

Justin Bishop  
Recent paintings  
October 28 – November 2 2024  
Woolloongabba Art Gallery

### ***Artist Statement***

I have a long-held love of painting. I am fascinated and continued to be inspired by 20<sup>th</sup> Century abstraction. I don't know why. My work explores this love of that type of painting. It is the process of looking at and learning about how artists made work that also fascinates me. I see myself as a process painter in this way.

My use of a circular/ ovular shape examines formal relationships between colour placement in space. Sometimes there is a tension, sometimes there is a peaceful resolution. What in conclusion seems to be a simple final image is the result of playful exploratory underpainting. I enjoy the struggle to work a painting to a simple conclusion.

The meaning of this work is simple. They are the products of a person making meaning for themselves in this world. To find some peace and joy in colour, stillness and vibration. The act of painting is a form of meditating to recentre oneself. Each work is moment of reflection in coming to terms with the turmoil of life.

### ***Biography***

Justin Bishop was born in Newcastle in 1975 and graduated USQ Toowoomba c.2000. He worked in the Arts sector in Queensland as an artist and arts worker holding positions of Director of Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery, Exhibitions Manager of Cairns Art Gallery and Director of KickArts Contemporary Arts (now Northsite).

While based in Cairns, Justin played in bands, organised gigs, recordings and tours. During the pandemic he moved into working in the signage industry. Its materials and concepts of developing and displaying an image opened new pathways for his practice.

Justin considers himself a returning artist, that is returning to feeling confident to exhibit again and make meaning by making artwork.

He currently lives and work on Gurambilbarra Country (Townsville) and maintain an arts practice across multiple disciplines.

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