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*As Spring Surprises* was born in the first days of Djilba, when the land awakens in a vibrant spectacle of colour and sound. Everywhere I turned, there was life: tiny brilliant blue wrens flitting playfully at the window, bonded ravens with their deep, glossy black feathers glinting in the sun, and the bushland alight with the fiery reds, yellows, and oranges of new blossoms merging with a thousand shades of green. Each glance was a joyful surprise, a reminder of the Country's generosity and vitality.

To honour this season of wonder, I approached the canvas with openness and intuition. I began with a rich, wet base of titanium white, softened and extended with flow medium to keep it alive under my hands. Into this living surface I poured layers of fluid acrylics, each colour prepared in its own cup, allowing gravity and chance to guide their meeting. Clear glitter glue found its way onto the canvas in spontaneous bursts, catching light like dew or the fleeting shimmer of wings. Then I stepped back, letting the work breathe and evolve on its own, just as spring itself unfolds in unexpected ways.

The finished piece is a celebration of those fleeting, joyful encounters with nature - a translation of Djilba's surprises into colour, movement, and texture. Sealed with a resin-based UV block, it holds within it a moment of life and light, a reminder that each season brings its own quiet miracles if we pause long enough to see them.

**Mediums:** Acrylic paints, clear glitter gel glue, Jo Sonja Flow Medium

**Surface:** 40cm x 31cm duck weave stretched canvas

**Finish:** Sealed with resin-based UV block sealer



## Ode to Spring- As Spring Surprises ©2019 DMC

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Oh Djilba, first whisper of the  
living year,  
When Country breathes anew and  
sings in colour,  
You wake the bush with laughter  
and soft cheer,  
A symphony of light, of life, of  
wonder.

Tiny blue wrens, like flashing  
drops of sky,  
Dance at my window, bold in  
playful flight;  
While bonded ravens, proud and  
glossy high,  
Wear the sun's sheen as their day-  
born right.

The bushland blushes in fierce  
delight,  
Reds, yellows, oranges in fire's  
own hue,  
Each leaf and petal kissed by  
morning light,  
Greens upon greens, alive with  
silver dew.

Upon my canvas I set spring to  
roam,  
Titanium white stretched wide, a  
living ground;  
A river of colours in cups found  
their home,  
Then spilled and mingled where  
chance had them bound.

Glittering dewdrops, wings caught  
in the sun,  
Fell in shy bursts of spontaneous  
gleam;  
I stepped away, and my hands were  
done,  
While spring kept painting her  
eternal dream.

Now hung in stillness, this fleeting  
delight,  
Holds Djilba's laughter, her tender  
surprise;  
A moment of life and shimmering  
light,  
Where quiet miracles open before  
our eyes.

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