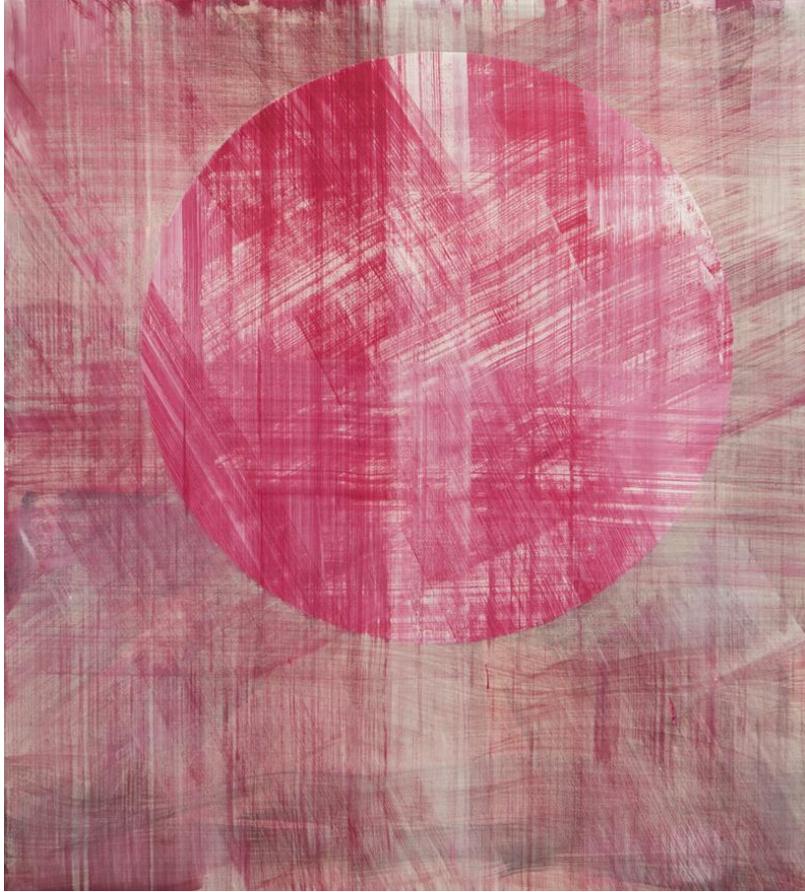


utopia art sydney



Angus Nivison

Complicit

Press Release

Dates: 29 August - 19 September

**deep psychological portraits of the Australian
land**

Beautiful abstract canvases that show us a powerful, psychological view of the Australian landscape form the new Angus Nivison exhibition at Utopia Art Sydney from 29th August to the 19th September

"These paintings concentrate the feelings we share for the land in Australia. There's striking light, colour, sweep of horizon, strength, beauty and tough reality." says Christopher Hodges, executive director of Utopia Art Sydney, "But it's not a view or vista Angus shows us; it's the raw emotion of the landscape of the mind.

"Nivison grew up in the bush. He knows the harsh truth of the land; the bounty, the beauty; the droughts, floods and fires. He knows what forces are present in an old country and what shapes life beyond the city. In this exhibition Angus captures things we sensed, but didn't know.

"Our vision of Australia is of bush and outback. Angus's poetic understanding of the land means he has something to say and the artistic skills to say it through abstraction.

Nivison was born in the New England area at Walcha where he grew up. Walcha is cold, hard country. Nivison has lived on a working property in Walcha his whole life, knowing everyone around him, witnessing the cycles of life and death.

"The most recent Nivison works include trademark brooding blacks, darker groups of colours that reflect recent effects of climate change plus what he's seen around him and what he's felt from the wider, more challenged world.

"Amongst the blacks and greys, are splashes of bright open colour. His brushwork is sweeping, the hand is clear, the mark making expressive, and he is in control. These are paintings of what has been and the premonition of what may come.

"There are also tantalising pink paintings, where a sun shines with a beacon of hope, and a romantic vision only adds to the deep forces that now run through Nivison's work.

"This Australia is not of gum trees but of an ancient landscape full of magic and secrets and dark power that only Angus Nivison can make us feel and see.

"Angus Nivison has been an important part of Australian art since the 70's and his impressive debut with Anne Lewis's famously influential Galley A. This exhibition shows why.

Angus Nivison won the Wynne Prize in 2002. His work is part of every major Australian museum and individual collections; he's been represented by leading contemporary galleries; Gallery A, Bloomfield, Coventry Gallery, BBA and Utopia Art Sydney; had 30 solo and 116 group shows; and is a

multi-year finalist for both Wynne and Archibald prizes.



We're in the gallery so give us a call and we will organise everything, at a critical distance!

press are welcome for a preview in the gallery

Christopher Hodges is available for interview
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images **top:** Angus Nivison, *Herald*, 2020, acrylic and gesso on polyester, 168.5 x 150 cm **above:** Angus Nivison, *Spark*, 2020, acrylic and ink on polyester, 160 x 150 cm **below:** Angus Nivison, *Tilt*, 2019, acrylic, pigment and gesso on polyester, 188.5 x 168 cm

Images by Simon Scott photography



About Utopia Art Sydney.

Utopia Art Sydney is a leading Australian contemporary gallery.

Opened in 1988, Utopia represents Australia's most prominent contemporary artists including Simyrn Gill, Emily Kame Kngwarreye, John R. Walker, Yukultji Napangati, Helen Eager, Angus Nivison, Ronnie Tjampitjinpa, and George Tjungurrayi.

Utopia Art Sydney began and sustained the career of Australia's greatest artist Emily Kame Kngwarreye, from her emergence through to her death, including at the Venice Biennale and Retrospectives in Australia and Japan.

Utopia Art Sydney artists are always part of major showcase exhibitions including the Venice Biennale and Biennale of Sydney; and strongly represented in Australia's most significant public and private collections and gallery artists Kylie Stillman, Marea Gazzard, David Aspden, Richard and Pat Larter shape and define the look and feel of Australian art.

Gallery Director Christopher Hodges is a leading Australian artist with a long established career.



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Open Tues to Sat 10am - 5pm

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