

Nervous Pastorals

Rose Moxham is a contemporary artist living in Quandamooka Country/Moreton Bay Queensland. Her work is based in nature, specifically the mangrove, living where she does on Moreton Bay Queensland with the mudflat at her door. It is an immeasurable subject, her only subject, and there are myriad ways of seeing and approaching it. Moxham has chosen to not settle on any one approach (although the one informs the other), partly because it would be untrue to both the mangrove and to how she works, and also because it gives her scope to investigate in many forms not only the physicality and emotional content of the subject, but also that of the materials she uses.

The work is abstracted, reductive, the focus is on rhythm, volume diverted by colour, surface shape, and the tension between raw, sometimes rough, materials, layering, glazes and limited palette.

She writes, 'I spend a lot of time in bush timberyards and workshops, and the wood for these works began as throwaways from other saws. I'm a gleaner, always looking for offcuts with an angle, an edge, that triggers a possibility. And when I've found it, I cut again and shape the wood, which morphs with each further cut, bite of chisel and pass of the plane, and eventually is formed into something approaching my vision, which is about the mangrove because that's where I live.'

There is a sentience in the mangrove: trees growing crosshatch provide protection from the winds and tides for the whole. Moving through it there is a peaceful solitude like that of the idealised pastoral. But it feels jittery too, as if the systems for that protection are fracturing.

The patination of the bronzes references the mildewed, almost petrified, tendrils, twigs, branches and sometimes creatures that climb, perch, languish, cling to the wood wherever they can get a hold'.



ROSE MOXHAM (Artist photo courtesy the artist)



ROSE MOXHAM *Nervous pastoral 1* 2026 oil on wood, bronze 24 x 33 x 3cm (approx.) \$2300



ROSE MOXHAM *Nervous pastoral 2* 2026 oil on wood, bronze 37 x 31 x 3cm (approx.) \$2300



ROSE MOXHAM *Nervous pastoral 3* 2026 oil on wood, bronze 63 x 28 x 2cm (approx.) \$2500



ROSE MOXHAM *Nervous pastoral 4* 2026 oil on wood, bronze 36 x 17 x 3cm (approx.) \$1900



ROSE MOXHAM *Nervous pastoral 5* 2026 oil on wood, bronze 32 x 38 x 3cm (approx.) \$2300



ROSE MOXHAM *Nervous pastoral 6* 2026 oil on wood, bronze 53 x 20 x 3cm (approx.) \$2300



ROSE MOXHAM *Nervous pastoral 7* 2026 oil on wood, bronze 65 x 17 x 2cm (approx.) \$2300



ROSE MOXHAM *Nervous pastoral 8* 2026 oil on wood, bronze 49 x 16 x 3cm (approx.) \$1900



An independent commercial gallery space dedicated to contemporary art

Stala Contemporary has exhibited and advocated for contemporary artists since 2006 across five gallery locations in Perth, WA.

Director Sherri Staltari is passionately committed to presenting a dynamic and diverse range of Australian and international artists' work through a monthly program of exhibitions and projects.

Stala Contemporary is now open in its newly renovated gallery premises at 11 Southport St, West Leederville.

Stala Contemporary would like to acknowledge the continuing strength and culture of the Nyoongar Whadjuk people, traditional custodians of the land we stand on and offer our respects to Elders past, present and future.

 **Stala Contemporary**
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