

# Artist Statement



## Kirsty Shadiac

“Creating this exhibition has been very personal. Each painting is an exploration of the highs and lows I’ve experienced in the last year. The roller coaster of life made me dizzy, and I was continually asking myself ...

Am I Dreaming?

Some of these works have several layers of paintings underneath, though you wouldn’t know it in most of the works. I would start several paintings,

then come back to them and totally change the direction it was headed. The perfect example of this is “The Tree The Ocean The Boy” (pictured above). The Tree was painted first, as a representation of my emotional growth and healing. When I came back to the painting days later, I was revisiting my memories from an old trip to Italy ... So I painted a scene in Sicily where boats gently floated in the ocean, dwarfed by towering rock formations. The boy was added last, when I was so acutely aware of the delicate balance of life and the journey that we all embark upon.

People often ask me, “why children?” in my paintings. When I’m trying to convey an emotion or a moment, I feel as though adults know too much. They understand consequences, they have motivations behind their actions, they have the ability to deceive ... so if I were to paint an adult, it would be too complex. Where as, children just live in the moment. For a child, if life is good in that moment, then life is always good!

When I paint, I have intended meanings in my work, but I adore hearing the stories when the viewer finds their own meaning ...”