

### **Vacant Assembly**

266 Montague Rd, West End

Opening Night: Friday 03 March 6-9pm

Runs: 4 March 10am - 4pm | 5 March 10am - 2pm

Artist talks and panel: Sat 4 March 11am-12pm

Curated by Vanghoua Anthony Vue

These artists explore the construction of identity and place through the use of varying materials. A key focus of this exhibition is on non-traditional art materials that are significant to each artist and their personal experiences. These artists recontextualise and reinvent these materials and encourage us to reflect on and reconsider our material present and their role in shaping who and where we are.

# TROY CROOKS

crooks484@hotmail.com

#### Art Attack

2023, synthetic polymer enamel paint on plywood, 240 x 122 cm

Troy Crooks, a artist based in Brisbane, is an avid craftsman who possesses an unbridled passion for woodworking and its infinite possibilities. His artistic oeuvre is distinguished by his visual techniques and an adept use of synthetic polymers that imbue his works with complexity and resplendent colour. Crooks endeavours to capture the viewers' imagination by offering them a window into his personal perspective of the world.

Wood, Crooks' quintessential medium, forms the fulcrum of his artistic output, which is characteristically marked by a meticulous exploration of the organic patterns inherent in the wood grain. The incorporation of synthetic polymers into his artwork, apart from lending a contemporary edge, permits finer precision and enhanced control, thereby facilitating the realization of his artistic vision with greater exactitude.

Ultimately, Troy Crooks' artwork is a testament to his creative and serves as a conduit for the dissemination of his unique perspective of the world to his discerning audience. His oeuvre is an invitation to the viewers to enter his world and to witness the profundity of his artistic vision.

#### CV

Education		Exhibitions		
2023	Currently studying Bachelor Degree of visual arts, Canberra University	2022	Kids Take Over HOTA Gold Coast	
	•	2021	Light art installation	
2022	Diploma in Visual Arts TAFE QLD, Brisbane		Yonder Festival Sunshine Coast	
		2021	Kids Take Over	
2021	Certificate III in Visual Arts TAFE QLD, Brisbane		HOTA, Gold Coast	
	·	2022	Cre8, Diploma Graduation Show TAFE QLD, Brisbane	







## DONNA **GRIFFIN**

dgrub74@gmail.com IG@donnagriffinart

#### The Fledglings (1 - 6)

2023, driftwood, feathers, leaves, clay, wire, acrylic paint, various dimensions

As humans we are guided and nurtured by those around us. These fundamental connections underpin our core values and shape our life experiences. This support, growth and journey is portrayed in these sculptural works as beacons of hope, strength and resilience.

#### CV

#### Education

2023 Currently studying Bachelor of Creative Industries - Visual Arts University of Canberra, Southbank, QLD

Diploma of Visual Arts, TAFE 2022 Qld, Southbank, QLD

2021 Cert III Visual Arts, TAFE QLD, Southbank

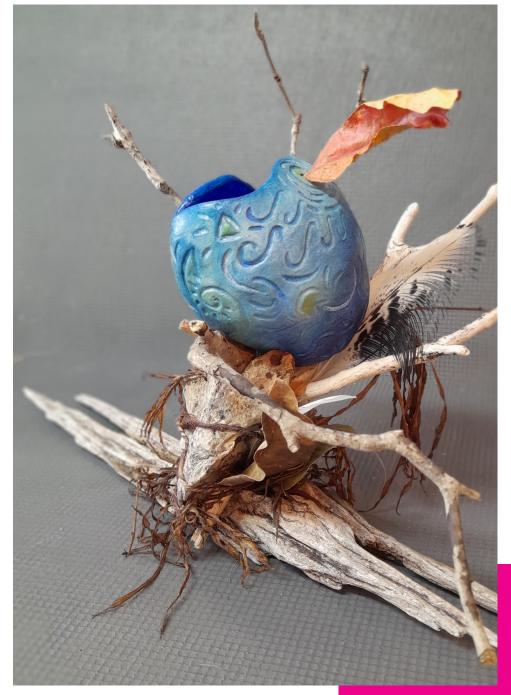
#### **Exhibitions**

Cre8, Diploma Graduation Show 2022 TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2021 BAD Festival - Prints exhibited. TAFE QLD, Southbank, QLD







# SERINAH WILLIAMS

strawberinah@hotmail.com IG@strawberinah

#### Memoria Technicolour (i-xiii), Elapse

2023, black and white photography, paint marker on tracing paper, repurposed fabrics and yarns, dimensions variable

Serinah is a Yiman artist living on Gubbi Gubbi Land, working towards her Bachelor of Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art at the Queensland College of Arts. She primarily focuses on nostalgia and memories portrayed by the use of colour. These artworks represent the influence memories have on personality regardless of whether the connotation is favourable or not, referencing dissociative amnesia and how this influences her own personality.

Serinah attempts to use bright colours to trigger a nostalgic response, with the semi-transparent tracing paper layered over black and white photographs, which have been distorted in the darkroom, to describe the feelings of dissociative amnesia. Whilst these memories are distorted or unfavourable, she would not be who she is today if things were different.

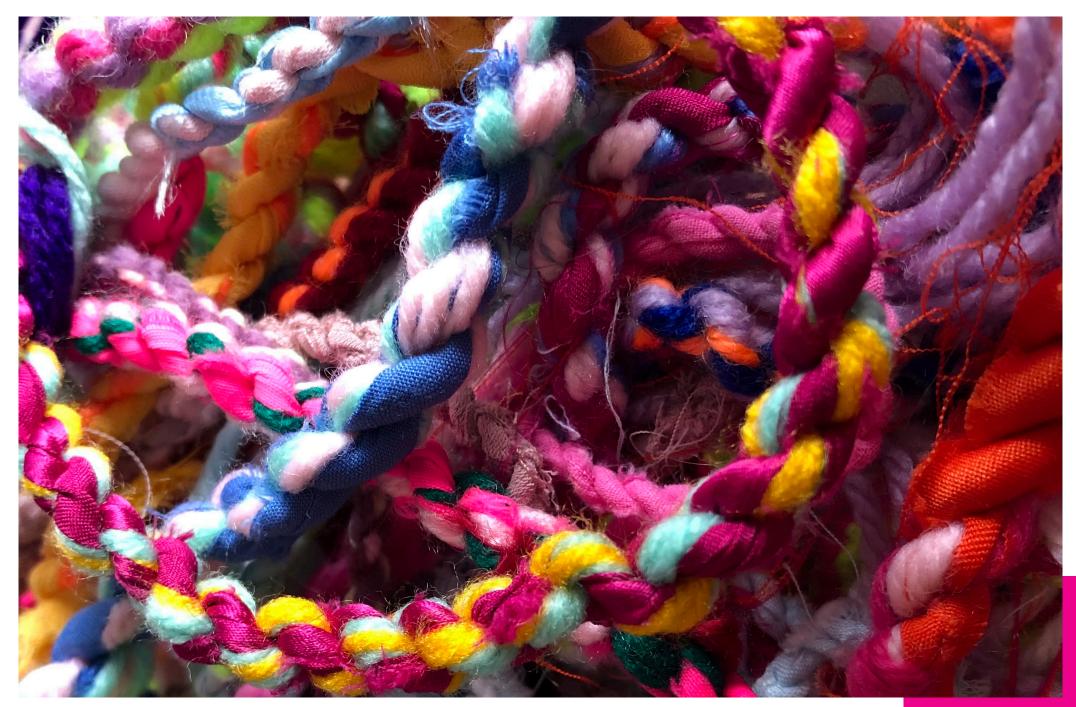
These experiences do not contain her but build on the foundation of Serinah's personality, changing her ways of viewing the world and influencing the artist she is today. Serinah uses the metaphor of string as a passing of time, using an Aboriginal string-making technique with offcuts and repurposed fibre materials to create a physical representation of the person she is right now.

#### CV

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Education Present Bachelor of Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art		2021	Live Painting Session TAFE QLD, Graduate Exhibition	
	Queensland College of Arts, Griffith University	2013 -2017	Arts Expo Bracken Ridge State High	
2022	Diploma of Visual Arts		School	
	TAFE QLD, Brisbane	2017	50th Anniversary Exhibition	
Exhibitions			Bracken Ridge State High School	
2022	Cre8, Diploma Graduation Show TAFE QLD, Brisbane		36.1361	
		2016	Creative Generations Exhibition Excellence Awards in Visual Art	







### ZOIE BETTS

zoie.betts@gmail.com IG@zoie.betts

#### **Emergence**

2023, seashells, foam, plaster, cardboard, wood, electronic components, dimensions variable

Zoie Betts is a young emerging artist, based on the Gold Coast and studying in Brisbane towards an eventual PhD in visual arts, with her work carrying a focus on sculpture and fantastical, whimsical storytelling.

Emergence is a sculptural installation designed to represent the artist; since childhood Betts has identified with dragons for their solitude, strength, fierce protection, and love of treasures. This piece demonstrates a dragon fresh from an extended period of dormancy, curious of its surroundings, and willing to explore. This represents the Betts' latest chapter in her life, stepping out into the world as an independent adult with curiosity and a willingness to explore.

The use of seashells is a nod to the artist's years spent growing up on the Gold Coast. While not born here, she felt her happiest childhood memories were formed by the coast, and has since moved back in adulthood. The seashell is also a literal representation of a stable, protective exterior that has hardened through time and trial, like memories and life lessons that protect the individual beneath. A two seashells combined allows a mollusc to thrive safely in its environment; many together allows a dragon to venture into greatness.

#### CV

#### Education

Present Bachelor of Visual Arts (Sculpture Major)

2022 Diploma of Visual Arts

#### **Exhibitions**

2022 Cre8, Diploma Graduation Show TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2018- Mental Health Week 2019 Mater Hospital Art Exhibition







### EDA AZAK

edaaydogan3@gmail.com

#### White Rose

2023, oil on canvas

#### Wild Rose

2023, Ebru Art

#### White Tulip 2023, mixed media

2023, mixed media on Wooden Plate

### The Moonlight Sonata

2023, Ebru Art

### The Dream and the Dreamer

2023, Ebru Art

#### Flame Lily

2023, mixed media on wooden plate

#### Blood Flow of Love

2023, Ebru Art

Rainbow Tulips 2023, Ebru Art She tried to feel and touch "Jouissance" for this exhibition which is the psychological term comes from French philosopher Jacques Lacan.

"Jouissance is the dimension discovered by the analytic experience that confronts desire as its opposite pole. If desire is fundamentally lack, lack in being, jouissance is positivity, it is a "something" lived by a body when pleasure stops being pleasure. It is a plus, a sensation that is beyond pleasure."

She also used very traditional Turkish art Ebru techniques in not a very traditional ways.

Enjoy the desire, suffering and aesthetic of love in art.

"Dear Lord, may joy not leave me."

#### CV

#### Education

2022 Current student at UC, University of Canberra in Bachelor of Visual Arts, Brisbane

2022 Diploma of Visual Art, TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2020 Certificate III in Visual Art, TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2000 Bachelor in Philosophy,
Department of
Literature, Istanbul
University, Istanbul, TR

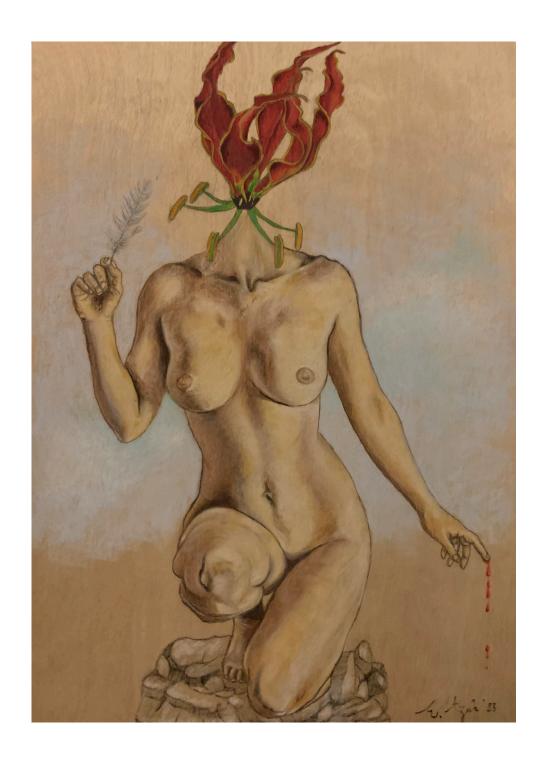
#### Selected Exhibitions

2023 Interior Motives Group Exhibition, Vacant Assembly, West End, QLD

2022 Cre8, Diploma Graduation Show TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2021 Greeting Cards
Exhibition
BackDock Arts
Gallery, Fortitude
Valley, QLD







### **ANDREA** LUGO-CALAMLAM

#### Nanay and her village (mother and her village)

2022, mixed media, 183 cm x 100 cm x 44.5 cm

"It takes a village to raise a child" is a proverb we must have heard often but probably not fully understood. As a child, my mother wasn't always as present as I would have liked her to be. She'd always be away on business trips or if she was home, she'd still be working and mostly grumpy. More often than not, my brother and I would be left in the care of a family member.

This slowly stirred mixed emotions inside me that I expressed through letters which apparently, she kept. As I grew older and was appointed with responsibilities of my own it was only then that I noticed the seen and unseen sacrifices she made to provide a better life for me and my brother. Witnessing how she worked hard to provide for us while fulfilling her own dreams as she weaves her way through life's challenges inspired me to create this monument. A cathartic born piece inspired by my mother's infinite love for us and my endless gratitude to her and the women who helped her raise me.

#### **CV**

#### Education

Present University of Canberra South Bank TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2022 Diploma of Visual Arts TAFE QLD, Brisbane

#### Public Art & Collaborations

2022 Mural: Peb Ahleumdaun Tadhana (Our Beautiful Destiny) 23 Manning Street, Brisbane

WEARABLE ART: 1920's Flapper Wire Headpiece, Fred Telarma Design Studio - Quezon City, **Philippines** 

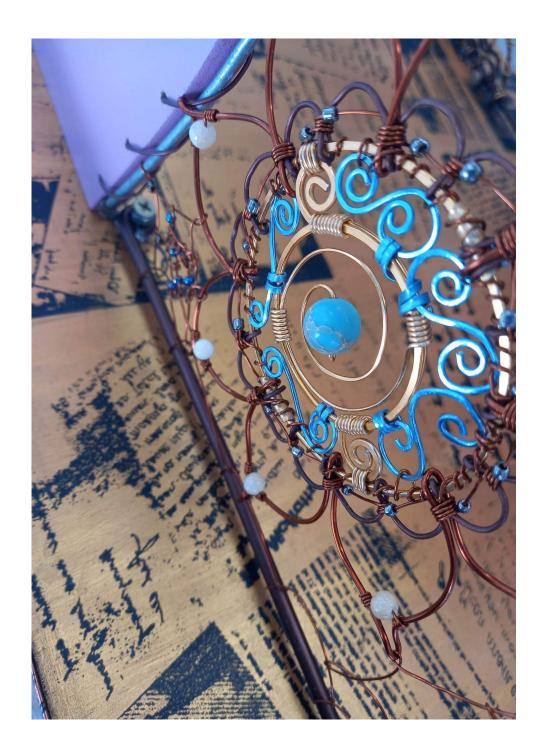
#### Recent Exhibitions

Cre8, Diploma Graduation Show TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2022 La Figura Umana (Life Drawing Exhibition) G/F Block E Gallery, South Bank TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2022 ... a trip through Azure Diploma of Visual Arts FISHTANK at Block E Gallery, South Bank TAFE QLD, Brisbane







## MICHAEL TUTAAN

IG@maikala

#### She is Hope

2022, upcycled bike frame, metal parts, copper and aluminium sheets, 183 x 100 x 44.5 cm

In She is Hope, Tutaan used found objects that are incorporated to create a piece that will represent the connection of people working together to achieve parallel interests in one buoyant future. It is inspired by the former vice president of the Philippines, Leni Robredo. She is Hope focuses on political matters and relationships that are overlooked and abused to gain self-interest. Some tend to forget the importance of humanity and what lies between preserving and recreating a lawful and transparent government. The artwork aims to awaken minds and represent unity to likeminded individuals who aims to unfold anomalies and join together to recreate a fair and just environment. The artist combined old keys and upcycled copper and aluminium sheets to represent unified individuals sharing the same aspiration. The recycled broken bike frame and metals parts exemplify the bonded foundation of change and unanimity. When genuine humanitarian service is prearranged everything will fall into place. When we provide a flower seed with appropriate nourishment it will grow and bloom accordingly and exquisitely.

#### CV

#### Education

Present University of Canberra

South Bank TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2022 Diploma of Visual Arts TAFE QLD. Brisbane

#### Public Art & Collaborations

Mural: Peb Ahleumdaun Tadhana (Our Beautiful Destiny)

23 Manning Street, Brisbane

PARKFEST PH: Tabi-Tabi po 2016 (Mythical Creatures Wire Art Installation) Nayong Pilipino,

Manila, Philippines

#### Recent Exhibitions

Cre8, Diploma Graduation Show

TAFE QLD, Brisbane

La Figura Umana (Life Drawing

Exhibition) G/F Block E Gallery, South Bank

TAFE QLD, Brisbane

2022 ... a trip through Azure

Diploma of Visual Arts FISHTANK at Block E Gallery,

South Bank

TAFE QLD, Brisbane







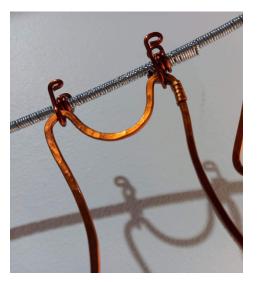
# **ANDREA** LUGO-CALAMLAM MICHAEL TUTAAN

#### Carmelita

2023, mixed media, . 27.94 x 27.94 x 40.64 cm

A "Kasambahay" or "household helper" is an essential member of a Filipino family. The invaluable dedication, service and loyalty they provide for families particularly for working parents bring enormous comfort and ease. However, in being a kasambahay there has always been a social stigma attached to it. This is because most of the household helpers rarely finish grade school nor reached high school and a result their hard work and perseverance tend to be overlooked.

Our experience here in Australia as a part-time cleaner has given us a deeper perspective and admiration to our own kasambahay back home. We experienced first-hand the amount of strenuous effort she puts in doing chores and felt the physical effects by the end of the day. We couldn't help but give her the utmost respect and gratitude she deserves. At the age of 14 she left her family in the province to try her luck in the big city as a laundress and from then on, she never looked back







# **JET CARROLL**

redjet9@gmail.com IG@leroystomp

#### Baggage (1 - 8)

2023, Vintage Cases, plaster, glass, mirror, ceramics, feathers, various prints, memory ware, 60 x 60cm max

As we develop the idea of detachment and release from past conditioning we are surrendering to new possibilities, and we find the freedom of our true selves which enables us to connect authentically.

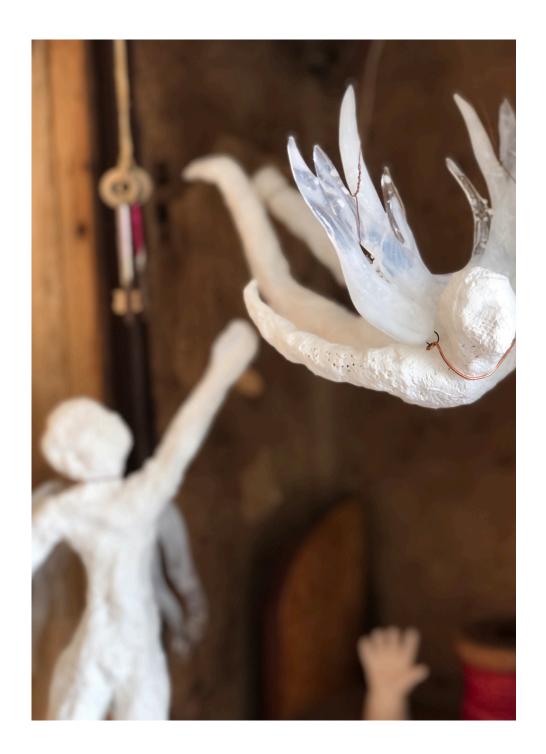
"In detachment lies the wisdom of uncertainty...And in our willingness to step into the unknown, we surrender ourselves to the creative mind that orchestrates the dance of the universe"

- Deepak Chopra from "The Spiritual Law of Detachment"

#### CV

Education		Exhibitions		
2022	Diploma Visual Art TAFE QLD, Brisbane	2023	Interior Motives Group Exhibition, Vacant Assembly, West End, QLD	
1999	Certificate 4 Teacher Training		•	
	TAFE QLD, Brisbane	2022	Cre8, Diploma Graduation Show TAFE QLD, Brisbane	
1997	BA Architectural Stained Glass,			
	Bristol University, Swansea, Wales, UK	2000	Queensland Creative Glass Guild Exhibition, Mt Coot-tha, Brisbane	
1992	Art & Design Higher National			
	Diploma, London UK	1997	Graduate Exhibition BA Architectural Glass, Swansea, Wales	









### INTERIOR MOTIVES