

# Bondi Artist Makes Good



BY PHILIPPA WHERRETT  
 Julianna Evans arrives fresh from a shoot for *Take 5* magazine to talk about her upcoming exhibition, *Liberty*, on show at Art Moment from April 4. Yes, she's a model and a painter. That's a lot of talent for one person.  
 But life's not all glitz and glamour. Evans works as the inhouse model for a studio in Camperdown, where she also does sales management. Like most creative people, she has to do other jobs to earn a living. "I think if you're passionate about something you always find time to do it, especially if

it's so intrinsic to who you are as a person that when you stop you feel like there's something missing in you," says Evans. Painting is part of her bloodline. Evans' Irish father, Edward Mahon, also paints. When he was younger he turned down a scholarship at the Sorbonne because he was making more money as a heavyweight professional boxer. "He gave us a wall in the bedroom each and we could just paint whatever we wanted," recalls Evans. "He's always really encouraged us." The artist arrived in Australia with her Aussie husband seven years ago and a couple of years later settled in Bondi. It was a fateful choice because they moved next door to Irina Moshkovich who runs Art Moment but they didn't meet until Evans wandered into the gallery one day. "We fell in love with her work," says Moshkovich. "It reflects different moods, it's very sensual, energetic and alive. You can't help but be moved." Evans says her painting style has gone from one extreme to another over the years. When she first started she was into Caravaggio. "I used to spend hours in the national gallery just staring at pre-Raphaelite paintings. It was like you could almost touch the skin, it was so luminous," she recalls. "But after a while I felt like I wasn't being free creatively by adopting someone else's style." Evans may have moved on but that luminosity is still evident in her work, which focuses on the human body. "I'm very passionate about colour and movement and the human form. I think we're all beautiful creatures, all shapes and sizes, male and female," she says. *Liberty*, on show at Art Moment in Carlewis Street Bondi.

**If you leave me can I come too?**