

# Manyung Gallery Group

• Malvern • Mt Eliza • Sorrento • Mobile

## Debbie Mackenzie

### Artist Bio

Debbie Mackenzie is an artist residing on the Mornington Peninsula. After studying Graphic Design and a successful career in the advertising industry, Debbie has embarked upon a journey into the romantic. Her paintings are largely about reverie; a sense of place, a desire to be there.

Spending her childhood between the peninsula (her home) and the century old family beach house at Peterborough on the Great Ocean Road, has provided a rich and endless source of inspiration. Under the guidance of renowned artist Dr Tony Hanning, Debbie has been able to finesse her talent.

Debbie has exhibited in numerous art shows and group exhibitions with work in many private collections across the country

### Statement

In awe of our environment and all its beauty of promising landscapes, dreamy atmospheres and the melancholy contemplation of the sky, is all part of Debbie's engagement with the romantic.

Debbie's vision is about leaving the high pressured, time poor quality of modern life, escaping into the whimsical landscape of rolling green hills and grand old trees and majestic skies. Placing the viewer beneath a vast and epic sky that correctly reminds us of where we fit in nature, small but surrounded by beauty on a grand scale. Return to the days of a carefree childhood, to lie on the grass and watch clouds float by, not a care in the world. To indulge in that feeling when you view the work, best describes Debbie's motivation.

Her work is a reflection of personal and individual experience from childhood to today. Spending time between her home on the Mornington Peninsula and her beloved family holiday shack in Peterborough (with a rich history going back 4 generations), has provided Debbie with a surplus of visual memories!

As Simon Gregg says in his book, *New Romantics*, "today Romanticism implies an aversion to digital technology. To embrace the natural world is to cleanse and purify the soul against the madness of the modern world. Artists who turn to nature today may be seeking such a spiritual respite.