



GALLERIES 2 & 3

Mark Maurangi Carrol

Islands not to scale
(Maru a'o) – Act II

5 SEPTEMBER –
16 NOVEMBER 2025

Lismore Regional Gallery



11 Rural Street
Lismore, NSW 2480

Open hours
Wednesday to Sunday, 10am – 4pm
Thursdays until 6pm
Closed on public holidays

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@ [LismoreRegionalGallery](https://www.facebook.com/LismoreRegionalGallery)

Lismore Regional Gallery is a creative initiative of the Lismore City Council supported by the New South Wales Government through Create NSW and the Friends of the Gallery. The Gallery acknowledges the Widjabul Wia-bal people of the Bundjalung Nation as the traditional owners of the land upon which the gallery stands. We pay respects to elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all First Nations cultures and their contributing connection to land, waters, community and the arts.

Islands not to scale (Maru a'o) – Act II presents recent works by Mark Maurangi Carrol, developed during his 2024 residency at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris and refined during a return to Rarotonga in January 2025. This evolving exhibition series explores themes of scale, movement, and representation from a diasporic Pacific perspective. The title references a 1980s Cook Islands tourism brochure in which a map carried the footnote “islands not to scale”—a factual disclaimer that Carrol recontextualises as a critical lens for interrogating colonial cartographic frameworks. These frameworks have historically misrepresented the Pacific as a scattering of isolated landmasses adrift across the world’s largest ocean, thereby marginalising its spatial realities and cultural complexities. In contrast, Carrol reasserts the ocean’s centrality, challenging continental paradigms that overlook Pacific connectivity and epistemology.



Jungleland 2025
oil enamel on linen
168 x 244 cm



Tower 1 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on linen
24 x 18 cm

The works on linen—derived from photographs taken in Rarotonga—function as fragmented memory archives rather than documentary records. Using a technique informed by pāreu printing, where pigment is applied from the reverse side of the fabric, the resulting images are softened, layered, and intentionally incomplete. This process reflects the subjective and unstable nature of diasporic memory and visual representation.

Figures appear in silhouette or with minimal detail, redirecting focus from individual identity to shared histories of migration, labour, and ancestral presence. The exhibition unfolds across 2025 in three acts, each with a Cook Islands Māori subtitle. The first act, shown at Nasha Gallery in Sydney, was subtitled *ueata* (“to capture shadows”), referencing the complex legacy of colonial photography. The second act, *Maru a'o* (“the shadows of the light of day”), at Lismore Regional Gallery, considers the interplay of visibility and illumination within cultural memory. The final act, to be presented at Sydney Contemporary, carries the subtitle *Maru a'ia'i* (“the shadows of the evening”).

Together, *Maru a'o* and *Maru a'ia'i* form a poetic call-and-response across time, evoking the cyclical passage of day into night, light into shadow. This temporal arc echoes the rhythms of return, reflection, and transformation that underpin Carrol’s practice, suggesting that diasporic memory—like the Pacific itself—is never static, but constantly shifting with the tides of experience and inheritance. – Nasha Gallery with Mark Maurangi Carrol

The skin of the sea is always open
As the vaka passes through it.
The skin of the sea is always closing
As the vaka falls beneath it

Kua va te pakiri o te moana
Me tere te vaka na rato iaia
Ka piri te pakiri o te moana
E kua topa te vaka I raro iaial



Floating points 1 2024
oil enamel on linen
18 x 24 cm



Floating points 2 2024
oil enamel on linen
18 x 24 cm



Black palms (dawn) 2025
oil enamel on linen
102 x 137 cm

Mark Maurangi Carrol is a Sydney-based artist whose practice explores personal histories and cultural memory. His works uncover universal subjects of desire, loneliness and identity, often drawing inspiration from childhood experiences in the Cook Islands and Australia. Beginning on the reverse side, Carrol bleeds industrial oil enamels through the loom state linen as a tribute to his printmaking training and a continuation of traditional Cook Islander practices of Tivaevae, Pāreu and Tapa.

Islands not to scale (Maru a'o) – Act II at Lismore Regional Gallery marks the occasion of Carrol's first major institutional solo exhibition.



Exitlude (encountering a bird) 2025
oil enamel and permanent marker on linen, zip ties
312 x 202 cm

list of works

Mark Maurangi Carrol
born 1995 Sydney, Australia
lives/works Sydney, Australia

All the towers we jumped 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
198 x 168 cm

Allways 1 2025
oil enamel on linen
24 x 35 cm

Allways 2 2025
oil enamel on linen
24 x 35 cm

Big palms (reprise) 2025
oil enamel on linen
168 x 244 cm

Black palm (gold) 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
24 x 35 cm

Black palm (now) 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
24 x 35 cm

Black palms (dawn) 2025
oil enamel on linen
102 x 137 cm

Brick 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
26 x 34 cm

Brick boat 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
26 x 34 cm

Dream of Tāne (welcome) 2025
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
168 x 137 cm

**Exitlude (encountering a bird)
2025**
oil enamel and permanent marker
on linen, zip ties
312 x 202 cm

Faint sun (dusk) 2025
oil enamel on linen
36 x 38 cm

Floating points 1 2024
oil enamel on linen
18 x 24 cm

Floating points 2 2024
oil enamel on linen
18 x 24 cm

Jungleland 2025
oil enamel on linen
168 x 244 cm

Jungleland 2 2025
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
38 x 36 cm

Kiri a tai 1 (east) 2025
oil enamel and permanent marker
on linen, zip ties
187 x 133 cm

Kiri a tai 2 (west) 2025
oil enamel and permanent marker
on linen, zip ties
202 x 129 cm

new land 2025
oil enamel on tin
installation, dimensions variable

new land pray 2025
oil enamel on tin
installation, dimensions variable

Our house as it feeds you 2023
oil enamel on linen
35.5 x 55 cm

palm (five by land) 2025
oil enamel on tin
installation, dimensions variable

Real palms 2025
oil enamel on linen
102 x 137 cm

Soon (white) 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
24 x 35 cm

Soon (yellow) 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
24 x 35 cm

Sportstar (amusement park) 2025
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
27 x 42 cm

Tower 1 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
24 x 18 cm

Tower 2 2024
oil enamel, permanent marker on
linen
24 x 18 cm

all works courtesy the artist and
Nasha Gallery