



# Elisa Crossing MOVE ME!

August 2026



CIVICART BUREAU

Director Adam Bell

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## *Move me!* is my instinctive response to the question: *what do I want paintings to do?*

*Move me!* is an exploration of the active and embodied nature of looking. It builds on the theme of “slow looking” which has been central to Elisa Crossing’s practice for many years and is a position that runs counter to the ethos of the digital economy venerating speed and promising us the joy of ‘frictionless’ experiences. For Crossing, friction is essential to the process of painting and how we make meaning from it.

Incorporating scenes of the artist’s studio, the site of active looking, and inspiration from the bodily rhythm implied in Fragonard’s painting *The Swing*, these paintings have been made to mirror the to and fro of the painter in the studio, leaning forward to paint and stepping back to reflect. Up close, details in the painting dissolve into abstraction and sensation; from a distance, rhythms, structures, and contexts emerge. From this oscillation between intimacy and distance it is revealed that seeing is never fixed or complete.

It follows that these paintings also have no fixed narratives. Rather they are about spaces, proximity, attraction, and resistance — about the friction at the borders where ideas meet and generate harmonies or dissonances. Like the suspended figure in *the Swing*, these works shift between past and present, abstraction and reality, the artist and the viewer. Their meaning remains to be made by the viewer who is moved to see, to feel, and to reflect.

**Elisa Crossing** is an innovative, enthusiastic and much-loved arts educator at the ANU, School of Art & Design. Her professional career as a visual artist spans three decades with ten solo exhibitions and over 30 group shows. Civic Art Bureau is delighted to present her latest exhibition of paintings.



**1. *Warm Regards***

2026

oil on linen

92 x 61cm

\$2400



**2. *Making Space***

2026

oil on linen

51 x 56cm

\$2000



**3. *Where there's  
fact, there's  
friction***

2026

oil on linen

51 x 56cm

~~\$2000~~ SOLD



**4. *Without a  
shadow of doubt***

2026

oil on linen

51 x 56cm

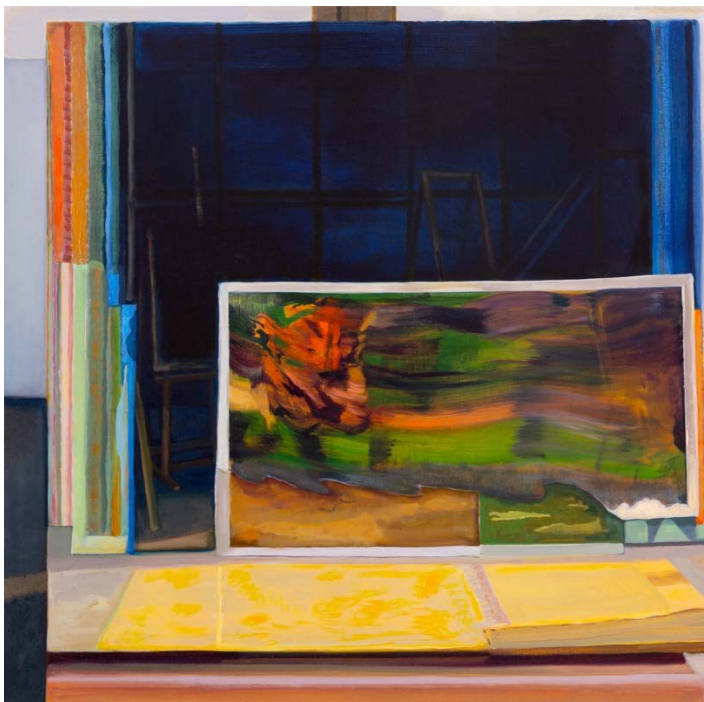
~~\$2000~~ SOLD

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**5. *Above and beyond***

2026  
oil on linen  
105 x 122 cm  
\$3600



**6. *Hold that thought***

2026  
oil on linen  
100 x 100 cm  
\$3600



**7. *Playing  
interference***

2026

oil on linen

61 x 92cm

\$2400 SOLD



**8. *Vanishing day***

2026

oil on linen

61 x 92cm

\$2400

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**9. 5 o'clock  
shadow**

2026  
oil on linen  
61 x 92cm  
\$2400



**10. Press play**

2026  
oil on linen  
122 x 105  
\$3600

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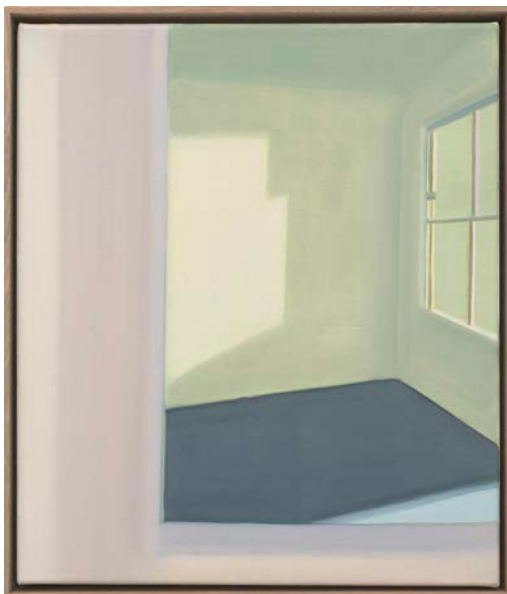
**11. *Intermission***

2026

oil on linen

105 x 122

~~\$3600~~ SOLD



**12. *Moving in***

2026

oil on linen

31 x 36cm

\$1200

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**13. *Drifting***

2026  
oil on linen  
31 x 36cm  
\$1200



**14. *In plane sight***

2026  
oil on linen  
31 x 36cm  
~~\$1200~~ SOLD

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**15. *Two worlds,  
one vision***

2026

oil on linen

31 x 36cm

\$1200



**16. *Hang it***

2026

oil on linen

31 x 36cm

~~\$1200~~ SOLD



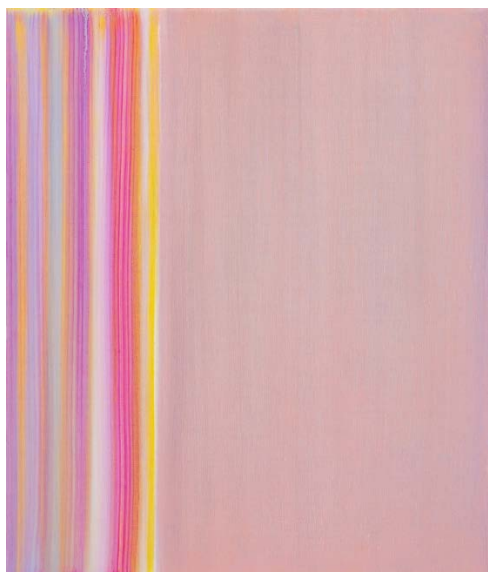
**17. *It's time to focus***

2026  
oil on linen  
31 x 36cm  
\$1200



**18. *Some things are hard to see***

2026  
oil on linen  
31 x 36cm  
~~\$1200~~ SOLD

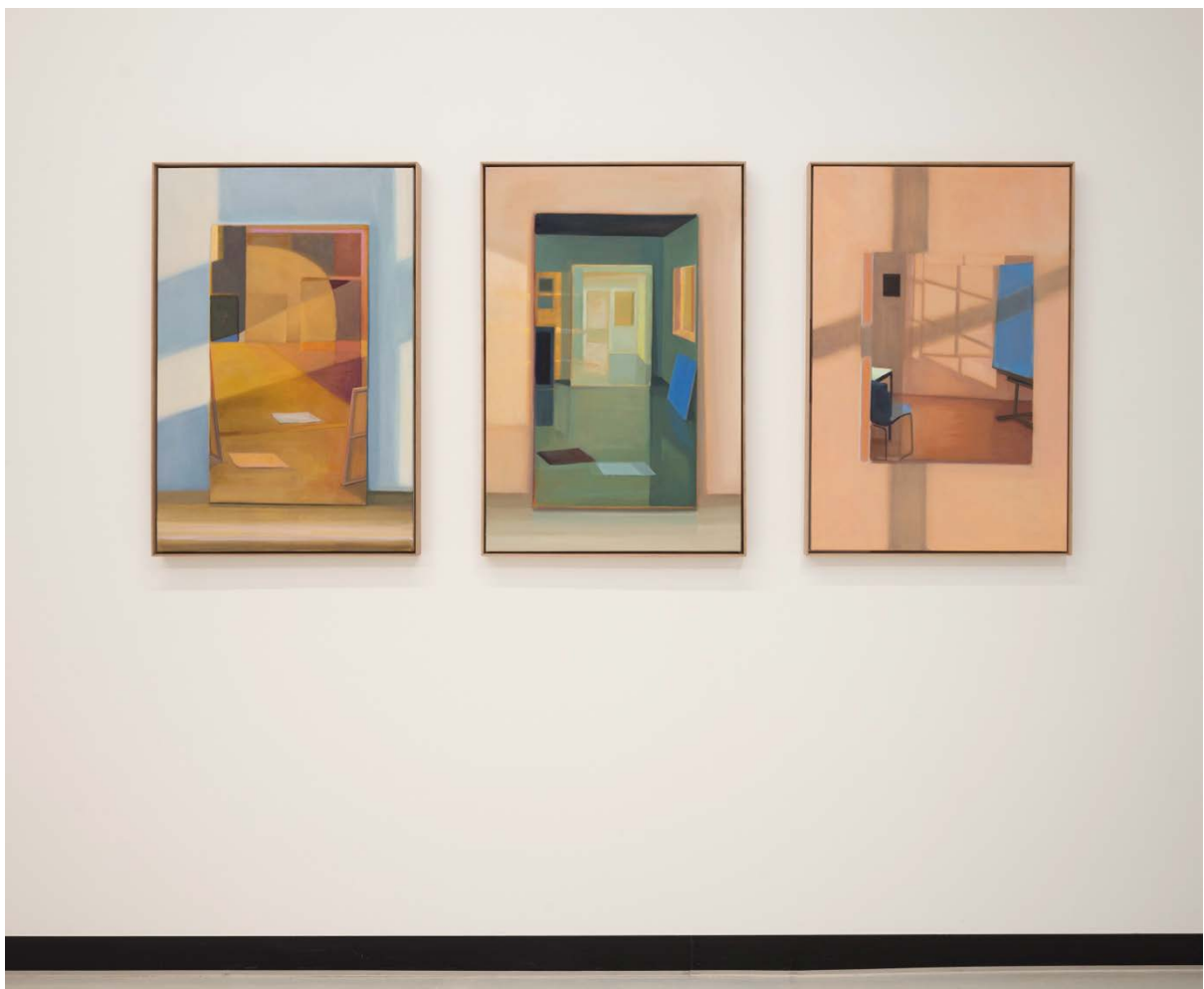


**19. *Dawn is in the field***

2026  
oil on linen  
31 x 36cm  
\$1200

INSTALLATION VIEW by Brenton McGeachie







## MOVE ME! REVIEWS

[Crossing leaves room for the imagination](#) - Kerry-Anne Cousins, City News, 17.8.26

“This is an intriguing, beautifully realised exhibition that asks the viewer to move beyond the painting surface and engage with the artist’s imaginative vision in a creative dialogue.”

[The labyrinthic world of Elisa Crossing’s paintings](#) - Sasha Grishin, Region ACT 14.8.26

“Crossing presents a series of visual entrapments that will seduce the viewer who pauses long enough in front of them to create their own narratives about these beautifully realised and carefully observed oil paintings.”

[20 Questions with Elisa Crossing](#) - Anna Carlsson, Art Guide 29.7.26

“Elisa Crossing finds moments of stillness in everyday life, paying close attention to the shapes that form around her. Through this approach, Crossing creates windows within her frames that serve as portals to other worlds.”

## Elisa Crossing

Lives and works in Canberra  
[www.elisacrossing.com](http://www.elisacrossing.com)

### Education

2023 -2014 Candidate PhD, ANU, Research School of Humanities & the Arts  
1996 - 1991 Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy, Australian National University  
1986 - 1983 Bachelor of Arts, (Visual), Painting, Canberra School of Art

### Solo Exhibitions

2026 Move Me!, Civic Bureau, Canberra  
2023 Slow looking, Nancy Sever Gallery, Canberra  
2013 Peep Box, M16, ACT  
2011 Stolen and Other Misdeeds, M16, ACT  
2009 Still, ANU Foyer Gallery ACT  
2001 Rikyu's Vision, Warrnambool Regional Gallery, Victoria  
2000 Search, Artspace71, ACT  
1998 Unquenchable, 200 Gertrude St Gallery, Melbourne  
1996 Uncharted Waters, Spiral Arm Gallery, ACT  
1995 Liquid Light, Canberra Contemporary Art Space.  
1994 Lutescent, Inclining to Yellow, Spiral Arm Gallery, ACT

### Selected Group Exhibitions

2026 M16 Member's show,  
2025 40 x 40: M16 40th Anniversary Exhibition, Canberra  
2019 Looks like music, sounds like painting, Gallery of Small Things  
2018 IX ANU School of Art & Design Foyer Gallery.  
2017 Mosman Art Prize, Finalist, 2017, Mosman Art Gallery.

|      |                                                                                |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2018 | Ten Years of Collecting, ANU, Drill Hall Gallery, ACT                          |
| 2016 | Re:Place, M16 Gallery, ACT                                                     |
| 2013 | Gestalt-ed, ANCA Gallery ACT                                                   |
| 2010 | Stanthorpe Art Prize, finalist Queensland                                      |
| 2009 | Art Work, School of Art Gallery, ANU                                           |
| 2003 | Inspace, Tuggeranagong Community Arts Centre                                   |
| 2004 | Interiors, Schloss Haldenstein, Switzerland                                    |
| 2005 | Recent works, Open Studio, Red Hill Studios                                    |
| 2001 | The Inaugural 2001 Canberra Art Prize, The Italo-Australian Club, ACT          |
| 2001 | Still Here, Tenant Exhibition Leichhardt Street Studios                        |
| 2000 | The Second Annual Drawing Show, Spiral Arm Gallery, ACT                        |
| 1998 | One Square Foot, Spiral Arm Gallery, ACT                                       |
| 1997 | Living with Art, Spiral Arm Gallery, ACT                                       |
| 1998 | Staff Show, Canberra School of Art, ACT                                        |
| 1996 | Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne   |
| 1997 | Prime Television Painting Prize, NSW Regional Galleries and Nolan Gallery, ACT |
| 1998 | Inner Square, Spiral Arm Gallery, ACT                                          |
| 1995 | God Save the Queen, Canberra Contemporary Art Space                            |
| 1995 | The Book Project Touring regional galleries in Australia and New Zealand       |
| 1994 | Ten, Leichhardt Street Studios Tenant Exhibition, ACT                          |
| 1994 | The Book Project, Raft Press, National Library, ACT                            |
| 1994 | Cadence, Link Theatre, ACT                                                     |
| 1993 | Spiral Secrets, Spiral Arm Gallery, ACT                                        |
| 1992 | Compact Art, A Clear Case, Ben Grady Gallery, ACT                              |
| 1993 | Between the Covers, Canberra Contemporary Art Space                            |

|      |                                         |
|------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1991 | Camera Obscured, Photo Access, ACT      |
| 1990 | Octavo, Canberra Contemporary Art Space |
| 1987 | Five Graduates, Ben Grady Gallery, ACT  |
| 1986 | Seven, Bitumen River Gallery, ACT       |
| 1986 | Graduate Show, Canberra School of Art   |

### **Academic Employment History**

|            |                                                                                       |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2026 -2002 | Lecturer, Painting Workshop, Australian National University                           |
| 2026-16    | Co-Course Convenor/Lecturer, The Exquisite Corpse Medn222 ANU                         |
| 2026-1998  | Lecturer, Foundation Studies, Australian National University, School of Art & Design. |

### **Teaching Awards**

|      |                                                             |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2020 | The ANU Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------|

### **Publications**

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2023 | Authors: E Crossing, L. Smyth, A. Webb, K. Valter, Chapter Title: Visualizing the Human Body Using an Artistic Approach Book: Biomedical Visualisation. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-031-13021-2                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 2017 | E.Crossing, "Exquisite Corpse: A contemporary marriage of art and anatomy" ACUADS Australian Council of University Art & Design Schools <a href="https://acuads.com.au/conference/article/exquisite-corpse-a-contemporary-marriage-of-art-and-anatomy/">https://acuads.com.au/conference/article/exquisite-corpse-a-contemporary-marriage-of-art-and-anatomy/</a> |
| 2016 | A Marriage of Art and Anatomy ANU Educational Fellowship Scheme News, August 2016 Issue no. 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

### **Invited Workshops**

|      |                                                                          |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022 | Presenter, Canberra Art Workshop, Composing towards Abstraction Workshop |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2021       | Guest Artist, National Portrait Gallery, Looking to Pounce: Portrait Drawing                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2021       | Presenter, Canberra Art Workshop, Collective Nouns Workshop                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 2020       | Presenter for Gender Institute funded series of 6 workshops Imperfect Bodies of Research                                                                                                                                            |
| 2019       | Women's Body Positivity life drawing workshop, St John XX111 College, ANU                                                                                                                                                           |
| 2019       | Presenter, Hybrid visions Workshop, Canberra Art Workshop.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2018       | Presenter Frankenstein 2018: Two hundred years of monsters, Conference, ANU School of Literature..                                                                                                                                  |
| 2018-17    | Presenter, So you want to be a life model seminars, ANU Foundation Workshop.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2018       | Presenter Women's Body Positivity life drawing workshop, Burgman College, ANU.                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2018       | Presenter Collage into Cubism workshop, Canberra Art Workshop.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2017       | Artist Talk, Drill Hall in connection with Ten Years of Collecting.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 2017       | Presenter for Drawing and Painting: Fluid states workshop series Canberra Art Workshop.                                                                                                                                             |
| 2017- 2010 | Guest speaker Moving image and Site/sight transformation series in collaborations with the National Film & Sound Archive, National Gallery of Australia, and ANU's Art History and Curatorial Studies, through Foundation Workshop. |
| 2016.      | Life drawing Lecture and workshop presenter for Curatorial students for Art History and Curatorial Studies, ANU.                                                                                                                    |
| 2016       | Presenter My Space: Open to Narrative, Canberra Art Workshop                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2010       | Presenter Autumn Colours, Lanyon, Historic Houses, CMAG, Culture Facilities Corporation                                                                                                                                             |
| 2009       | presenter various workshops for National Museum of Australia.<br>& National Gallery of Australia, National Portrait Gallery.                                                                                                        |

### **Curatorial Projects**

2000-1999 Gallery Co-ordinator, for Spiral Arm Gallery and Artspace71, Canberra.  
Curator for the following 8 exhibitions- Chill out,  
Running with the Pack, The Art of Fibre, Kadi, The Christmas Show,  
The Drawing Show, The tenants show 1999 & 2000.

### **Grant Funding**

2010 artsACT funding for a new body of work in collaboration with sound  
artist \$14,000.  
1994 Individual Grant, ACT Cultural Council

### **Works held in collections. Works held in numerous private collections.**

2016 Acquired for the Australian National University Art Collection,  
2003 The Schloss Haldenstein Collection, Switzerland