



Diploma Lecture Series 2011
Art and Australia II: European Preludes and Parallels

City and country: postwar Australian art

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20 / 21 July 2011

Lecture summary:

Landscape is central to the history of Australian art, but as we saw in my previous lecture on landscape between the wars, there have been many different sites in the history of our representation of nature – from the early images of the colony to the high colonial sublime, the more familiar environments of Buvelot and the Heidelberg celebration of settled pastoral lands. Different places are chosen to illustrate and evoke different sentiments about the inhabitation of this country. In the middle of the twentieth century, a new landscape site is discovered, the virtually uninhabitable arid heart of the continent; for postwar artists, this is the background to stark existential images of the Australian experience. At the same time, however, an important strain of urban imagery arises; and in the end, this new urban sensibility conditions a new vision of the natural world as well.

Slide list:

1. John Glover, *My Harvest Home*, 1835; oil on canvas, 76 x 114 cm; Hobart, TMAG
2. Eugène von Guérard, *Northeast View from the Northern top of Mt Kosciusko*, 1863; oil on canvas, 66.5 x 116.8 cm; Canberra, NGA
3. Abram Louis Buvelot, *Waterpool near Coleraine (sunset)*, 1869; oil on canvas, 107.4 x 153 cm; Melbourne, NGV
4. Arthur Streeton, *Golden Summer*, Eaglemont, 1889
5. Hans Heysen, *Summer*, 1909; watercolour, 56.5 x 78.4 cm; Sydney, AGNSW
6. Hans Heysen, *Red Gold*, 1913; oil on canvas, 129.5 x 174.5 cm; Adelaide, AGSA
7. Arthur Streeton, *The Last of the messmates*, 1928; oil on canvas, 62.5 x 75 cm; private collection
8. Harold Cazneaux (1878-1953), *The Spirit of endurance*, 1937; Gelatin silver photograph, 28.1 x 33.1 cm; Sydney, AGNSW
9. Hans Heysen, *The Hill of the creeping shadow*, Flinders Ranges, 1929; oil on canvas, 66 x 92 cm; Sydney, AGNSW
10. Russell Drysdale, *Bush Fire*, 1944; oil and ink on canvas, 62 x 77 cm; Brisbane, QAG
11. Noel Counihan, *The Start of the march*, 1932; oil on board, 66.9 x 59.2 cm; Sydney, AGNSW
12. Yosl Bergner, *The pie eaters*, 1940; oil on canvas, 48 x 59 cm; Perth, University of Western Australia
13. Albert Tucker, *Spring in Fitzroy*, 1941; oil on paper, 56 x 43.4 cm; Canberra, NGA
14. Albert Tucker, *Pick up*, 1941; oil on board, 61.6 x 45.5 cm; Canberra, NGA
15. Albert Tucker, *Victory girls*, 1943; oil on cardboard, 64.6 x 58.7 cm; Canberra, NGA
16. Sidney Nolan, *Death of Constable Scanlon*, 1946; enamel on composition board, 90.4 x 121.2 cm; Canberra, NGA
17. Sidney Nolan, *The chase*, 1946; enamel on composition board, 90.5 x 121.3 cm; Canberra, NGA
- * 18. Sidney Nolan, *Ned Kelly*, 1946; enamel on composition board, 90.8 x 121.5 cm; Canberra, NGA
19. Sidney Nolan, *Mrs Fraser*, 1947; ripolin enamel on board, 66.2 x 107 cm; Brisbane, QAG

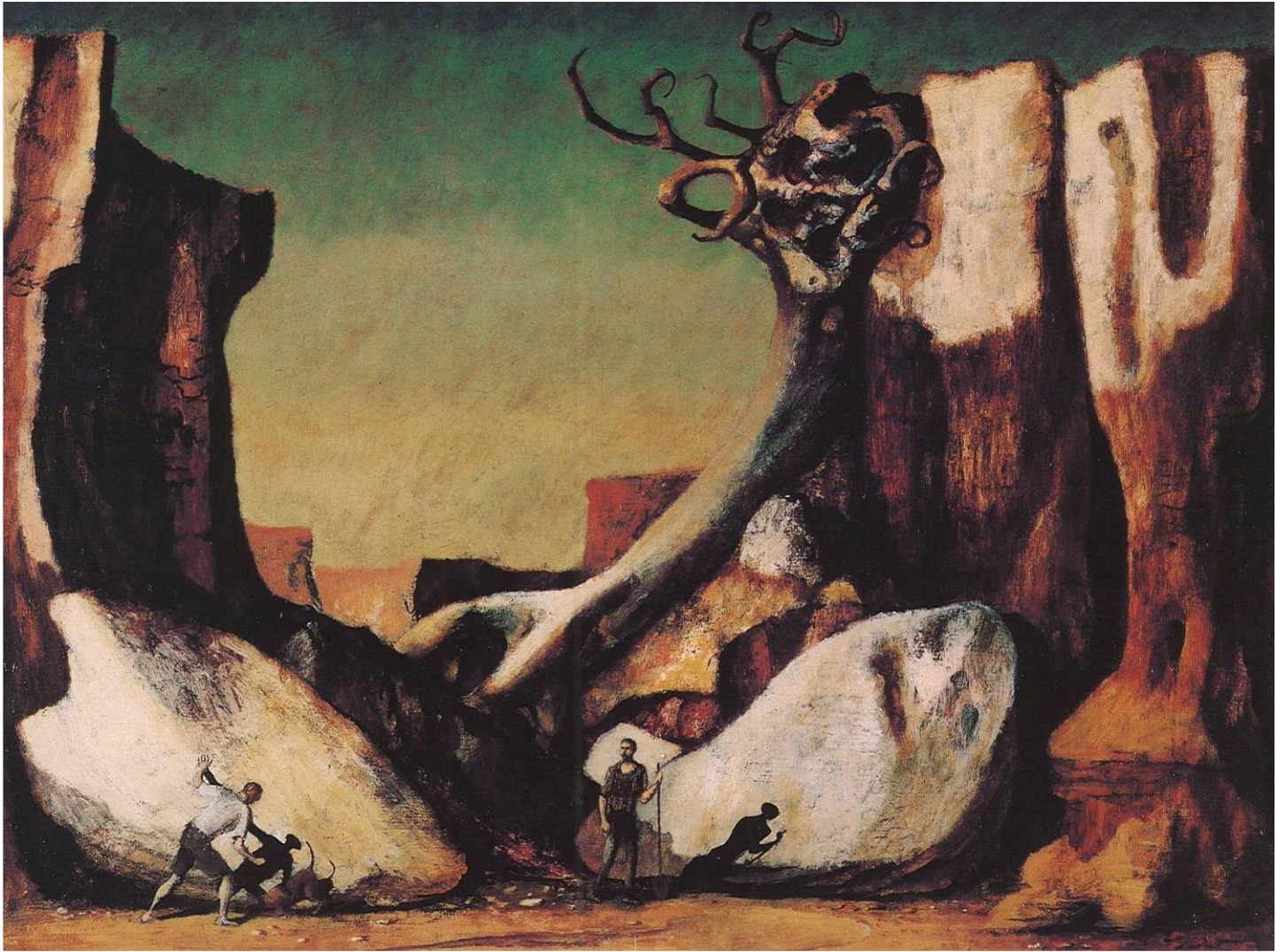
20. Sidney Nolan, *Central Australia*, 1949; synthetic polymer paint and oil on board, 92.1 x 121.9 cm; Melbourne, NGV
21. Russell Drysdale, *Man feeding his dogs*, 1941; oil on canvas, 51.2 x 61.4 cm; Brisbane, QAG
22. Russell Drysdale, *Walls of China*, 1945; oil on hardboard, 76.2 x 101.6 cm; Sydney, AGNSW
23. Russell Drysdale, *The Drover's Wife*, 1945; oil on canvas, 51.5 x 61.5 cm; Canberra, NGA
- * 24. Russell Drysdale, *The Rabbiters*, 1947; oil on canvas, 76.6 x 102.5 cm; Melbourne, National Gallery of Victoria
25. Russell Drysdale, *The Cricketers*, 1948; oil on board, 76.2 x 101.6 cm; Melbourne, Private Collection
26. Russell Drysdale, *Shopping day*, 1953; oil on canvas, 59.7 x 75 cm; Sydney, AGNSW
27. Russell Drysdale, *Mullaloonah tank*, 1953; Adelaide, AGSA
28. Arthur Boyd; *The Brown Room*, 1943
29. Arthur Boyd, *Shearers playing for a bride*, 1957; oil on canvas, 150.1 x 175.7 cm; Melbourne, NGV
- * 30. John Brack, *The Bar*, 1954; oil on canvas, 96.4 x 140 cm; Melbourne, NGV
31. Edouard Manet, *A Bar at the Folies-Bergère*, 1882; oil on canvas, 96 x 130 cm; London, Courtauld Institute
32. John Brack, *Collins Street, 5 pm*, 1955; oil on canvas, 114.8 x 162.8 cm; Melbourne, NGV
33. Jeffrey Smart, *Cahill Expressway*, 1962; oil on plywood, 82 x 111 cm; Melbourne, NGV
34. Jeffrey Smart; *Holiday*, 1970; oil on canvas, 100 x 80 cm
- * 35. Jeffrey Smart, *Bus Terminus*, 1973, acrylic and oil on canvas, 92 x 81 cm; Sydney, AGNSW
36. Jeffrey Smart, *Truck and trailer approaching a city*, 1973; oil on canvas, 74.5 x 150 cm; Sydney, AGNSW
37. Jeffrey Smart, *Morning, Yarragon siding*, 1983-84; oil on canvas, 100 x 134 cm; Private collection
38. Jeffrey Smart, *The New School II*, 2004, oil on canvas, 92 x 150 cm
39. Jeffrey Smart, *The Cleaners*, 2004; oil on canvas, 80 x 110 cm
40. Fred Williams; *The Nattai River*, 1968; oil on board, 85 x 89.8 cm; Melbourne, NGV
- * 41. Fred Williams, *Upwey landscape*, 1965; oil on canvas, 147.3 x 182.9 cm; Melbourne, NGV
42. Fred Williams; *Upwey landscape no. 2*; etching, aquatint, roughbiting and mezzotint, 33.4 x 23.6 cm; Melbourne, NGV
43. Imants Tillers, *Mount Analogue*, 1985; oil, oil stick and acrylic on 165 canvas boards; Canberra, NGA

Bibliography:

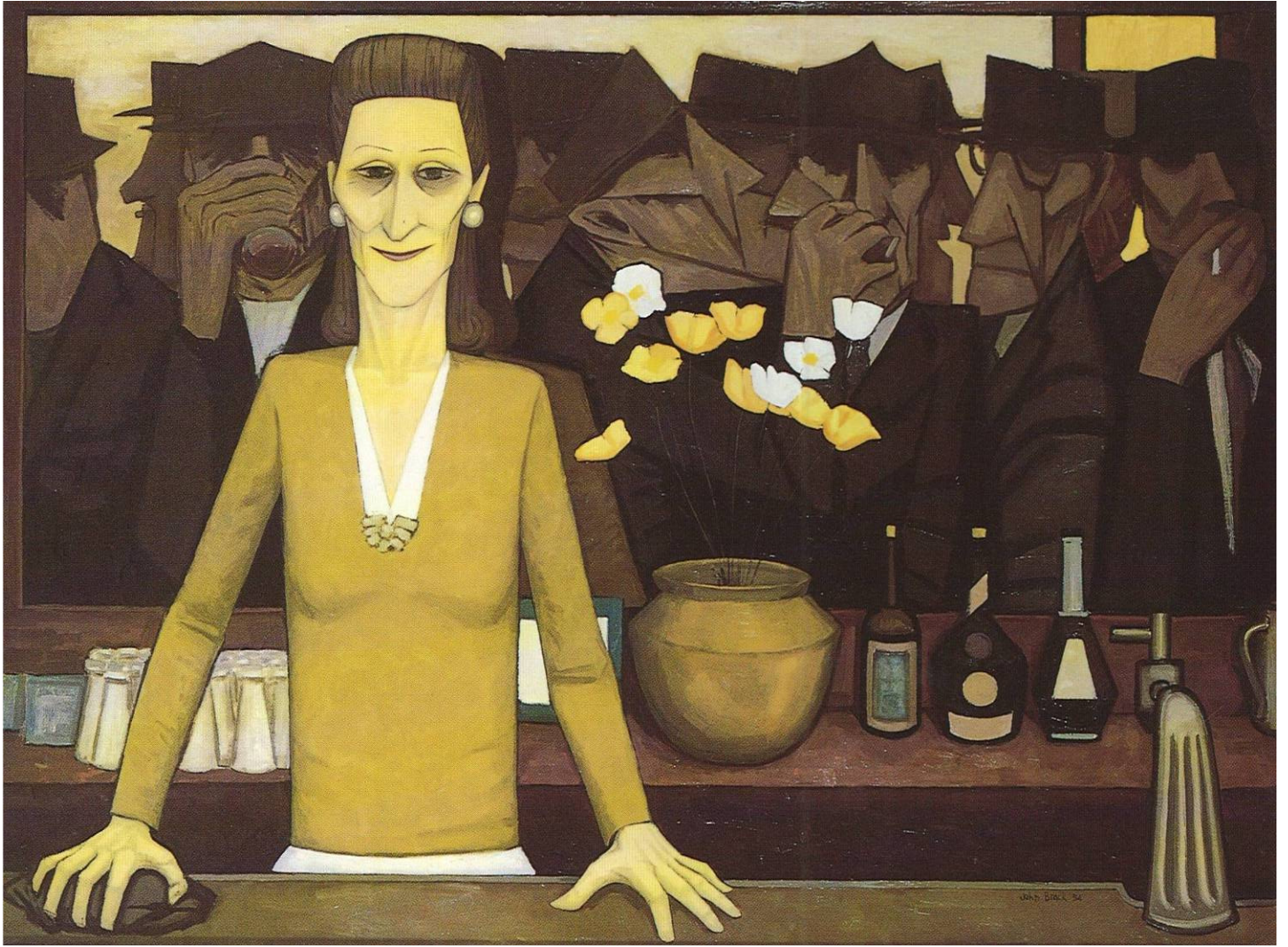
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- Geoffrey Smith. *Russell Drysdale 1912-81*. Melbourne, NGV, 1997



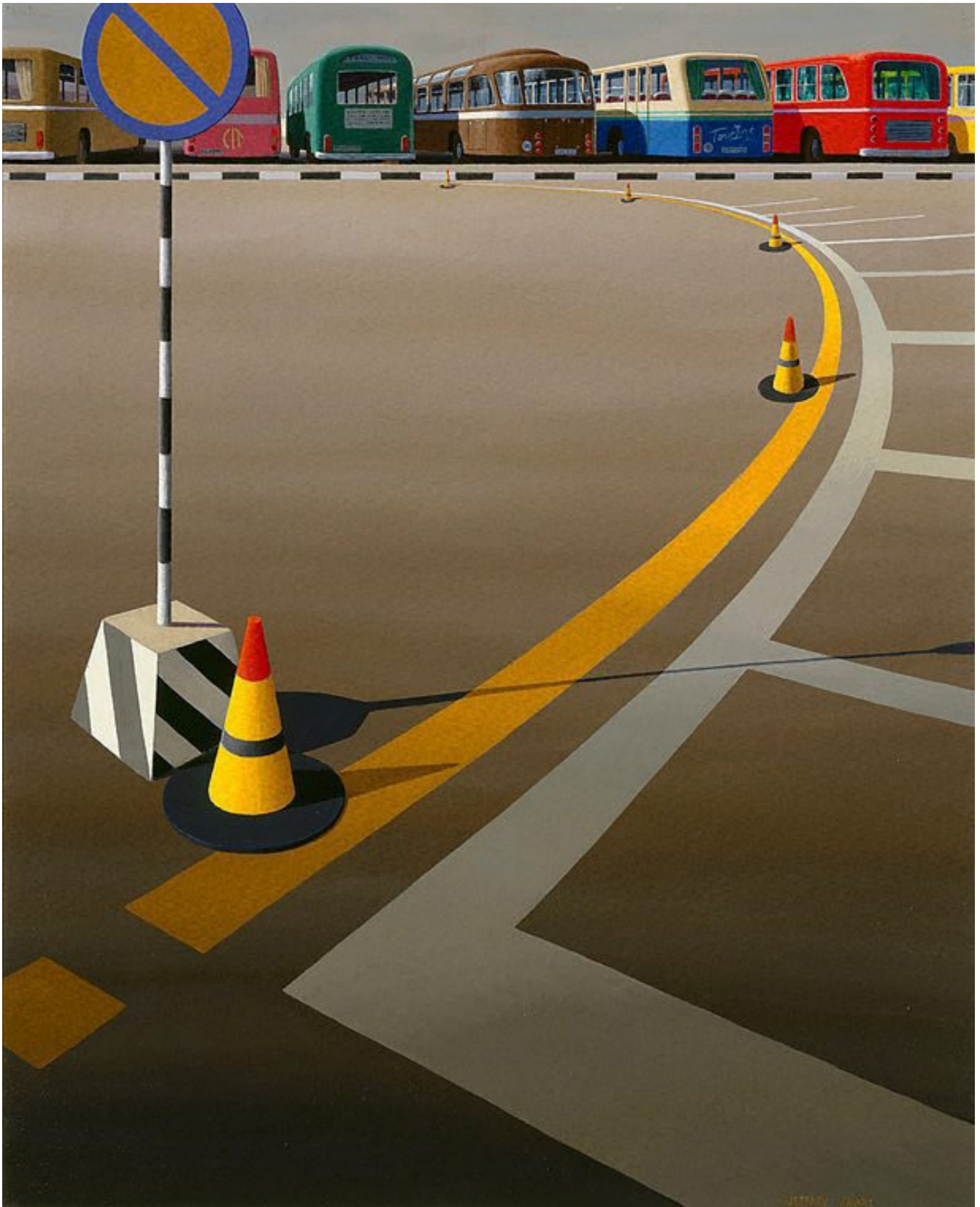
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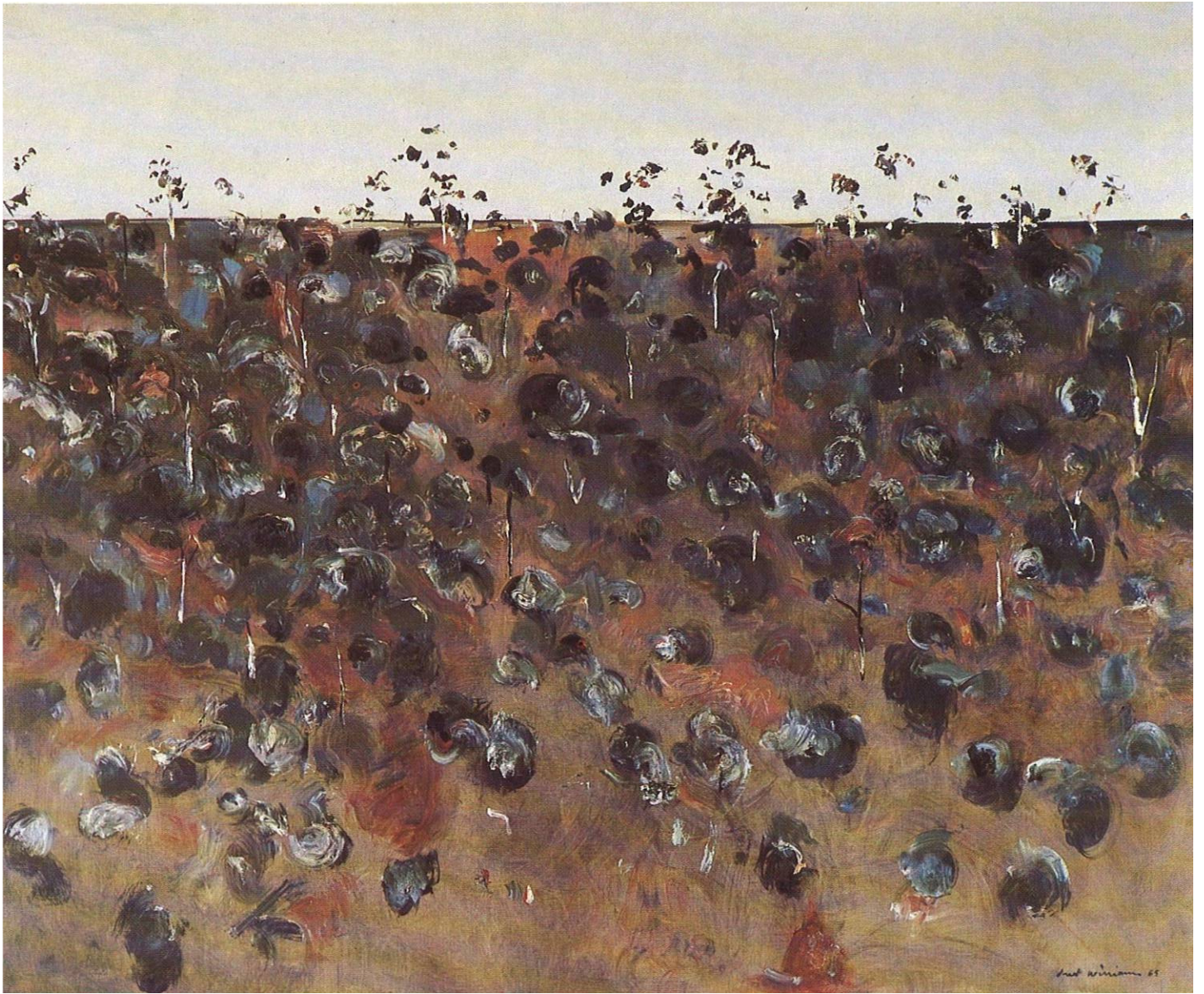
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