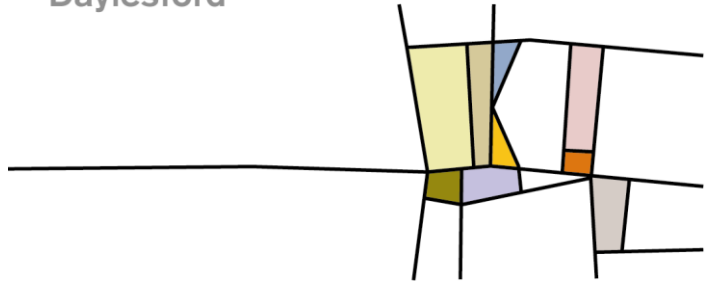


The Convent  
Daylesford



# Heather SMITH

Greece is the setting for Bendigo-based artist, Heather Smith second exhibition at The Convent Gallery. The natural bush surrounding her home, bordering the Greater Bendigo National Park, was a magical and energising source for her previous exhibition in 2021.

Heather is always inspired by her many sojourns to Greece, in particular, the island of Hydra, jewel of the Saronic Gulf. Hydra has been a magnet for artists, poets and writers since the 1950s. The island evokes names like Australian writers George Johnston and Charmian Clift and, later, singer, songwriter/poet Leonard Cohen. Heather has been mesmerised by Hydra since her first visit in 1979. She is drawn to the beauty of the white-washed buildings surrounding the horseshoe port, cobblestoned laneways leading to village life and the daily changing colours and light. Her rich palette of luscious, buttery oil paints is evident in her recent paintings. Heather says that there is so much to paint on Hydra, never tiring of the possibilities.

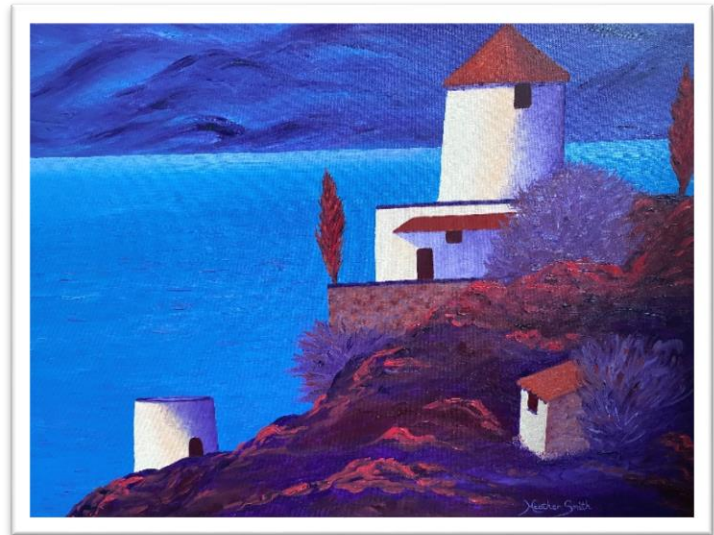
Heather's art has taken her to Paris, Amsterdam, New York, Lombok island in Indonesia and a Tibetan refugee camp in India. Heather is also influenced by the natural beauty of flowers during her travels. She loves the cheery free spirit and simplicity of sunflowers and tulips. They demand vibrant colours which embrace the viewer.

Heather studied for several years under noted Bendigo artist Joy Tatt, before following her own path.

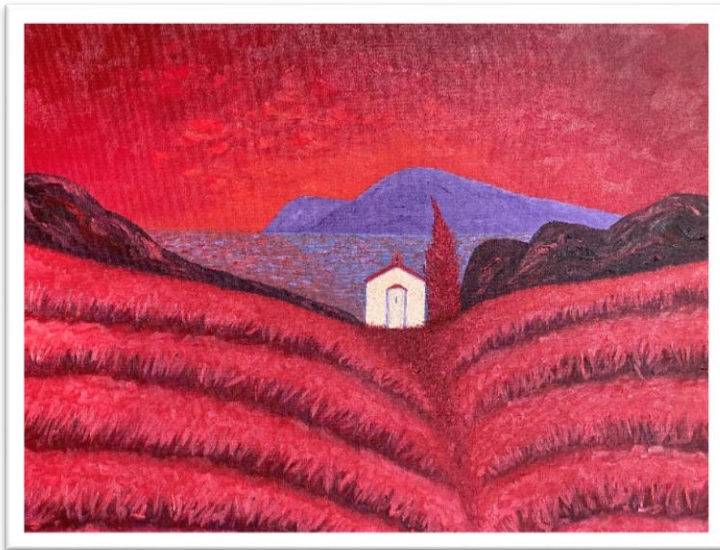
Heather has worked with different mediums - including acrylics, pastels, markers and coloured pencils - but oil painting is her passion.



Tulips, 30cm x 41cm: \$500  
Oil & Acrylic on canvas



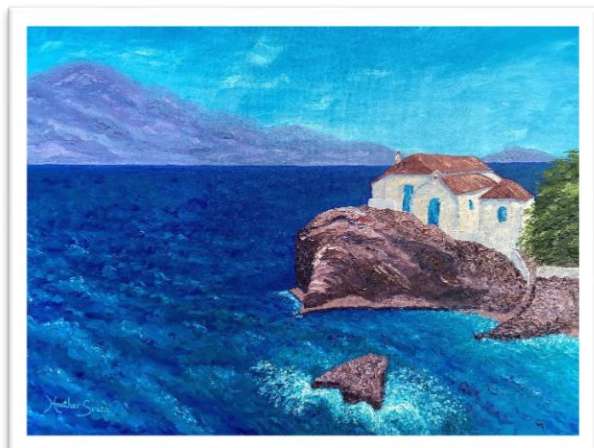
Windmills over the Saronic Gulf, Hydra, Greece  
71cm x 56cm, Oil & Acrylic: \$900



Greek Church at Sunset, Hydra, Greece  
71cm x 51cm, Oil & Acrylic: \$900



Sunflowers, 30cm x 41cm: \$500  
Oil & Acrylic on canvas



Vlychos Villagre, Hydra, Greece  
71cm x 51cm, Oil & Acrylic: \$900



Sunset with Fir Trees, Hydra, Greece  
71cm x 51cm, Oil & Acrylic: \$900