

## Dalene Meiring

Dalene Meiring was born in South Africa and studied at the University of South Africa, Pretoria. In 1997, she moved with her family to New Zealand. She achieved some sell-out exhibitions and has gained a reputation internationally as well as within New Zealand, showing her work both solo and at group exhibitions. She also features in the "New Zealand Favourite Artists" Volume 2.

Meiring's canvases have been described as being rich, warm and easy on the eye. They are vivid in colour, harmonious in form and express a rarely-found vitality. She has three main styles: landscapes, faces and abstracts. Passionate about experimentation with texture, colour and different media she is able to produce a unique and compelling finish to these styles. She portrays the people, places and objects which link her inextricably with her surroundings. "I try to impose a visual and emotional experience in my paintings - to remind me of a place, time or memory, although the exactness of the moment will sometimes continue to evade me," she explains.

Much of Meiring's work shows a strong link to the land of her birth, South Africa, although her New Zealand experience increasingly shows through. Certainly the warm, welcome golden palette of her canvases invites contemplation and reflection. As she describes "I paint for the love of expression and the passion of life and all the beauty in it." This talented artist is able to arouse emotions and sensations, often of serenity and tranquillity.

Her abstract oils convey a feeling of controlled atmospheric space and the measured control of depth and perspective. Her enjoyment of experimentation has brought a degree of diversity across her paintings, and this pleasure shows through.

Dalene Meiring lives in Auckland. Her art is available at the Monterey Art Gallery.