

FIONA BARRETT-CLARK

It got dark so quickly

1 - 12 JULY 2020



Fiona's work seeks to awaken people to the glory of what might seem ordinary and occurs in the everyday – yet is actually quite precious.

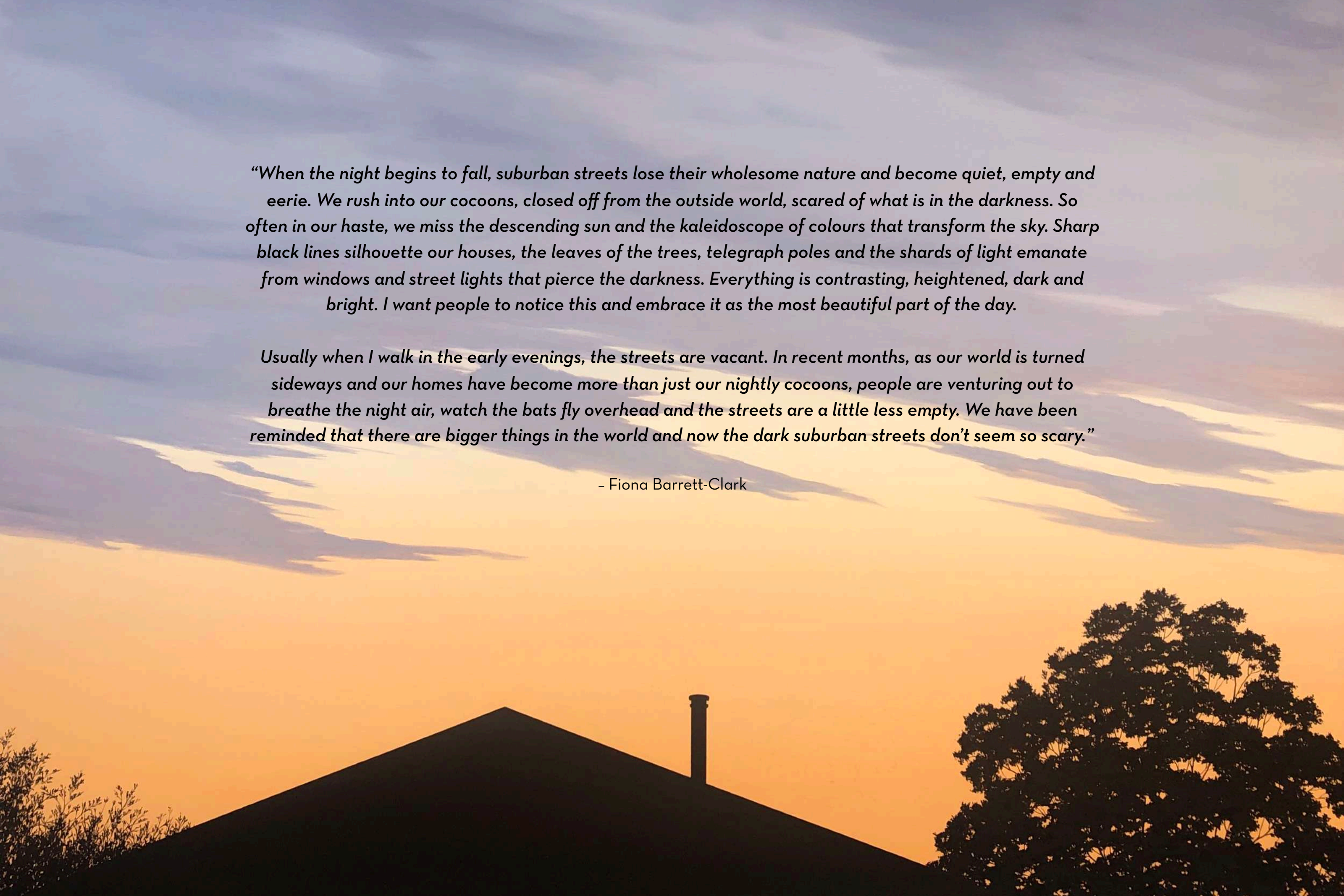
We are often too busy and rushed to notice, however as we come to grips with a new reality since COVID-19, most of us are getting a rare opportunity to slow down enough to not only notice these priceless moments, but also appreciate and revel in them. Silver-linings, they call them.

Fiona's paintings reflect the beauty of an unassuming and unexaggerated Australian landscape, void of people, but not always the spectre of humanity's presence. She particularly focusses in on the twilight sky, in these works – the prismatic colours and cloud formations as the day's light fades, tinges of pinks, mauves, greys, blues and orange.

The works conjure up the melancholy of that 'magic-hour' time of day; it's about memory, fleeting moments and sometimes an assortment of memories colliding. It's about kindling a memory to evoke a visceral, sensory response in the viewer. The works are on plywood instead of board or canvas to give a grainy texture to the paintings which permeate them with the old-world feel of vintage slides or photographs, adding to the resonant nature of the work.

Fiona is based in Sydney and has been exhibiting for 2 decades. She was most recently a finalist in the 2019 Hawkesbury Art Prize.



A sunset sky with a house silhouette and trees. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and blues, with wispy clouds. In the foreground, the dark silhouette of a house with a chimney and some trees is visible against the bright horizon.

“When the night begins to fall, suburban streets lose their wholesome nature and become quiet, empty and eerie. We rush into our cocoons, closed off from the outside world, scared of what is in the darkness. So often in our haste, we miss the descending sun and the kaleidoscope of colours that transform the sky. Sharp black lines silhouette our houses, the leaves of the trees, telegraph poles and the shards of light emanate from windows and street lights that pierce the darkness. Everything is contrasting, heightened, dark and bright. I want people to notice this and embrace it as the most beautiful part of the day.

Usually when I walk in the early evenings, the streets are vacant. In recent months, as our world is turned sideways and our homes have become more than just our nightly cocoons, people are venturing out to breathe the night air, watch the bats fly overhead and the streets are a little less empty. We have been reminded that there are bigger things in the world and now the dark suburban streets don't seem so scary.”

- Fiona Barrett-Clark

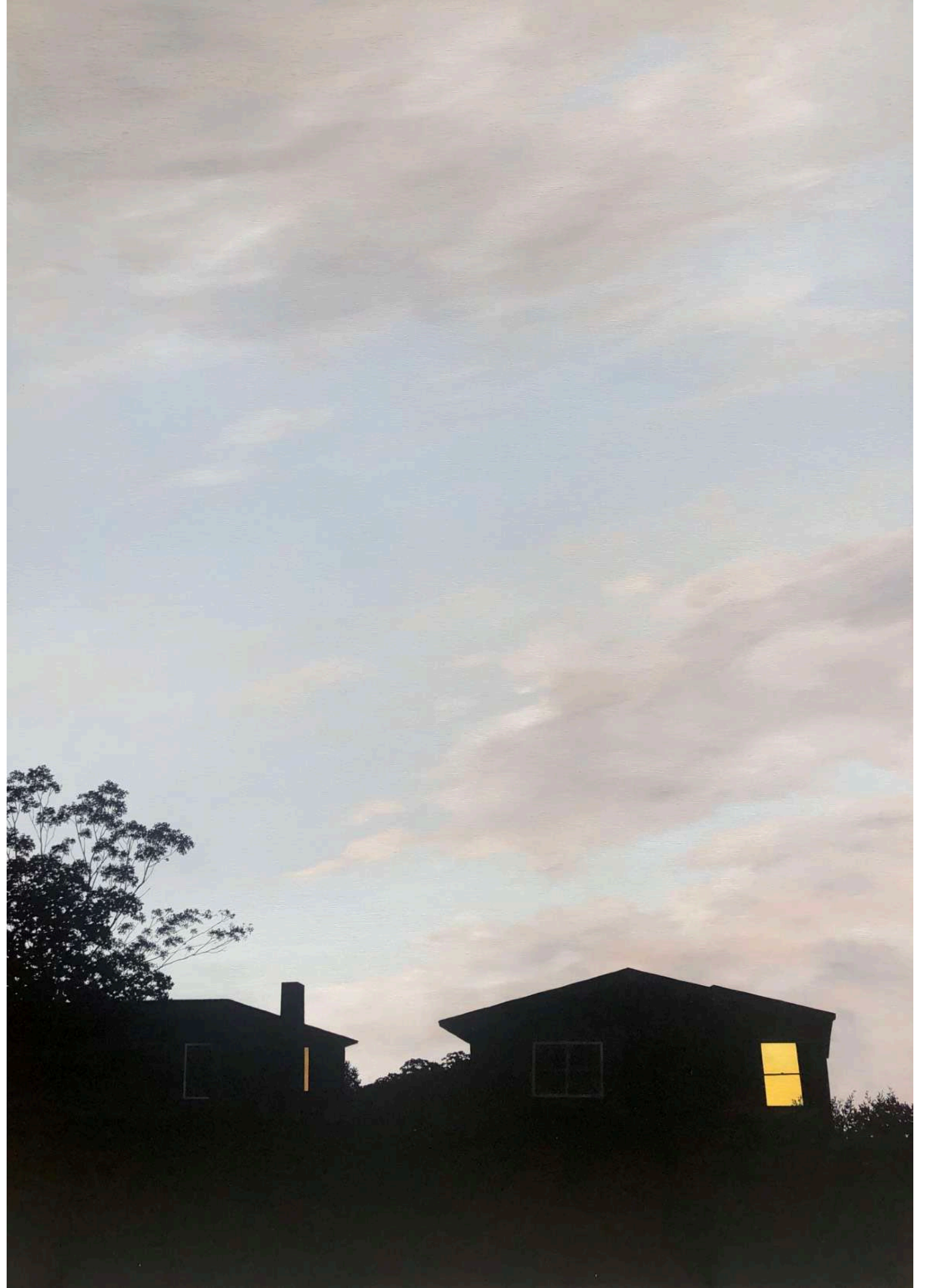


It Got Dark So Quickly
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
103 x 103 cm
\$3,900



The Sky Was Mauve
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
103 x 103 cm
\$3,900

A Low Murmur
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
103 x 73 cm
\$2,800





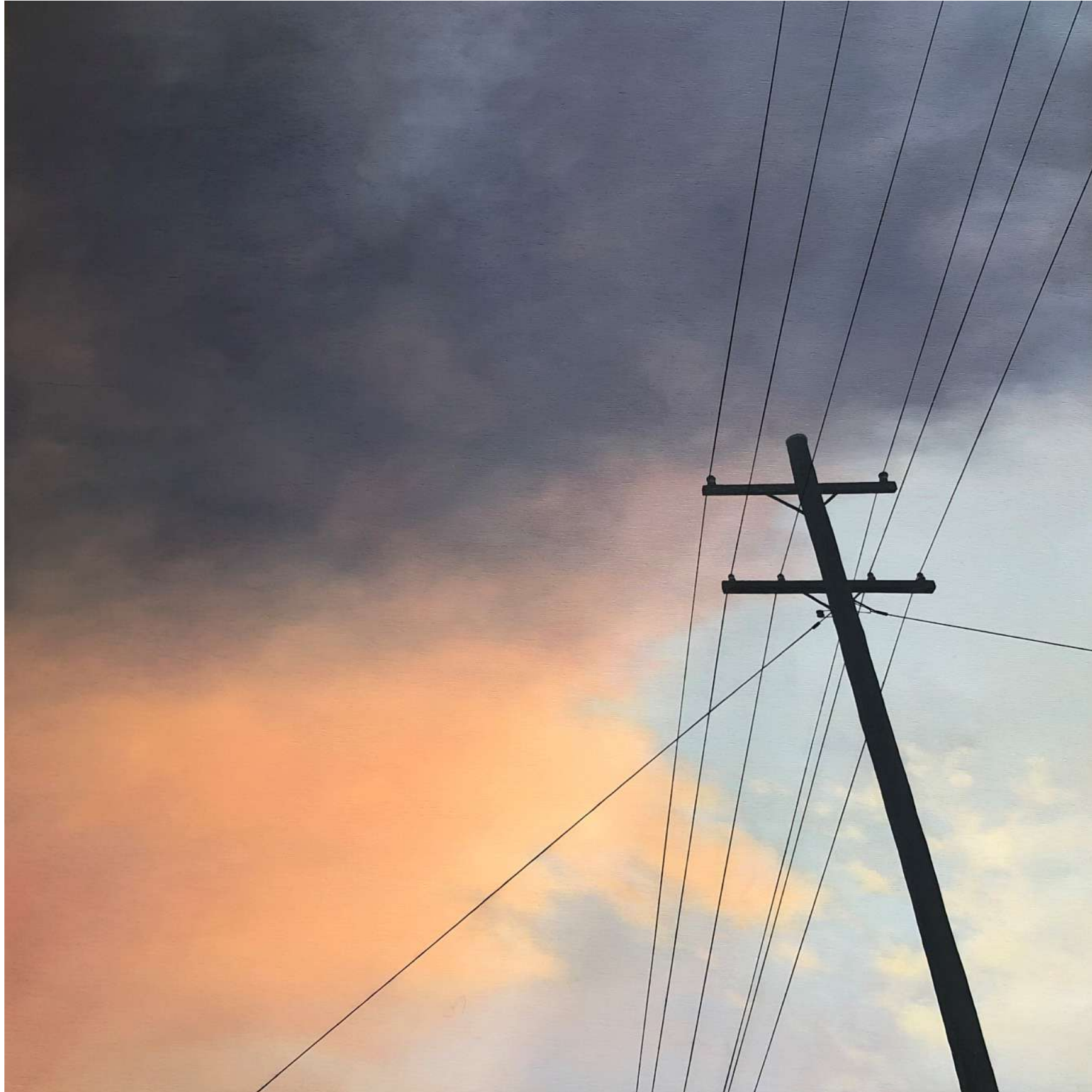
Evening Walk
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
83 x 83 cm
\$2,600

Over The Rooftop
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
83 x 83 cm
\$2,600





Night Shadows
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
73 x73 cm
\$2,000



The Clouds Were Amazing Last Night
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
73 x73 cm
\$2,000



Safe At Home
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
73 x73 cm
\$2,000

It's Going To Rain Tonight
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
63 x 63 cm
\$1,500





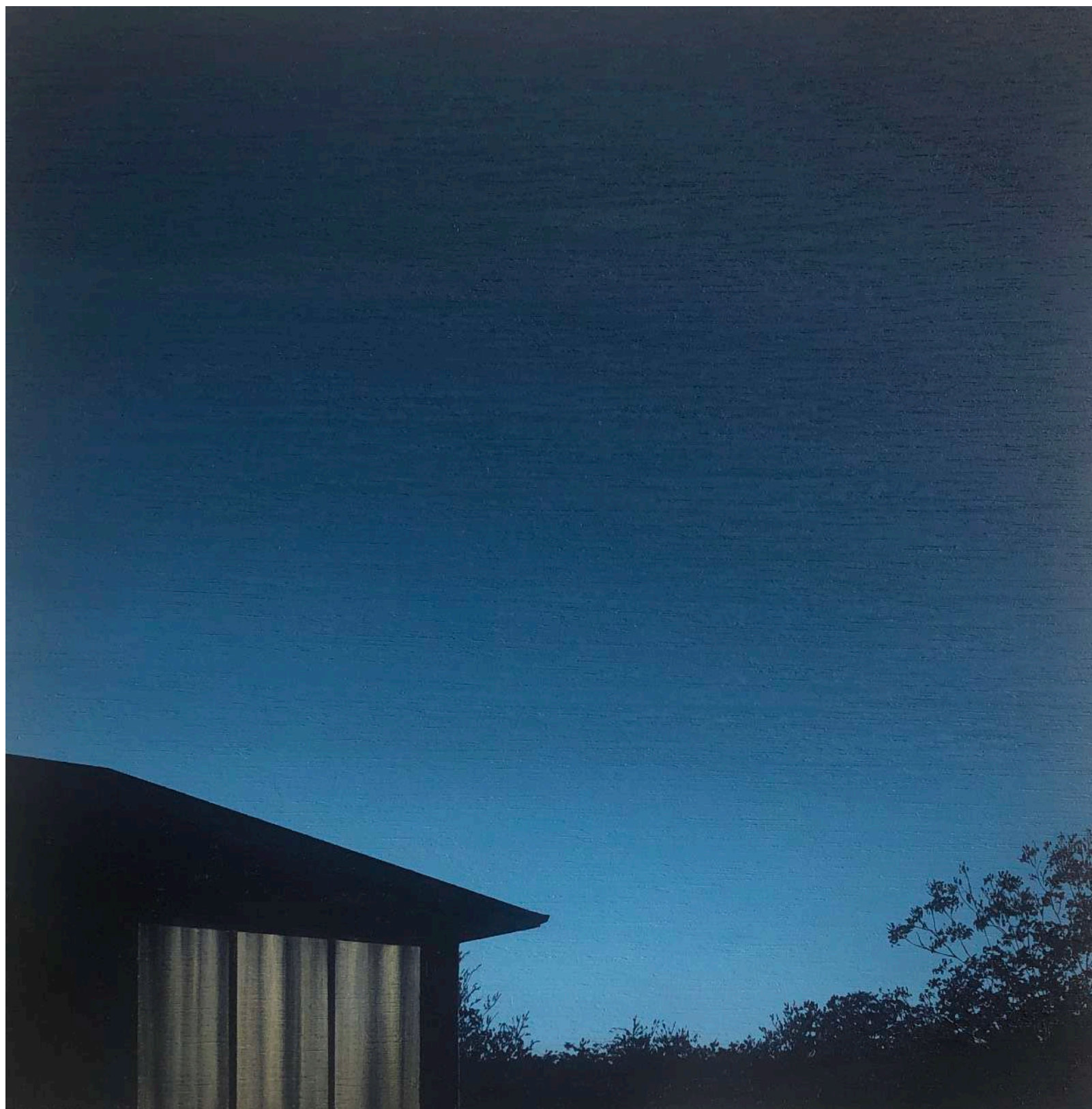
Did You See The Moon
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
53 x 53 cm
\$1,100

The Lights Are On Next Door
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
53 x 53 cm
\$1,100



Naples Yellow Sky
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
53 x 53 cm
\$1,100



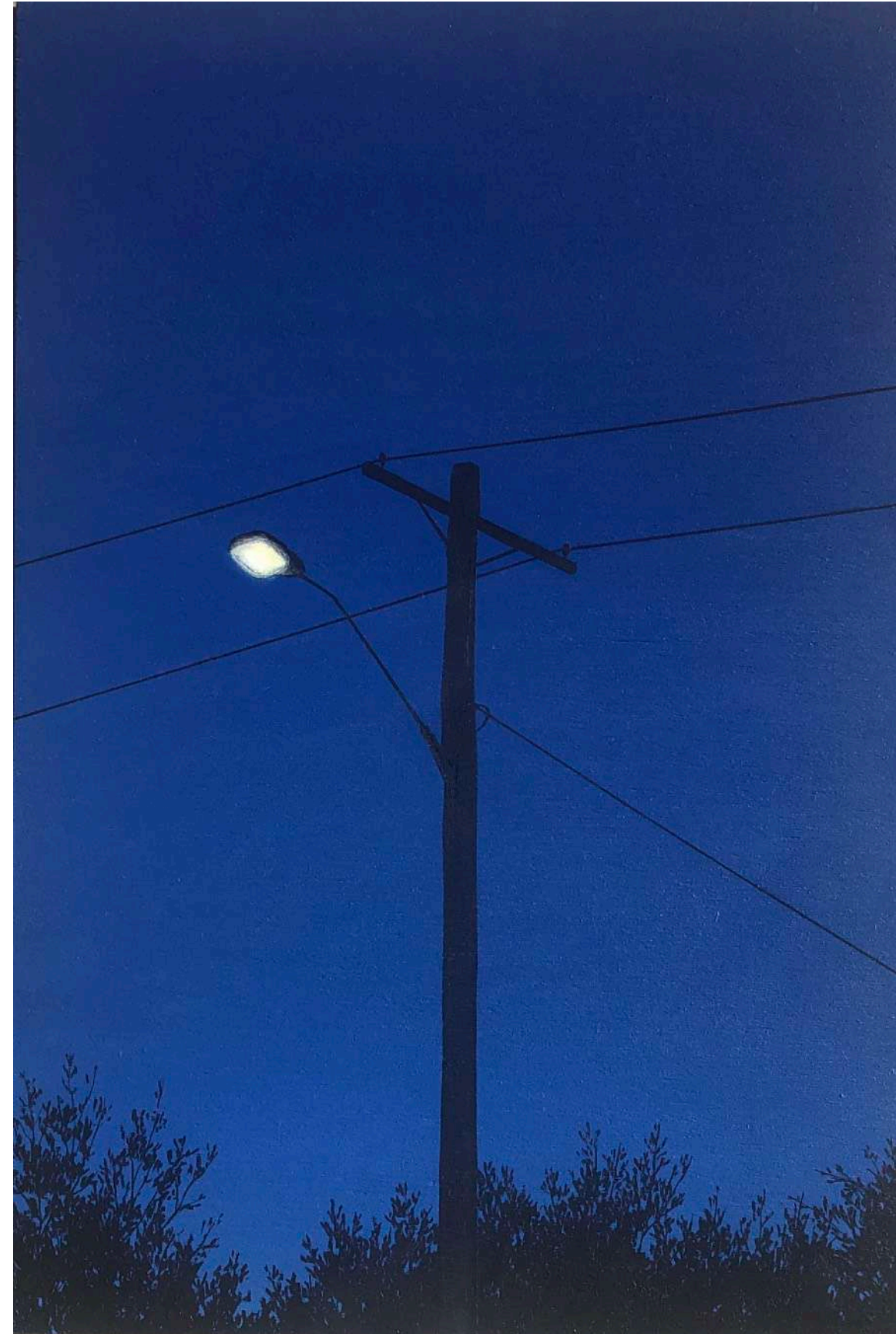


Darkness Descends
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
38 x 38 cm
\$850



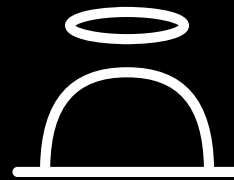
Parallel Lines
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
38 x 38 cm
\$850

And The Lights Go On
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
33 x 23 cm
\$650



Early Evening Moon
oil on plywood, black Tasmanian oak frame
33 x 23 cm
\$650





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