



Sophie Coe is an emerging artist living and working in Nipaluna, Tasmania. She completed her Honours in Fine Art at the University of Tasmania in 2025, earning First Class Honours, where she developed an autoethnographic approach to contemporary painting. Her current practice uses horses as proxies for women shaped by beauty standards, exploring how the commodification of the female body functions as a system of social control. Through this research, Sophie has established an ongoing inquiry into the tension between surface aesthetics and the internal pressures that influence women's lives, grounding her practice in feminist analysis and reflective studio work.

She earned the Rotary Emerging Artist Prize and the Bett Gallery Award for her Honours project. These recognitions support the direction of her current practice, which explores how beauty functions as a subtle form of control that influences behaviour, attention, and self-esteem. Through oil painting, Sophie employs traditional modes of representation to expose how prettiness disciplines and distracts under the guise of choice. Her work creates a space to question who benefits from aesthetic ideals and how these ideals limit women's agency.