



*Oar/boatman*

## **Euan MacLeod**

Euan Macleod produces dark, expressive painting. His heavily textured surfaces are literally scraped, the gritty oil paint smeared across the canvas. These are tough masculine paintings. Out of muted colours, Macleod shapes people and landscapes. A looming figure with long limbs often divides the picture. A vertiginous cliff is sometimes delineated by a rough, raw brushstroke.

Macleod's work can be seen as part of an international return to figurative expressionism. His work exhibits an interest in memory and subjective experience. The gestural marks on the canvas speak of emotion and physical labour. There is a brutal honesty to the work which at times can be quite confronting.

Macleod was the winner of the prestigious Archibald Prize for portraiture in 1999. His paintings and drawings feature in prominent public and private collections throughout Australia and overseas including the National Gallery of Victoria, National Gallery of Australia, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York and the Chartwell Collection, New Zealand.

Source: Niagara Galleries, Melbourne