



JULIE DAVIDSON

JULIE DAVIDSON

[VIEW EXHIBITION ONLINE](#)

Symphony of Light

30 JUNE - 25 JULY 2026



OPENING CELEBRATIONS

Meet the artist and celebrate with us at the exhibition opening party on:

Saturday 4 July 1-3pm

Light refreshments provided.

We look forward to seeing you there.

[RSVP appreciated to \[assistant@flg.com.au\]\(mailto:assistant@flg.com.au\)](mailto:RSVP%20appreciated%20to%20assistant@flg.com.au)



Please feel free to contact Claire Harris, Director with any enquiries or to make a time to view artworks once they arrive in the gallery.
info@flg.com.au

Symphony of Light

Catalogue Essay by Sarah Jones 2026

Julie Davidson's works are *beautiful*; as studies of form, of light and shadow, as harmonious compositions, as mimetic tributes to those aesthetic symphonies in nature that are ubiquitous and fleeting. The first flush of a flower's bloom is always a surprise and always a delight, and this sensation does not depreciate with age or familiarity. An encounter with beauty arrests us—brings us immediately to the present—as a sudden intake of breath.

It is this unique sensibility to the finest slice of the present that is the lure of Davidson's paintings. Time is rendered so finely that it feels both infinite and instantaneous. It is as if that very moment—when the light falls silver across the glazed surface—could be opened. And *when* transformed, becoming a *where*, inviting you to step into that space of stillness.

This stillness is the interior time of the mother, the daughter, the loved and the caring. Davidson's still lives are painted around a life full of movement, full of loved ones, full of loss and joy. To dedicate a life to making these paintings is to find time. Not to steal or to borrow, not even to bargain, but to genuinely *find* it—in a fold of fabric, in a reflection in a vase, in the drop of a petal. We know in our technologically mediated world that one's own time has become the greatest of luxuries. Davidson's works are luxurious then, as we ourselves *make* time to pause within them.

Perhaps it is the fullness of life lived around painting that prompts Davidson to describe the vessels chosen for inclusion in her works as somewhat *mundane*. The description feels odd until one realises that what the artist implies here is an ease of access, as opposed to lack of value or an inherent dullness. The bowls and vases chosen for the works in this exhibition range from small dishes collected on overseas travels to treasures from her sister's collection of ceramics, which includes works by revered local ceramicists Arneaud Barraud and Jack Balfour. Davidson chooses these vessels for their inherent simplicity; consistent lines, curves and colours balance these delicate forms.

Ikebana (the way of flowers) learns from the natural world a harmony that attempts to suggest dynamism through asymmetry and negative space. The magnolia tree does not give us a tight bouquet, perfect symmetry or a litany of colour. It opens widely to the sky tempting a lilting gaze that wanders along a bare stem, over kinks and curves, toward a single bloom, petals down, in the silvery road of light along which the eye can continue.

Davidson's proficiency as a painter who has studied the works of the greatest in the European tradition, from Caravaggio to Lorrain, is undeniable. Her exquisite images are the cumulative study of over 30 years of mastery in oil painting and this, her latest exhibition, *Symphonies of Light* offers deep insight into the infinite possibility of *finding* both beauty and time in the everyday.



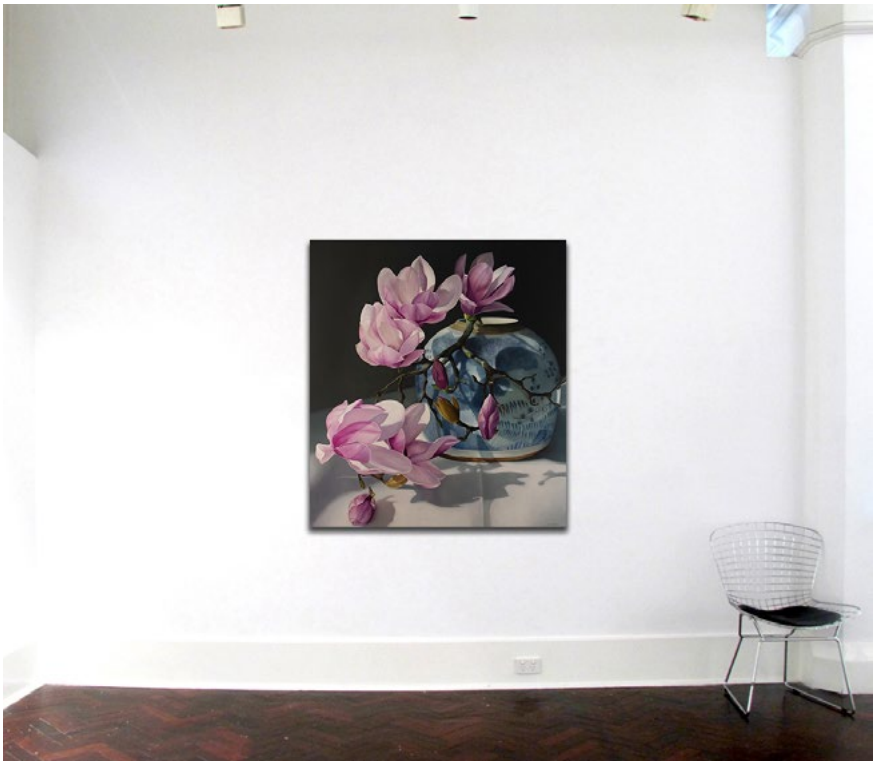


Julie Davidson
Dance of the Magnolias, 2025
oil on linen
138cm x 122cm
\$12,000 AUD





Julie Davidson
Dance of the Magnolias, 2025 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall



Julie Davidson
A Quiet Moment I, 2026
oil on linen
122cm x 122cm
\$10,500 AUD



Julie Davidson
A Quiet Moment I, 2026 (detail)



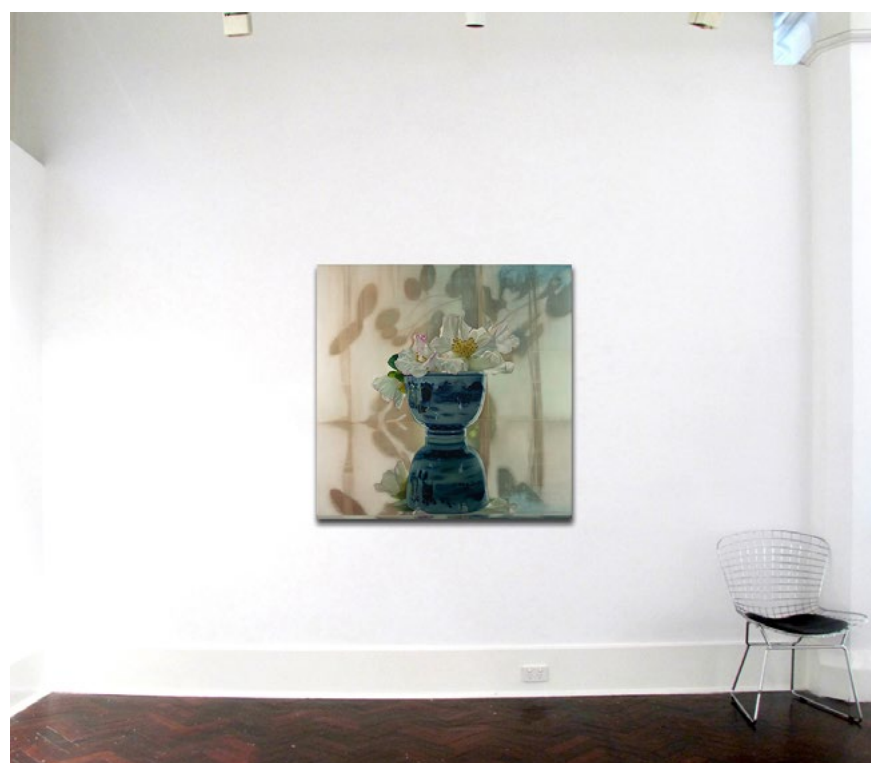
to scale 3.7m wall



Julie Davidson
Before the Light Went, 2025
oil on linen
122cm x 122cm
\$10,500 AUD



Julie Davidson
Before the Light Went, 2025 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall



After so many years of painting, so much of my work now comes pretty automatically - a subconscious tapping into learnt practices. It has been said that "each painting holds within it the life force of all previous paintings". Today in the studio, as I draw up, I decide to be a little more mindful of the process and I become aware of making decisions and choices mostly based on compositional dictates. Then, as paint goes onto canvas, I'm reminded of the wonderful interplay - a kind of dance that happens between colour and light.

The subject is a response to what presents itself at the time - flowers in bloom, fruit at its beginning, edging inevitably to its end, elegant sculptural vessels and found, broken objects. The artist, Avigdor Arikha, was convinced that "in this age the larger concerns of history were beyond art and the truth was more likely to be reached by expressing the qualities of ordinary, even unnoticed things". My hope is to capture the beauty of small things that don't demand attention, that in the hectic pace of today may be dismissed as seemingly mundane - to find the extraordinary in the ordinary.



Julie Davidson
When I Got There - Gardens of Chenonceau, 2026
oil on linen
122cm x 122cm
\$10,500 AUD



Julie Davidson
When I Got There - Gardens of Chenonceau, 2026 (detail)



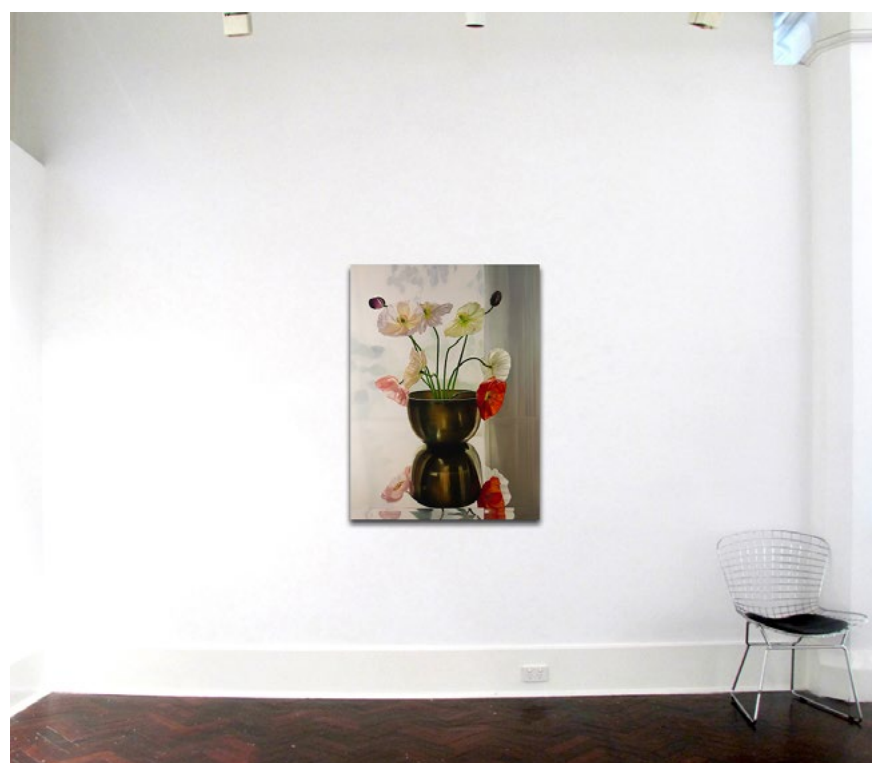
to scale 3.7m wall



Julie Davidson
Poppy Reflections, 2025
oil on linen
122cm x 92cm
\$9,500 AUD



Julie Davidson
Poppy Reflections, 2025 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall



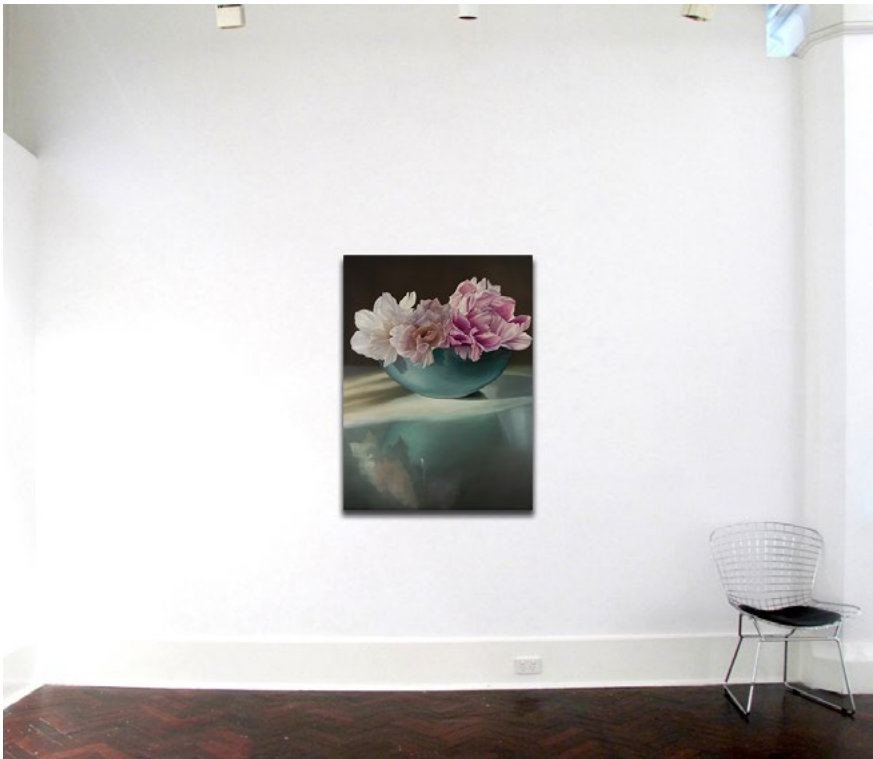




Julie Davidson
Peony Reflections, 2026
oil on linen
122cm x 92cm
\$9,500 AUD



Julie Davidson
Peony Reflections, 2026 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall





Julie Davidson
That Night in the Buchart Gardens, 2026
oil and resin on board
90 cm tondo
\$8,000 AUD



Julie Davidson
That Night in the Buchart Gardens, 2026 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall





Julie Davidson
Autumn's Goodbye - Chateau de la Ruche, 2026
oil and resin on board
90cm tondo
\$8,000 AUD



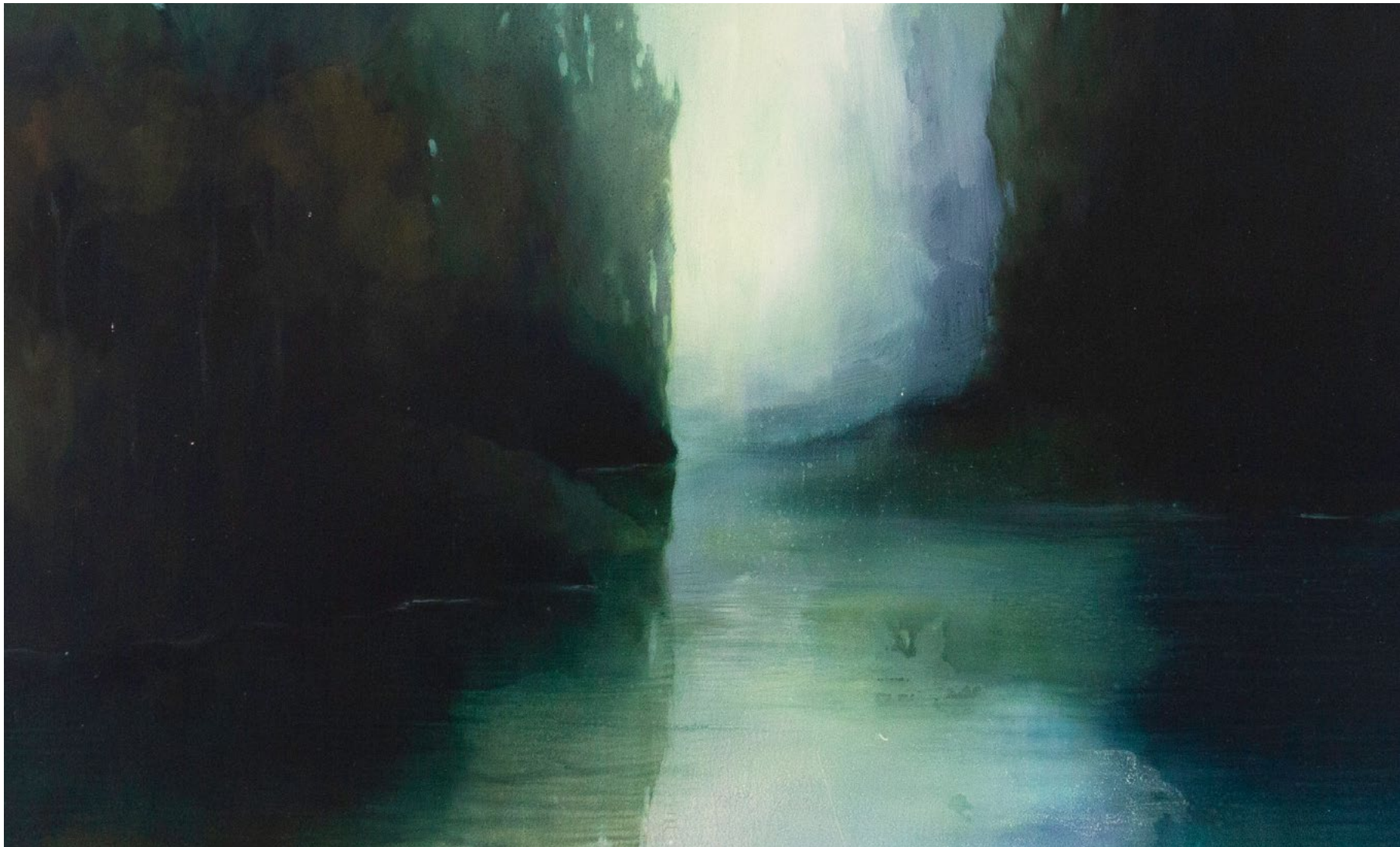
Julie Davidson
Autumn's Goodbye - Chateau de la Ruche, 2026 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall



Julie Davidson
Somewhere, 2026
oil and resin on board
90cm tondo
\$8,000 AUD



Julie Davidson
Somewhere, 2026 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall





Julie Davidson
A Quiet Moment II, 2025
oil on linen
76cm x 76cm
\$7,000 AUD



Julie Davidson
A Quiet Moment II, 2025 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall

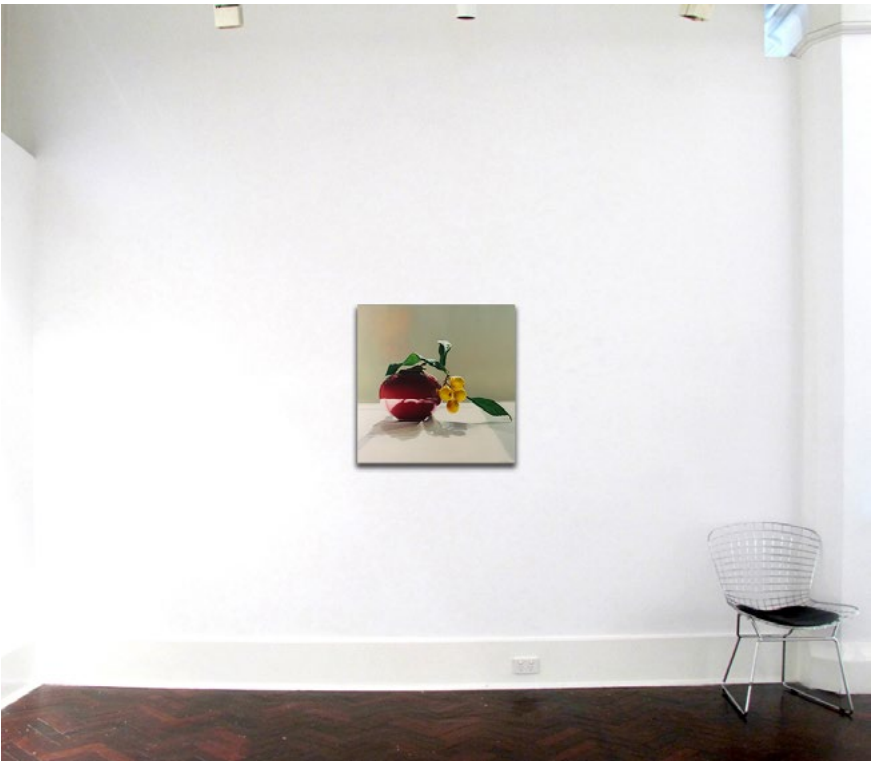




Julie Davidson
It's November, 2026
oil on linen
76cm x 76cm
\$7,000 AUD



Julie Davidson
It's November, 2026 (detail)



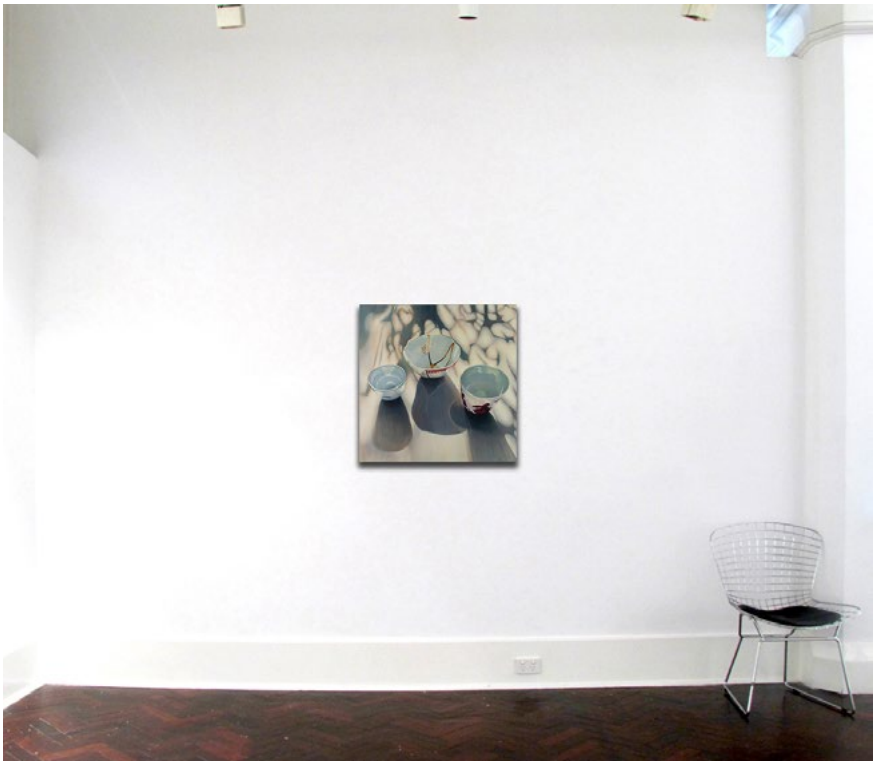
to scale 3.7m wall



Julie Davidson
Kintsugi- Beautiful Imperfection, 2026
oil on linen
76cm x 76cm
\$7,000 AUD



Julie Davidson
Kintsugi- Beautiful Imperfection, 2026 (detail)



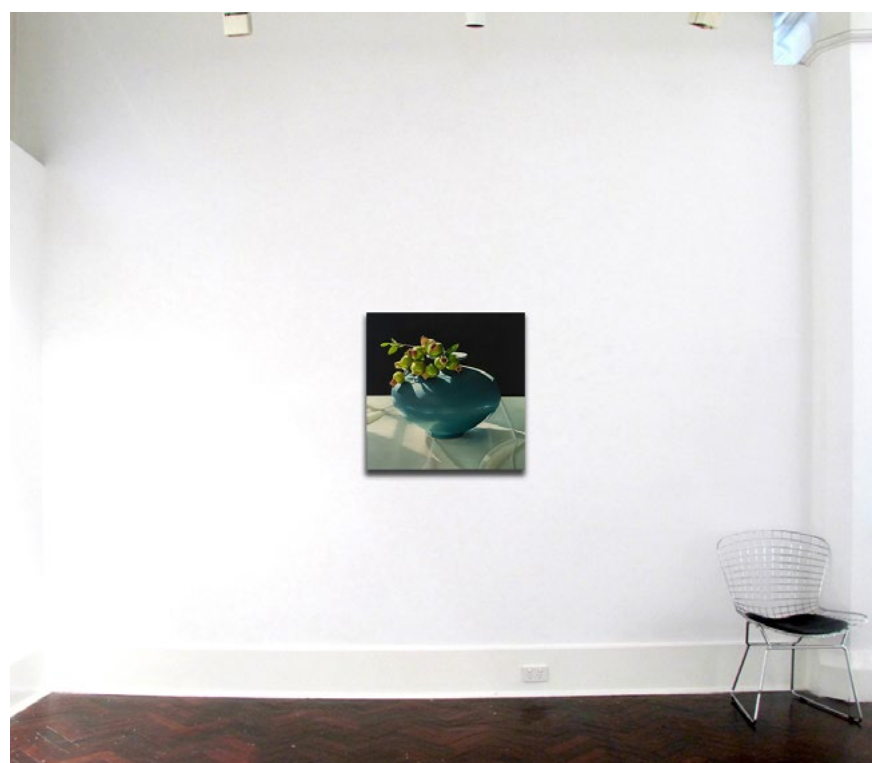
to scale 3.7m wall



Julie Davidson
Pomegranate Celebration, 2025
oil on linen
76cm x 76cm
\$7,000 AUD



Julie Davidson
Pomegranate Celebration, 2025 (detail)



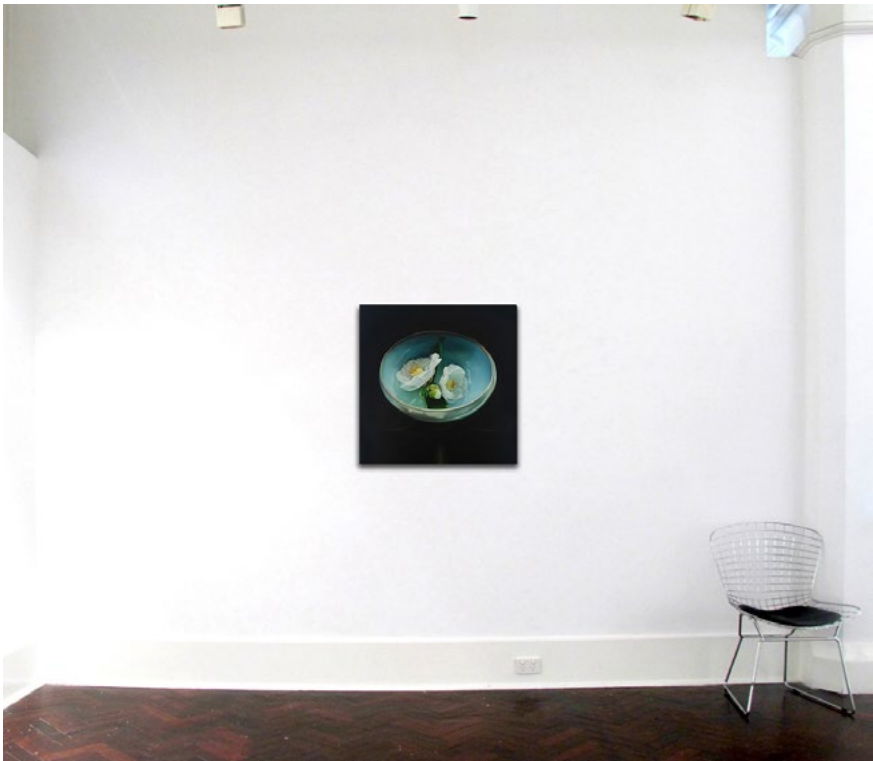
to scale 3.7m wall



Julie Davidson
Silent Repose, 2026
oil on linen
76cm x 76cm
\$7,000 AUD



Julie Davidson
Silent Repose, 2026 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall



Julie Davidson
Birds of a Feather, 2026
oil on linen
60cm x 60cm
\$5,500 AUD



Julie Davidson
Birds of a Feather, 2026 (detail)



to scale 3.7m wall



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FLINDERS LANE GALLERY

Level 1, The Nicholas Building
cnr 37 Swanston St and Flinders Lane
MELBOURNE 3000
WWW.FLG.COM.AU
INFO@FLG.COM.AU
+ 61 3 9654 3332

Tue - Sat 11am - 5pm