

Night Fishing oil on canvas 30 × 40 cm







Smug Girl oil on linen 30 × 30 cm



Red-haired Girl
oil on linen 20 × 24 cm







campden gallery

Caroline Yates On Passage

9 JUNE – 1 JULY



CAROLINE YATES May 2018

Surly Girl oil on canvas 50 x 70 cm

On Passage is an ornithological term, referring to migrating birds en route to a final destination. Coming late to parenting, I perhaps observe my children and childhood from a different perspective than I might as a younger mother. I am very much embroiled in the tense comedy of education and nurturing, and the passage through childhood into adolescence.

Much of my work is about the complexities of relationships; interactions with family and peers, extended family, and the vagaries of friendships, for example *Surly Girl* whose companion has been removed; here today, gone tomorrow. Memories are formed of holidays and home, approval and rejection, achievements and failures.

Some of the paintings suggest broader states of transportation or transience. We simultaneously encourage life expanding experiences, and a desire to stay geographically close to our children. *Night Swim* and *Night Fishing* may seem incongruous, but they convey notions of travel or passing through, and a desire to disembark in a better place (*Shall We Cross*).

Working in oils, from photographs, found imagery and documentary film I extract tableaux or characters that resonate with the infinite theme of relationships, erasing, blurring and sometimes removing entire images leaving a stain or essence, like a memory.







Sledging with Lovers oil on canvas 90 × 120 cm

School oil on canvas 80 × 100 cm 70s Playground oil on canvas 50 × 70 cm