

Julia Knight

I grew up in Glenorchy, Tasmania and studied art at high school and college. At that stage I was stunned by the work of Henry Moore and tried to emulate his forms in my drawings. Art School was not an option so I worked full time for nearly thirty years, initially in clerical roles, then computer support and technical writing. In my free time I carved small sculptures, took photographs and wrote poetry.

In 2009 I resigned from my job and went to TAFE, completing a Diploma in Art, Craft and Design (wood design) in 2010. I learnt some wonderful woodworking skills but also immersed myself in art history. It was here that I learnt about the work of Barbara Hepworth and she continues to be a significant source of inspiration.

I enrolled in a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the University of Tasmania, majoring in sculpture. I completed my Bachelor of Fine Arts with Honours in 2014. I have been inspired by the detail and skill in works by Ricky Swallow and the connection to place in Rosalie Gascoigne's assemblages. I have also been fortunate enough to visit the caves in France and see some of the earliest known artworks. I try to imbue my works with the a sense of sacred.

For my honours year I investigated the connection between cave paintings, ancient stone carvings and road or urban signs. Without a cultural context the meaning for any of these signs is open to interpretation. I explored this question of meaning through the study of historic and contemporary rituals and diverse art making processes. In my art practice this has been reflected in the observation and mediation of daily routines and personal rituals. I used a range of art making processes, resulting in a collection of works where the meaning reflects the process through which they were created.

I now believe that meaning is multi layered, with content coming from intent, process and mindful action. Meaning is derived when content is filtered through the layer of interpretation; impacted by the cultural background and knowledge of the viewer and the context in which the artefacts or traces are encountered.

The inspiration that I have found through working with my own rituals and genius loci continues to infuse my art practice with energy; stimulating the creation of works designed to arouse curiosity and engage a sense of reverie in the viewer, but also to create pieces that speak to the soul. They may be large sculptures or small wearable ones. All are designed to provide the viewer with sense of connection to the natural world and to inspire dreams.

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Education

2014	BFA (hons) majoring in Sculpture at UTAS
2013	Bachelor of Fine Arts at UTAS(Admitted to Deans Roll of Excellence)
2010	Diploma in Art, Craft and Design (wood)
2009	Certificate IV in Visual Arts and Contemporary Craft
2008	Certificate IV in Training and Assessment
2000 - 2007	MCSE Windows (various certifications)
1979	Matriculation – Art subjects including photography, ceramics and sculpture

Recent Activities

Kingborough Art Prize 2020	Exhibitor in Kingborough Art Prize 2020 in the Works On Paper category. Highly Commended for ' <i>Creature</i> '.
November 2019	Exhibitor in Sorell Art Prize. Second prize in Photography section with ' <i>Dreamtree</i> ' .
October 2019	Exhibitor in RANT Arts Minds DO Matter exhibition
September - October 2019	Exhibitor in South East Arts exhibition at Rosny Golf Club
June - July 2019	Exhibitor in Nolan Gallery Dark Mofo exhibition
April – June 2019	Exhibitor in Art Farm Birchs Bay sculpture trail
February 2019	Exhibitor in Kingborough Art Prize
November 2018	Exhibitor in Sorell Art Prize
October- November 2018	Exhibitor in Tasman Bushland Garden Sculpture Trail
June - July 2018	Exhibitor in Nolan Gallery 'XX Exhibition'

April – June 2018	Exhibitor in Art Farm Birchs Bay sculpture trail
November 2017	Exhibitor in Sorell Art Prize
December 2016	Winner in the 3-dimensional category in the Sorell Art Prize with sculpture ' <i>Honoured Matre</i> '
December 2015	' <i>A Flexible Affair</i> ' ...solo exhibition at Top Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre
April – June 2015	Exhibitor in Benchmarking Birchs Bay outdoor sculpture trail
4 - 26 Jan 2015	Exhibitor in <i>Out of the Ashes</i> exhibition
April – June 2014	Exhibitor in Benchmarking Birchs Bay outdoor sculpture trail.
21 – 31 March 2014	Exhibitor in the group exhibition <i>Epicormia</i> at The Long Gallery, Salamanca Place.
12 - 28 March 2014	Solo Exhibition titled <i>Garden of Transfiguration</i> in the Lounge Gallery at Entrepot Gallery, Hobart
March - June 2013	Exhibitor in Benchmarking Birchs Bay outdoor sculpture trail. Awarded the Kingborough Council Acquisition Award for ' <i>Husk</i> '
2013	Collaboration with other artists to produce the performance Magic Carpet Ride (Peacock Theatre, Rosny Barn, Franklin Palais) - videography
February 2011	Selected in Top Ten for Tasmanian Wood Design Collection Acquisitive Biennial Exhibition
December 2010	Solo Exhibition - Sculptural Images at the Off Centre Gallery, Salamanca Place
July - Aug 2010	Exhibitor in the Discover Exhibition at the Off Centre Gallery, Salamanca Place