

# A PAINTER'S PORTRAIT

The artist's life in broad strokes.

## Alison Percy

### ARTIST

Alison Percy is a highly regarded local artist who doesn't hold back when listing the privileges of calling AlburyWodonga home.

She talks about seeking inspirational High Country landscapes to paint en plein air while her husband enjoys a spot of fishing, floating down the Murray River in a tyre tube and finding magic in the contemporary Aboriginal artworks of the **Yindymarra Sculpture Walk** on the **Wagirra Trail**.

"The local galleries provide many opportunities for artists to come together and showcase their work. In recent years, there seems to have been growth in young entrepreneurial creatives keen to establish themselves, or remain, in our region to bring up their families."

Having grown up on an idyllic farm located on the outskirts of town, both Alison and her husband have AlburyWodonga in their blood - multiple generations, in fact.

As an artist who has never left the region, she feels her aspirations have not been hindered by this decision; instead, they have flourished.

"I worked freelance as a designer, illustrator, interior design consultant and calligrapher while our young family was growing up," Alison reflects. "Now, I have come full circle, working full-time as an artist, and this is where I'll remain. I'm absolutely loving the journey."

When asked to name her cultural highlights in AlburyWodonga, Alison admits, "There's so much on offer. I'm often attending an artist talk or exhibition opening at one of the many local galleries."

Besides the galleries in town, as a painter, everything Alison needs is at her door. "The landscape through the Murray region provides enormous inspiration for me as an artist - from the magnificent Murray River, along the Kiewa Valley and up onto the High Plains," she explains. Even if you're not a painter, these are picturesque landscapes everyone can enjoy.

A woman with short brown hair, wearing a dark blue polka-dot shirt and a light brown apron, stands in an art studio. She is smiling and holding a yellow bowl of paint in her left hand and a paintbrush in her right. The studio is filled with art supplies, including a large abstract painting on an easel to the left and another abstract painting on the wall behind her. The background features a large abstract painting with blue and green tones, and a smaller one with yellow and brown tones on the left. A metal chair and a black storage bin are visible in the background.

“I feel so fortunate to be part of such a vibrant, active and supportive arts community.”

### **Alison's favourite local galleries**

- MAMA
- GIGS Art Gallery and Studios
- Arts Space Wodonga
- Burraja Gallery
- Creators Artspace
- Wrenwood Gallery
- Satch & Co Gallery