



Sophie Corks

***Untitled* – The Corner Store Gallery**

March 15 - 26

Sophie's art practice draws on her own experience of having grown up in a small farming community in NSW, before living in Sydney, Brighton, UK and Paris, France. Sophie spent so much of her childhood traveling between regional NSW towns for sport or visiting family - always with a sketchpad in hand. After living overseas, she wanted to tell the stories of regional towns, not the natural landscape but the built environment. Now residing in Orange with her young daughter and husband, Sophie is on a mission to capture the personalities and celebrate the distinctive identities of regional and rural communities through her paintings. She will often be found walking the empty streets of towns taking photos of the tops of buildings and interesting houses. The harsh midday or afternoon sun is when she finds the best angles and contrasting shadows to inspire a painting.

For this series, Sophie was inspired by the buildings of small towns that play an essential role in day-to-day life from the mechanic, the motel to the neighbours who tell you all the gossip. Sophie has used acrylic paints, playful colour palettes and fluid shapes to explore the mood of these places, inviting the viewer to feel a sense of nostalgia and attachment.