x 183 cm, \$33,000.00





*Passage* 2023, oil on canvas, 183 x 152.5 cm, \$33,000.00





*Springtime Industrialist* 2023, gouache and watercolour on paper,  
82 x 78.5 cm, \$6,000.00 (unframed)





*Mother and children at sundown* 2023, gouache and watercolour on paper,  
53 x 74 cm, \$5,000.00 (unframed)



*Good Dress* 2023, gouache on board,  
40 x 45 cm, \$4,000.00 (unframed)





*Midday Backyard* 2023, gouache on board,  
40 x 51 cm, \$4,000.00 (unframed)





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