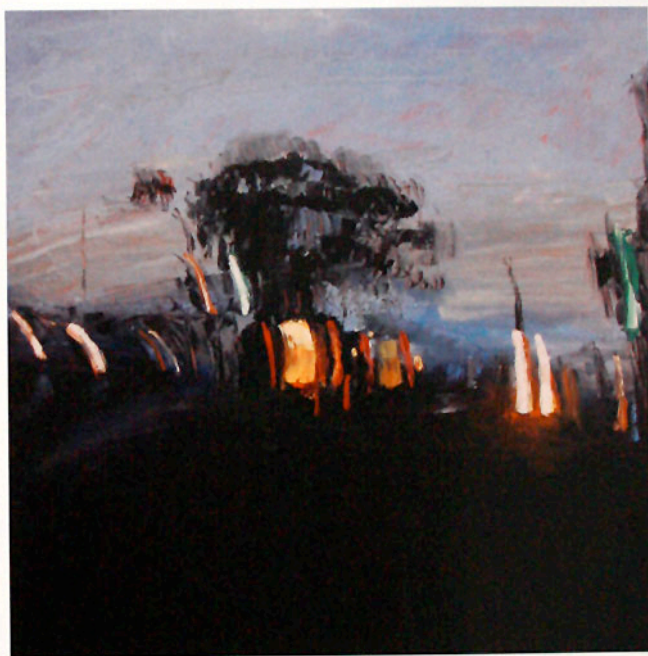


ARTIST PROFILE

AUS \$15 NZ \$16.90

8

RICK AMOR



PROJECT / SIMON COLLINS

95

SIMON COLLINS

Paintings for my forthcoming exhibition are first person investigations inspired by the simple visual appeal of ordinary moments in my life that cry out to be painted. With no burning need to get any profound message across, I'm happy for the viewer to make what they will of the subject matter—any perceived narrative, and conclusions reached are an analysis of my own experiences. Accurate or not, it doesn't matter in a literal sense, only in the sense that the subject matter is symptomatic of my situation and experiences which I paint to investigate, not spell out.

Content aside, I quite simply mess with the medium and try to paint an honest pleasing picture and reach a level of sophistication in the process. I find strength in work where the action of laying down paint and the energy of the artist's process is shared. It makes for a richer connection between maker and viewer when the execution is an intrinsic part of the concepts being explored. Having an affinity with oil paint and utilising a direct intuitive painting process is far more important to my ideas than the simple rendering of an image. Every painting is an event recorded and the human marks that make that event rich are diminished when eclipsed by pursuits of representational correctness or spectacular technical skill.

I rarely feel compelled to set up a scene to shoot for a painting and perhaps that's only because I have so much interesting subject matter at hand, but I've learnt there is great value for me to reference my work from real life experience because there is ripe pre-knowledge there ready to be expressed and manipulated for a painting. My gallery work demands reference

photos, which I work from unashamedly, so I always carry a camera and am constantly collecting. When useful, I pick up on photographic nuances and imperfections particularly in the nocturnes, but what I end up with is far from a rendition of the snap.

Simon Collins is represented by Iain Dawson Gallery, Sydney
www.iaindawson.com

EXHIBITION
Bright Road Object, 19 - 29 August 2009
Iain Dawson Gallery, 72a Windsor Street, Paddington NSW

01 Bright Road Object #5, 2009, oil on board, 60 x 60cm