

Azure Forest

Made with acrylic paint, markers, paint pens, soft pastels, oil pastels, and cyanotype (solar printing)

My piece, 'Azure Forest', is a small series of layered mixed media works that I made for a local Braidwood exhibition called 'Regeneration'. I created it in response to Australia's black summer fires to appreciate and celebrate the strength of our native species. After the 2019-2020 bushfires, I have been amazed by the resilience of our bush and blooming diversity in such a small local area. 'Azure Forest' focuses on the staples of our local forests and bush, specifically eucalyptus trees and ferns. I have used the leaves of these trees as well as looked at the tree itself.

The base layer of blue was made using cyanotype and leaves to mask the light and create silhouettes. I then drew significant aspects of the plants over the top and layered the rest of my materials in a loose and intuitive way. This series of works was an opportunity for me to branch out of my comfort zone and work more expressively as well as explore a variety of mediums while sharing my respect for nature.