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## Pokolbin artist to exhibit in New York

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The serene Brokenback Range of the Hunter Valley is miles away from the bustling streets of New York.

But Rebecca Rath has managed to close the gap.

The young Pokolbin artist has been chosen to show her collection of landscapes at Chelsea's prestigious Agora Gallery in a showcase of Australian and New Zealand works.

"The response I received from the gallery director was so encouraging, really wonderful," Rath, 36, said.

"I basically submitted my portfolio [to the gallery] online and they ended up getting in touch with me which was amazing."

Despite her success Rath – mother to Oscar, 5, and Baxter, 19 months – remains humble about her beginnings as an artist.

"It was the only thing I was good at at school," Rath said.

"I know it sounds a bit cliched but I've always enjoyed drawing and making things."

Following stints at technical college and university and a mentorship with a master printmaker in Paxton, Rath turned to photography.

But it's drawing that has truly claimed the Sydney native's heart.

"I'm really inspired by the Brokenback [Range] near here ... I could draw them forever," she said.

"And I love that view, just on dusk when you can see the silhouette of the mountains and the colours of the sky are just beautiful.

"I'm just so passionate about drawing, so when we moved here I was so inspired. In the city everyone wants their trees to be green all the time, but in the country people accept that nature is a cycle."

Rath and her family will travel to New York for the opening of the exhibition titled Out from Down Under and Beyond: Fine Art from Australia and New Zealand.



**HUMBLE:** Artist Rebecca Rath has been chosen to exhibit her work at Agora Gallery in New York.

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