



January 2023

Hi there,

I hope your new year is off to a promising start. Here's to new adventures, opportunities and sharing new creations, cheers to 2023!

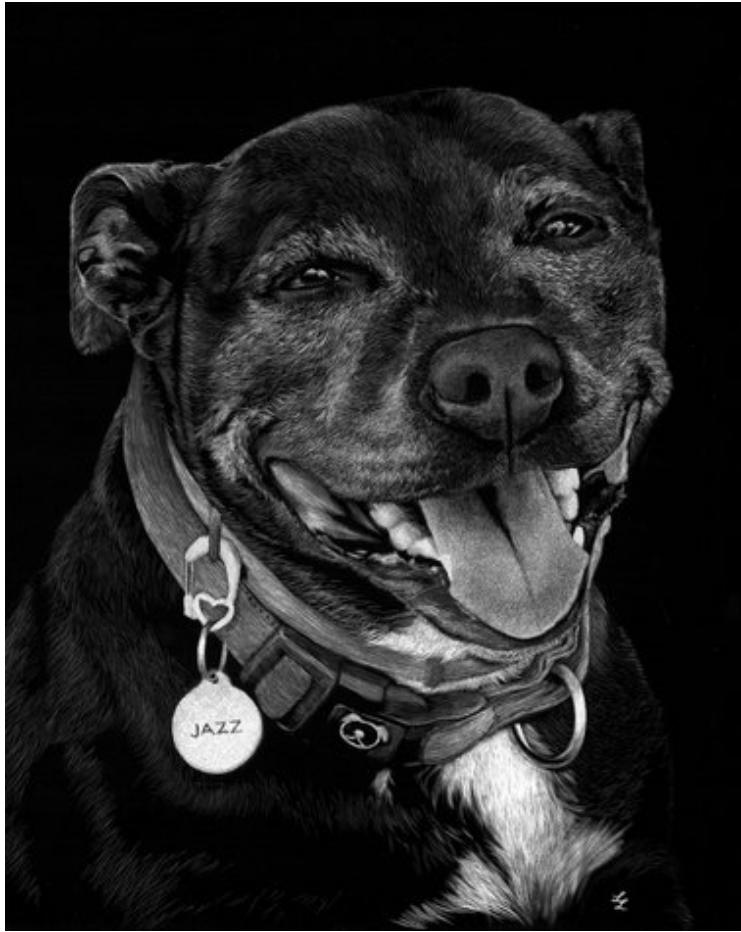
When one door closes...

It was with mixed emotions at the end of December that I finished up my environmental advisor role after seventeen years with the one company. I'm so proud of everything I've achieved in my various roles over the years and deeply appreciate all that I've learned along the way from so many wonderful workmates. I already miss seeing their familiar faces and the office banter, but it was time for a change - equal parts terrifying and exciting! This year I'm diving into my illustration work full time. Will it become sustainable full time work? To be honest, I don't know. But if I don't give it a crack now, I'll always be wondering.

So, between works for upcoming exhibitions and a whole bunch of other ideas in the pipeline, I'm opening the books for commissions. It may be a special custom piece for yourself or a loved one, just drop me a message and I'm happy to chat about your ideas.

Below are the last commissions I completed in 2022 - three very different subjects, each with their own beautiful and significant story, and I loved creating every piece. It's a weird thing to say, but tears are the best compliment I could ask for when I hand over these custom pieces and there were many (happy!) tears shared when these were received.

Clockwise from left: 'Jazz', 8x10 inch scratchboard; 'A kingfisher for Rosi', 6x6 inch ink on scratchboard; 'Henry', 8x10 inch scratchboard.



Bronze for my forest fairy in Florida!

It was a thrill to jump online to watch the live opening and awards presentation for the International Society of Scratchboard Artists annual exhibition in early December.

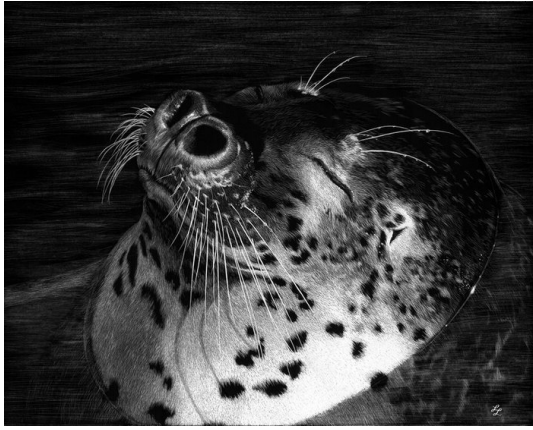
I hadn't seen many of the other entries at the time but knew competition would be fierce with the incredible calibre of artists involved in ISSA. I may have done more than a little happy dance when 'The Gathering' received a Bronze award in the Masters category - my first time exhibiting in their annual show, *and* in with the Masters!

Though the physical show has now wrapped up, the online gallery is still available for viewing and well worth a look.



ISSA Annual Exhibition Online
Catalogue

Upcoming events



Encounters with the Animal Kingdom, Society of Animal Artists

My scratchboard 'Salute the sun' will be on display as part of the Society of Animal Artists 'Encounters of the Animal Kindgom' exhibition in Kentucky, USA from February.

Where: Janice Mason Art Museum, Cadiz Kentucky

When: 22nd February - 8th April 2023

You can view the entire collection online in the link below.

[SAA Online catalogue](#)



'Follow the Line' Exhibition postponed

Due to the supercars event in Newcastle, we've postponed our group show 'Follow the Line' until April-May. Access to Nobby's lighthouse will be extremely restricted during Feb-Mar to allow for the set up and running of the race, so we look forward to welcoming you all after the supercars have done their thing!

Where: Lighthouse Arts Cottage, Nobby's Lighthouse, Newcastle NSW

When: April - May 2023

[Lighthouse Arts](#)



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A mini Freddo

With school holidays in full swing and some quality time spent with family in recent weeks, my time for art has been sporadic. Miniatures are a great creative outlet when large blocks of time aren't possible and I've been itching to do another froggo. I found this little fellow calling from my grass tree back in October. I was sad to see these Eastern dwarf frogs disappear from our garden during the drought a few years back, but they've found their way back!

This chap is on a 2.5 x 2.5 inch scratchboard, coloured with india ink and yet to be titled (two dollar coin for size reference!)

If you have a mini-sized empty space on your wall, give me a buzz and we can fix that problem with a lovely, tiny artwork!

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