



University of
Southern
Queensland

In League With The Highway

Original Work in Solo Exhibition (Visual Arts)

Featured artists: David Usher (UniSQ)

Curated by Alexandra Lawson(UniSQ)

[Original Work Submission Year: 2018]



University of
Southern
Queensland

In League with the Highway Exhibition The Cam Robertson Gallery/ Toowoomba Regional Gallery

Background

Australian artists Fredrick McCubbin and Sidney Nolan demonstrate a long tradition of *en plein air* practice. The *en plein air* approach often involved processes of transferring visual sketches into paintings within the artist's own studio. There is still much to be explored in interpreting the immediacy of a contemporary landscape through this approach and the impact of the studio environment upon individual artist's perceptions, intuitions, and experiences.

Contribution

In League with the Highway is one exhibition from a series exploring contemporary *en plein air* painting that expands on the role of artist's perception and intuitive understanding. The novel contribution of this approach is identifying the development of the creative process which is self-defined by the artist as 'the spook'. Recognising 'the spook' is not specifically about identifying an affect as about understanding 'creative influence' upon art processes and outcomes. These exhibitions engage with perceptual experiences of landscape with the aim of conveying the presence of 'the spook' for both artist and audience.

Research significance

This exhibition was well received with an attendance of approximately 600 visitors at the Cam Robertson Gallery Space within the Toowoomba regional Art Gallery. As a result of the success of this exhibition further invitations were extended for involvement a group exhibition held at First Coat Gallery (2018). This exhibition and the audience feedback received subsequently resulted in also being invited to exhibit in the Third Quarter Gallery group exhibition in Brisbane (2019).



University of
Southern
Queensland



David Usher

Take me there (or leave me here)

Artwork from 'In League with The Highway' 2018

Acrylic on board

39cm x 120cm



University of
Southern
Queensland



David Usher

All the Gardens Lead to the Sea

Artwork from 'In League with The Highway' 2018

Acrylic on canvas

153cm x 198cm



David Usher

The Highway Wandered off

Artwork from 'In League with The Highway' 2018

Acrylic on board

99cm x 120cm



University of
**Southern
Queensland**



David Usher

Take me there (or leave me here) & What if we stay (until the car finishes rolling)

Artwork from 'In League with The Highway' 2018

Acrylic on canvas

39cm x 120cm/43 x 120cm



David Usher

Shiny Gold Path 2017

Artwork from 'In League with The Highway' 2018

Acrylic on canvas

35cm x 40cm