

An oil painting of a large industrial building under construction at sunset. The structure features a complex steel framework with dark vertical columns and horizontal beams. A prominent orange gantry crane spans across the upper part of the frame. The large glass panels of the building reflect the warm, orange and yellow hues of the setting sun. In the background, a landscape with trees and distant mountains is visible through the glass. The overall mood is one of industrial scale contrasted with natural beauty.

SYBIL CURTIS
ABANDONED AND RENEWED

ABANDONED AND RENEWED

Fire is the product of energy produced by the sun. For thousands of years we used fire directly by burning wood and fossil fuels. Industrial societies have harnessed this energy by generating electricity and distributing it through a grid of power-lines which march across our landscapes.

My early paintings were often based on coal-fired power stations and heavy industry which were massive, sculptural and symbolized modernity. Today fossil fuels are being replaced by renewable wind and solar energy. The original infrastructure associated with coal-power generation is being repurposed or abandoned.

Most of the paintings in Abandoned and Renewed are based on the remnants of industrial infrastructure around Lithgow, west of the Blue Mountains. The old Blast Furnace is now a tourist attraction. And the site of Wallerawang Power Station is being redeveloped for multiple purposes including battery storage. One of its elegant cooling towers has been preserved for posterity.

All my paintings are constructs where different elements are combined to produce a coherent artwork.

Abstract qualities are of prime importance.

Sybil Curtis 2026

front image (detail): *The Damage is Done* 2026, Oil on canvas, 90 x 120 cm



SYRIL KITE 2025

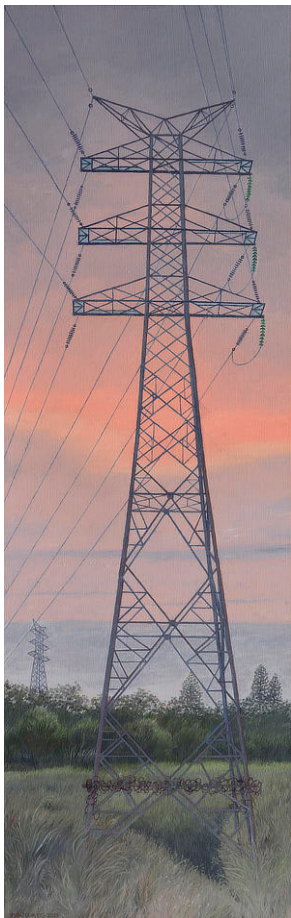
Waiting for a Better Life 2025, Oil on canvas, 90 x 120 cm



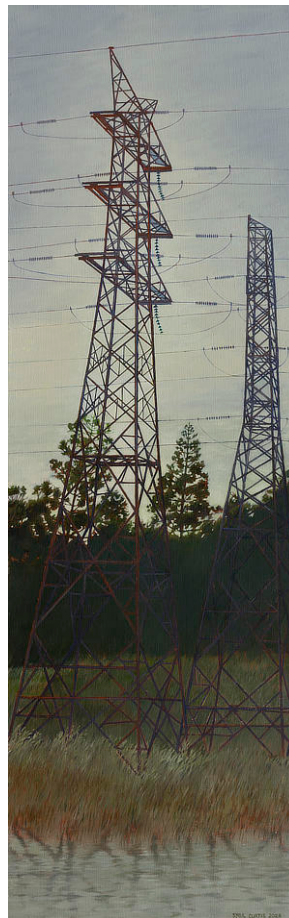
Basic Structure 2026, Oil on canvas, 35 x 35 cm



Twittering Pole 2025, Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 cm



One Power Tower 2025, Oil on canvas, 150 x 48 cm



Two Power Tower 2025, Oil on canvas, 150 x 48 cm



Swanbank Revisited 2025, Oil on canvas, 150 x 48 cm



This is not a Castle 2026, Oil on canvas, 150 x 48 cm



Cooling 2025, Oil on canvas, 35 x 35 cm



Chrome still Glitters 2026, Oil on canvas, 80 x 100 cm



Cool Madonna 2026, Oil on canvas, 35 x 35 cm



Hungry Reef Shark 2026
Framed scraper-board drawing, 16 x 11 cm



Angler Fish 2026
Framed scraper-board drawing, 16 x 11 cm



Frightened Fish 2026
Framed scraper-board drawing, 16 x 11 cm



Right Fin Fish 2026
Framed scraper-board drawing, 16 x 11 cm



Left Fin Fish 2026
Framed scraper-board drawing, 16 x 11 cm

Exhibition dates
1 September – 19 September 2026



WOOLLOONGABBA ART GALLERY

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