

Carol Bisset

Artist Statement:

Manipulation and transformation of objects and materials is central to the way I choose to explore ideas related to the passage of *time* and *place*.

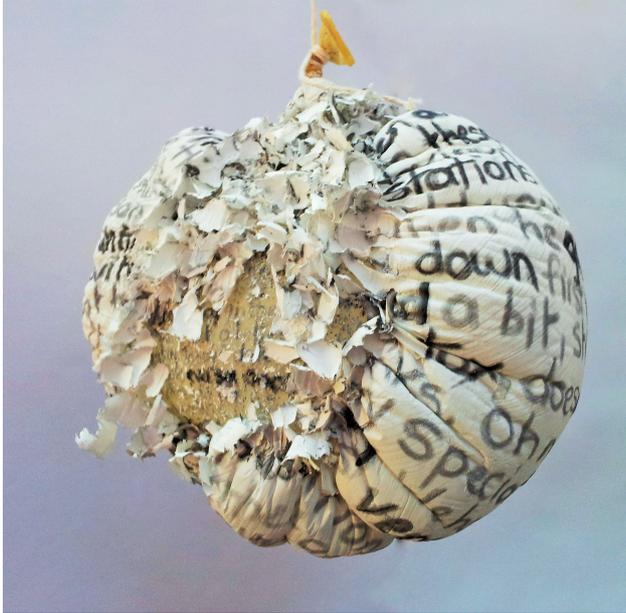
A series of family letters which span a period of more than 20 years have influenced the physical nature of the work either through the inscriptions used or the closely bound and knotted entanglement of the material itself.

Artificial light within the work acts as a 'life force' creating secondary drawings which add to the distortions and complexity through cast shadows. Subtleties of light produce different angles of viewing which play with ideas of concealment, privacy and connection.

Balloons normally celebratory by nature now become deflated symbols of a loss through their shrunken exhaled 'skins'. Information has become miniaturised, barely communicable reflecting connections of a severed past.

The process of making some of these works became highly symbolic with their own ongoing narratives of vulnerability and fragility through the material itself, something I had not totally predicted at the outset; this was to become an important and significant part of the making process.

'Points of Departure' marks a step towards a future *time* and *place* by acknowledging the past and determining the future.



“Exhale”

Bio:

Carol Bisset's emergence into the field of the Visual Arts began in the United Kingdom where much of her early Art training took place after leaving school. During the following six years, she immersed herself in her Arts practice and began forging a future career in Art Education.

A Sculptor and Installation artist formerly based in Brisbane Australia, but now residing in Tauranga, Carol's work frequently calls upon intensified emotional and physical records of past encounters with people and places. Her use of ephemeral, 'found objects' and low tech materials with their associated histories creates a series of curiously subtle and elusive transformations. What is seen, and how it is seen, is controlled through the use of artificial light which softens the edges between real and invented space. Lighting with its complimentary shadows, serves to define or negate information, disrupting the viewer's reading whilst adding not only an emotional charge, but a sense of secrecy and confidentiality.

Some of Carol's most noted exhibitions have been held at Span Gallery, Melbourne, Centre of Contemporary Arts,

Christchurch, Auckland University of Technology. She was selected to become part of the annual 15 Artists exhibition at Redcliffe City Art Gallery Queensland Australia.

Carol holds a Bachelor of Fine Art (Hons) in Sculpture, De Montfort University, Master of Fine Art, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Post Graduate Art Teaching qualification and Master of Art Education, Birmingham Polytechnic.

Since completing her Masters of Art at RMIT in Melbourne, Carol has worked extensively in Adult Education both privately and within tertiary institutions.

In 2006, Carol established a number of privately run Contemporary Art Programs within the Moreton Bay Region. As a result of completing these programs, a number of mature age students have gained entry into tertiary study at Queensland University of Technology and are continuing their journey as the new emerging talents within Queensland.

Professional recognition has been gained through her involvement in various advisory panels including Regional Arts Development Funding Committee and Moreton Bay Arts Council (Vice President) Australia and Creative Communities Funding Committee Tauranga.

During 2011 Carol held the year long position of Artist in Residence at Studio Red, Redcliffe State High School during which time she organised an exhibition of regional contemporary art works and artist talks which were delivered to students at the school. Currently she is part of the 'Incubator Artist Collective' where she holds a studio space in Tauranga.

Having been involved in running numerous private and publically run workshop initiatives both in New Zealand and Australia, Carol has always enjoyed the challenge of running an arts practice alongside a teaching practice; both spark a level of creative thinking, communication and interpretation which is compelling, energetic and engaging throughout the length of their individual journeys.

Justina Gröber

Artist Statement:

In a visual era images are powerful agents of reality. Being a visual artist, I tend to make sense of the world in the same way as I make sense of images, looking at reality as made of layers, some visible, and others buried more deeply by what is current and commonplace.

My work deals with questions about visibility. At a time drenched in visual stimulation, I find that it becomes increasingly pertinent to question the power of images and to delineate their visible and invisible layers. Images shape reality by way of selecting, editing and publicising information,

In Painting, images are made of thin skins stretched upon other images. The layers further below are never erased, and yet extremely minimal changes are necessary to bring completely new meanings into being. My images may start with any kind of subject from clouds to waterfalls, shards of broken porcelain, rose-petals and crunched tea-towels, and when painted over, take on other and quite unexpected meanings. In a metaphysical sense images speak to me of what cannot be seen but only sensed.

In this body of work I explore connections between memories and emotions. Similarly to ambers in a cooling fire, the deeper layers remain alive and ambiguous and keep pushing through the outer layers. I hope that the viewers' eyes will find their way through the patches and flakes of colours and in the process will meet with their own emotions and thoughts.



Bio:

Justina Gröber is a German artist living in New Zealand. Her initial studies of Fine Arts and Teaching Diploma at Franz-Ludwig University, Munich in 1981 were followed by teaching of visual art programs in Southern Bavaria until moving to New Zealand in 1990. She obtained a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Australia in 2002 and a Doctorate of Fine Arts from the University Auckland in 2008. Through painting and moving image Justina's work explores the complex relationships between perceptions, imagination and representation. Justina's work has been shown at Te Tuhi in group- and- solo exhibitions, as well as dealer galleries in New Zealand and internationally. Her paintings are part of private collections, Australia, England and Germany. Justina's work alternates between abstraction and figuration. It explores the sensibilities of painting in the context of a digitally mediated reality.

Exhibitions:

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2014 And Then She Said,... Whitespace Gallery, Auckland
2013 Embodying Time, Pine Rivers Gallery, Brisbane
2011 Caves, Chartwell Gallery, at Artspost, Hamilton
2010 Nightshifts, PPG Gallery Auckland
2008 Foreign Objects, Circle Gallery, Brisbane
2006 Half Past Five, Petford Gallery, Auckland
2005 Out of Exile, Te Tuhi, The Mark
2004 Dayroom, Snowwhite Gallery Unitec, Auckland
2004 Light, Judith Anderson Gallery, Auckland
2004 Re/Location, Centre of Contemporary Art, Christchurch
2003 Re/Location, Chartwell Gallery, Arts Post, Hamilton
2002 North For Us, ASN Gallery, Sydney
2002 R/e/Location, Art Station, Auckland
2002 Body Parts, Grantham Galleries Auckland
2002 Ambiguous Sight, Art Post, Hamilton
2001 Strata, Span Gallery, Melbourne
Under New Skies, Art Post, Hamilton
Hera Revisioned, The Edge, Auckland
2001 Mind Gap, Art Station, Auckland
1999 Beyond Beauty, Peters Muir Petford, Auckland

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2008 "Delay" George Frazer Gallery Auckland
2005 Double Vision, Lopdell House, Auckland
2004 Trans Par 2B, Te Tuhi The Mark, Members Gallery
2003 Corrugations, Grantham Galleries, Auckland
Trace of Space, Chitraniketan Gallery, Tirvandrum, India
2001 Border Zones, Grantham Galleries, Auckland
Permeable Spaces, Grantham Galleries, Auckland
Residencies and Presentations
2013 From Adventure to Education,
Exploring Meanings and Dimensions in Videogames,
Presentation at the 5th international
Conference for Video Game Culture, Oxford
2012 Mimesis and Play, presentation at the 6th international
Conference for Visual Literacies, Oxford
2004 Presentation at GABA Gay and Lesbian Business
Association in Auckland
2001 – 2002 Three Months: Artist Residency, Trivandrum, India