



23 April 2024

## Melbourne-based Artist in Hobart for Residency Prize

Making the most of the Residency Prize she was awarded as part of last year's Hadley's Art Prize, Melbourne-based artist Melissa Kenihan has been busy drawing inspiration from the Tasmanian landscape, sketching and painting.

Kenihan was awarded one month's accommodation at The Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel, an art studio in the Salamanca Arts Centre, and a \$500 Artery voucher for art supplies.

"It's great to have this Residency Prize as part of the Hadley's Art Prize suite of prizes," says Prize Curator Dr Amy Jackett. "This prize gives one artist an incredible Tasmanian experience that is sure to stay with them."

"It's been a month of pure creative indulgence that has given my practice such a boost," says Kenihan.

With a background in sound design, Kenihan's work intertwines nature and narrative. Her painting of an orange bellied parrot in last year's Hadley's Art Prize moved the judges, while also impressing them with technical skill.

While in Hobart, Kenihan has created a series of charcoal sketches and six paintings, describing: "My work explores the landscape from an aerial perspective, a process that begins out in nature where I photograph spectacular vistas using a drone." The photographs inform her sketches and expansive paintings.

Kenihan will invite people in to see her work on Saturday 27 April from 11am – 1pm in her studio on level 2 in the Arts Centre. She will exhibit her work at Hadley's Orient Hotel later in the year.

The winner of this year's Residency Prize and major \$100,000 Hadley's Art Prize will be announced on 2 August. This year's Hadley's Art Prize exhibition of finalists will be held from 3 August – 25 August. Admission to the exhibition is free.

For more information visit [hadleysartprize.com.au](http://hadleysartprize.com.au)

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