

## 'In Stillness'

Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane, 2009

The starting point for all visual imagery is the relationship between form and space – although such a relationship is nothing without light. These simple truths of the conditions of our seeing are central to the artwork of Kate Dorrough. Her project is to strip away what is extraneous so that the basic elements of what is visual can be revealed. For Dorrough, this is a process of letting go, of creating a space in which shapes and colours can 'breathe'. It is also a process of slowing time, and bearing witnessing to the unfolding dimensions of the picture plane. Working and reworking the surface of her paintings, Dorrough builds and illuminates her richly hued and textural constructions. Partly inspired by the rudimentary shapes of vessels and vases found in archaeological digs, and partly by the totemic quality of ancient architectural relics, these abstracted spaces and iconic forms speak of presence and absence in ways that are inordinately human. They bid us to momentarily put aside our contemporary penchant to verbalize and categorize, and to contemplate the ineffable and irreducible quality of 'presence'.