

## PENELOPE OATES

### CREATIVE BACKGROUND

Penelope has had an extensive and varied career in the arts spanning a period of some 20 years. She completed a degree in Fine Arts in Sydney at COFA at a young age which was followed shortly by a degree in Stage and Costume design which she completed at the highly prestigious acting school, NIDA. She worked for several years through to her thirties in Sydney as a designer, concept illustrator and model maker before finally completing a Diploma of Teaching in Visual Arts which has allowed her to finance her foray into her own art practice.

Today Penelope works from her studio in rural Grose Vale NSW, where she lives with her furniture designer/maker husband Darren Oates and two rescue dogs.

### MATERIAL AND CONCEPTUAL PRACTICE

Penelope's technical approach to her practice is highly layered with its mix of coloured inks, acrylic paint and a trusty soldering iron which allows her to lightly etch into timber panels resulting in a distinctive, tapestry-like patina of overlapping lines. This introduction of a soldering iron into her artmaking practice has allowed her to introduce more of a drawing element back into her work and she sees herself as more of a 'mark-maker' than a painter.

Inspiration is drawn from Penelope's own experiences and memories of the landscape with its shifting colours, merging textures and evocations of place and time. She feels a strong connection to the works of 19th Century metaphysical poet John Keats whose poetry expresses the notion of being able to transcend our negative experiences of the world by contemplating upon 'a thing of beauty' In this sense her work provides her with an escape from the strains of an otherwise contemporary urban existence and allows her to indulge in the practice of making, often a very solitary experience but one which suits her perfectly. Art does, however, need an audience to give it meaning and context and it is every artist's joy when that connection is made between the viewer and their work of art.

### EDUCATION & TRAINING

1989	B A of Fine Arts COFA
1994	B A of Dramatic Art in Design NIDA
2001	Diploma of Education in Visual Arts

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024	<i>Etched Through Time</i> , Frances Keevil at Studio W, Woolloomooloo. NSW
2024	<i>Out Yonder</i> , KAB Gallery, NSW
2023	<i>Figments</i> , Frances Keevil at Studio W, Woolloomooloo. NSW
2021	<i>Steadfast Moon</i> , The Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral, NSW
2020	<i>Landscape Narrative</i> , The Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral, NSW
2019	<i>Alternate Views</i> , Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor, NSW
	<i>Moods and Moments</i> , Yuga Gallery, Balmain, NSW

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024	<i>Linked</i> , Frances Keevil at Studio W, Woolloomooloo, Sydney
2023	<i>Summer in the City</i> , Frances Keevil at Studio W, Woolloomooloo, Sydney
2023	<i>Fifty50</i> , Neram Museum, Armidale NSW
	<i>Summer Exhibition</i> , The Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral NSW
2022	<i>Festival of Natives</i> , Gang Gang Gallery, Lithgow, NSW
	<i>Lumine</i> , trio show, Gang Gang Gallery, Lithgow, NSW
	<i>Ephemeral</i> , trio show, Gang Gang Gallery, Lithgow, NSW
	<i>Interconnected</i> , Neram Museum, Armidale, NSW
	<i>Love Where We Live</i> , Mist Gallery, Cabarita Beach NSW
	<i>Place in the Sun</i> , Mist Gallery, Cabarita Beach NSW
	Hawkesbury Art Fair, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor NSW
2021	Summer Exhibition, The Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral, NSW
	Hawkesbury Art Fair, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor NSW

# FRANCES KEEVIL

## PENELOPE OATES

- 2020 *Jewels of the Earth*, Duo Show with Mellissa Read-Devine, Gallery ONE88, Katoomba, NSW  
*Summer Exhibition*, The Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral, NSW
- 2019 *Into the Wild*, trio show at The Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral  
*Summer Exhibition*, The Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral  
Hawkesbury Art Fair, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor NSW  
*Still Life's in the Landscape*, The Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral
- 2018 *Shifting Perspectives*, Gallery 504 Balmain, NSW  
Hawkesbury Art Fair, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor NSW

## ART AWARDS / FINALIST SELECTIONS

- 2024 Lethbridge 20000 Small Scale Art Award, Finalist  
Lethbridge Landscape Prize, Finalist and Highly Commended Award  
Gallipoli Art Prize, Finalist  
Waterbrook Landscape Prize, Finalist
- 2023 Calleen Art Award, People's Choice Award  
Kennedy Art Prize, Finalist  
Calleen Art Award, Finalist  
Northern Beaches Environmental Art and Design Awards, Finalist and People's Choice Award  
Gallipoli Art Prize, Finalist  
Mount Eyre Art Prize, Finalist  
Lethbridge Small Works Prize, Salon Selection  
Wingecarabee Landscape Prize, People's Choice Award
- 2022 KAAF Art Prize, Korean Cultural Museum Sydney, Finalist  
National Capital Art Prize, Canberra, Finalist  
Gallipoli Art Prize, Circular Quay, Finalist  
Northern Beaches Environmental Art and Design Prize, Manly Art Gallery, Finalist  
Gosford Art Prize, Gosford Regional Art Gallery, Finalist  
Hornsby Art Prize, Hornsby, Finalist  
Hunters Hill Art Prize, Hunters Hill Council Chambers, Finalist  
Blue Mountains Art Prize, Finalist and People's Choice Award  
Bluethumb Art Prize, Melbourne, Finalist
- 2021 Wingecarabee Landscape Prize, Bowral Art Gallery, Winner  
Lethbridge Landscape Prize, Semi-Finalist  
Bluethumb Art Prize, Finalist  
Hornsby Art Prize, Finalist
- 2020 Gosford Art Prize, Gosford Regional Gallery, Finalist  
Waverley 9 x 5 Landscape Prize, Finalist  
Hawkesbury Art Prize, Purple Noon Gallery, Freeman's Reach, Finalist
- 2019 Foundation Art Awards, Parramatta, Second Prize  
Gosford Art Prize, Gosford Regional Gallery, People's Choice Award  
Wingecarabee Landscape Prize, Bowral Art Gallery, Finalist  
Wyndham Art Prize, Melbourne, Finalist  
Hornsby Art Prize, Finalist

## GALLERY REPRESENTATION

Frances Keevil  
KAB Galleries