

# **April 2023**

Hi there,

Read on for the latest event news and new artworks!



'Nature, Texture, Pattern' exhibition opens May 1st! Last year I was invited to exhibit with the Port Stephens Artisan Collective, and the day has finally arrived! Tomorrow (1st May), I'll be installing my works alongside those of Marian Fox, who creates beautifully elegant pottery. There is no official opening but the gallery is open 7 days a week, 10am - 4pm, so if you are in Nelson Bay during May, be sure to drop in to the gallery at D'Albora Marina to enjoy the exhibition and lots of other diverse artworks from talented locals.

To see my full list of artworks for this exhibition, including size and price, check out the catalogue link under the <u>Nature, Texture</u>, <u>Pattern exhibition here</u>.

**Exhibition Dates**: 1st May - 31st May

**Gallery opening hours**: Mon - Sun, 10am - 4pm **Location**: D'Albora Marina, Nelson Bay, NSW



# Gathering inspiration out west

I didn't get too much time at the drawing board during April due to school holidays. We took the opportunity to head out west, camping in the Warrumbungles and Kaputar National Park, and trying our hand at fossicking in Lightning Ridge and Inverell. We loved every minute, and every place we visited is well worth the trip. Autumn nights were quite fresh but we were blessed with beautiful sunny weather for two weeks and SO much birdlife and wildlife - a cheeky sugar glider (and many skinks and roos) in Kaputar, an ambling echidna in Inverell and wild emus in Lightning Ridge. I came back with over 10,000 photos and so inspired to get back in to scratching - watch this space! In the meantime, here are a few of my favourite shots. Clockwise from top left - turquoise parrot, scarlet robin, little eagle, double-barred finches, white-throated treecreeper.



# 'Follow the Line' poems inspired by my art

During installation day for 'Follow the Line', I was extremely moved to learn that not one, but two writers from the Hunter Writer's Centre took inspiration for their poems from my artworks. It was a goosebumps moment when I saw them for the first time - printed on A2 sheets ready to be framed and hung alongside our artworks. What a special collaboration! The first is by Alison Barton titled 'Grey Light'. Alison got in touch to tell me that as soon as she saw my images for the exhibition, she was inspired to write, crafting her poem in just one day! The second piece is 'Follow the Line' by Kerry Gittins, heavily inspired by my portrait of Nancy. Tears prickled my eyes reading that one for the first time and thinking of her. I'm blown away by these two written pieces and feel very honoured that my art can inspire such eloquent words.

# Grey Light we are combed lines stranded to earth a studied sequence of etchings we are animals, pencilled in brushstrokes the crimped ruffles of a bison so low it creeps swollen by soil scent, eyes clenched in delight we are predatory, curious of matter that sleeps inside stardust bone and flesh rendered grey joints that angle, calves that shade we see ourselves in the bow of majestic creatures deferent, knowing, pert in the light shedding beads flanked by a dash of the palest blue, fawn blood red somewhere between black and white we are animal, lit from dirt beds to the sky. Alison J Barton

### Follow The Line

A line of white amongst the grey, that tells you she is here to stay. A knotted line of braid hung low, that tells you there's still far to go. A wrinked line upon her face, that tells you she is full of grace. A laughter line around her eyes, that tells you she is kind and wise. Follow the lines marked on her skin, that hold a magic deep within. A magic of the earth and skies, to see those things beyond our eyes Follow the lines along her hands, that tell you she is from this land. A land so ancient, steeped in lines, of stories told before our time. This woman stands so proud and true, accepting me accepting you. As humans, friends, someone to cherish for she has seen so many perish. Those lines that tell us how to cope, and always know that there is hope. Hope for all to live and be, upon this earth in harmony.

Kerry Gittins

## **Upcoming events**



# Scratchboard workshop - 17th June

My next scratchboard workshop will be at CStudios Gallery in Hunter St, Newcastle on Saturday 17th June. This will be a 5 hr workshop, suitable for beginners to intermediate, to give you all the basic materials and techniques needed to create your own scratchboard piece! Contact Jo Chisholm-Ray at CStudios Gallery on 0407 107 053 to find out more and book your place.

CStudios Gallery Facebook page



### Follow the Line - til 28 May

Enjoy the mild, autumn days with a walk up to the lighthouse before our exhibition closes!

To see my full list of artworks, including size and price, check out the catalogue link under the Follow the Line exhibition here.

**Exhibition Dates**: 1st April - 28th May **Gallery opening hours**: Saturday -

Sunday, 10am - 4pm

**Location**: Nobby's Lighthouse, Nobby's Whibayganba Headland, Newcastle NSW

Impressions of Alaska gallery

Follow me on Facebook

Follow me on Instagram

Share on social



SHOP NOW  $(\rightarrow)$ 

+61 491 744 245