

Placemarks|2023

Seven artists respond to a place from their past. The artists involved use their preferred discipline to present unique reactions that interrogate connections with all but forgotten environments and landscapes.

Placemarks | showcases the creative works of:

Robyn BERNADT
Hugh BRESLIN
Shanti GELMI
Louise GRIMSHAW
Rebecca HEPWORTH
Kristy SCADDAN
Brianne SHARP

Officially opened by **Denise PEPPER**

Gallery25

Opening: Wednesday 9 August 5pm–7pm
Exhibition dates: 3 August–31 August
Floor talk: Wednesday 16 August 12:30pm–1:30pm
Gallery opening hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am–4pm
Building 10, 2 Bradford St, Mount Lawley

ECU Galleries acknowledges the traditional custodians, the Whadjuk Noongar people, and elders past and present. We pay our respects for the great privilege of living, making and researching on these unceded lands.

ECU Galleries



Kristy SCADDAN

Curatorial Statement

Memories of place transform over time, details become etched, and others forgotten. We can connect memory to a particular setting, and we can mostly always recall where we were when an intense memory mark occurred. How much of a place is embedded and remembered from stories and photos and how much of these are lost or misinterpreted?

Placemarks is an exhibition comprised of ECU alumni, at various stages of their career, showcasing multiple disciplines from the Contemporary Arts degree.

Seven artists respond to a place from their past. The artists involved use paper, painting, installation, sculpture, illustration, printmaking, and glass work to present unique reactions that interrogate connections with all but forgotten environments and landscapes. New investigations, memory, photographs and found information are used to translate their recollection of their chosen place.

Robyn BERNADT

Artist Statement

My parents immigrated to Boorloo (Perth, Western Australia) before I was born, leaving their complex web of relations to create our little nuclear family. Living overseas prevented me from developing close relationships with my grandparents and extended family. The disconnection from family and cultural heritage has led me to contemplate where I belong. I wonder if I travelled to the faraway lands where my ancestors originated, would it feel like coming home?

Landscape Constructions explores the geography of my imagined homeland. Romantic images of landscapes, sourced from souvenir guides, are overlaid with intricate hand-cut and folded geometric pattern reminiscent of quilting design. The relief forms float eerily in the sky. The works reference retro-futuristic film and allude to a sense of alienation to the landscape, and the experience of feeling like an outsider in the place I call home.

Biography

Robyn Bernadt is a paper installation artist residing in Boorloo (Perth), on Whadjuk Noongar Boodja. She graduated from Edith Cowan University with a Bachelor of Visual Art in 1999 and has since continued to practice and exhibit. Since leaving university, Robyn has had seven solo shows exhibiting her installations and paper works around Boorloo.

Robyn works with reclaimed paper materials as an environmental response to art making. Her practice elevates these materials; altering their perceived value and challenging people's perceptions about the materials they usually throw away. The works take on a value-added life of their own, and the viewer can be forgiven for considering the made and presented objects are of precious materials, given the jewel like crafting that Robyn employs.

Contact Information

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Instagram: @robynbernadt

Hugh BRESLIN

Artist Statement

My research for *Placemarks* is based on a profound interest in the Yellagonga wetlands, north of Perth. This work seeks to capture the experience of movement and light through subtle shifts of colour and texture to evoke a sense of place. My intention through this work is to leave the viewer with sufficient space for reflection, invention and curiosity to create own experiences.

Biography

Hugh Breslin's practice involves using mixed media to create a sense of calm and contemplation through exploration of nature.

Hugh completed a Bachelor of Contemporary Arts in 2021 and his work has been acquired by several Australian artists and collections. As an emerging artist, Hugh is seeking to expand his research-based and artistic practice through collaborations with other artists.

Contact Information

Instagram: @hughbreslin.art

Shanti GELMI

Artist Statement

I recently happened across an old paper sewing pattern which instantly transported me to one of my childhood homes, specifically my mother's sewing room. It was a small but magical room where notions entered, and exquisite garments emerged. I recall the excitement of occasionally being permitted to handle fabric slivers and beads and searching the carpeted floor under the industrial machines for treasures, often to feel the sting of a pin or needle in the knee. Paper sewing patterns, pearl pins, lace and beading crystals were a staple in the workroom and the scraps we were allowed to rummage around became fashionable clothing for our Barbie Dolls.

Biography

Shanti Gelmi uses a multidisciplinary approach to explore the complexities of human connection, identity, and behaviour. Employing both conceptual and process driven techniques, she explores form and structure as a metaphor for interconnected existences, memory, and experience.

Shanti's meditative practice of questioning, drawing, cutting, and making has yielded a unique visual language representing biological, environmental, cultural, societal, and emotional linkages of experience and memory into schemas of existence. These schemas can also be read as nets which can hold firmly but are permeable. Shanti considers these nets to be analogous to how we absorb and experience the external world and mediate it through our understanding and memory. Process-driven rules employed in the work are resonant with the societal constructs which often shape one's place in the world.

Shanti completed a Bachelor of Contemporary Arts at Edith Cowan University in 2020 and is represented in the University's Art Collection. She has been awarded prizes for her work, several funding opportunities from the Australian Government and two National Graduate Exhibitions and residencies in 2021. Shanti was commissioned by Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts to develop her solo 'Shadowed', exhibited in 2021 into a Virtual Reality experience in 2022 and her work is published in national and international art publications.

Contact Information

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Louise GRIMSHAW

Artist Statement

They were Ten-Pound Poms. Sold the promise of prosperity they left England for Australia in 1959 as a family of four. The Bridport farm was in debt, and they believed they could earn the money needed to save it working abroad for a short period. Arriving in Melbourne though they soon realised it wouldn't be possible and that they would never return to their beloved home ever again. These images, the last moments of them on English soil before their epic journey marked a significant point in my family history and changed the Chapman narrative forever. I explored this project in an abstracted manner, combining projected image with large scale suspended paper sculptures.

Biography

Louise is a multi-disciplinary artist, Prop Maker and Arts Technician. Her practice encompasses various mediums chiefly: Printmaking, Sculpture and Installation. Louise is both process-driven and conceptual in her approach to art making, often using her work as a means of inquiry into the cyclical nature of existence and the meaning and purpose of repetition in the cycles of life and death. Although traditional in her technical approach she often employs innovative methods and materials to push the boundaries of the mediums she engages. Louise's most recent works have utilised diverted waste or recycled materials as a way of exploring concept. Her approach to subject from a variety of angles creates a rich and complex body of work that invites contemplation and reflection.

Louise's Artist Book *Ethereal Worlds* was selected as a finalist in the *Libris Awards: The Australian Artists' Book Prize*, Artspace Mackay 2018, and Printworks have been exhibited *Between the Sheets: Artist Books Exhibition* at Gallery Central in Northbridge 2019 and *Guanlan International Print Biennial* at the China Printmaking Museum in Shenzhen, China 2019. Louise was awarded First Prize for her sculptural work *Under Expectation*, Womxn: Spectrum Project Space, Mount Lawley 2020, Art and Australia Award for *Eternal Seasons* ArtsHum: School of Arts and Humanities Graduate Exhibition 2020 and DarnArt Recycled Award *Cumulonimbus* Dunsborough Arts Festival: Sculpture by the Bay, Western Australia 2023. Louise completed a Bachelor of Performing Arts from Edith Cowan University in 2021 and currently works from Holmes Studio Forrestfield.

Contact Information

Instagram: @grimshaw.louise

Rebecca HEPWORTH

Artist Statement

With *Boundless* I explore 'childhood', through a phenomenological lens, as a 'place' to revisit memories and associations through the process of intuitive and reflexive drawing. I created a series of drawings, and illustrations, based on my memories, family photographs and drawings created throughout childhood reminiscing on a time and space that once was, as well as what has been lost, and gained, during the in-between space.

Biography

Rebecca Hepworth is a Western Australian artist and illustrator working predominantly in drawing and painting with a variety of methods and materials.

Her current work revolves around experimenting and combining different mediums and source imagery to create new scenes, personal meaning, and unexpected analogies. She is interested in human nature and expressions, relationships, animals, and our shared environments. The inspiration for much of Hepworth's work is found in scenes of everyday life, children's picture books, fashion magazines, advertising campaigns, and nature.

Contact Information

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Kristy SCADDAN

Artist Statement

The town of my childhood has a particular coastal scent and that is the only memory of place that is truly familiar when re-visiting. Temporary textures and transient faces wash in and out with the wind, existing briefly. Details last long enough to capture in a photograph, leaving an ephemeral imprint in the landscape and a lasting one on film.

Heading back to my hometown I photographed the ever-changing environment to document the forgotten markings. With this printmaking process I trap moments in time that hold a 'Placemark' of the ever-changing patterns and formations.

Biography

Kristy Scaddan's practice is an ongoing exploration of interactions and relationships formed through a range of embodied encounters with urban fringe sites in Western Australia. Photographic and print-based processes are often employed in dialogue with object-based and spatial configurations that address ecological disruption, environmental change, and a metaphysical connection to place. This multidisciplinary approach has emerged from extensive site-specific fieldwork that permeates her practice through a deep engagement with the materiality of place.

Kristy completed her Bachelor of Contemporary Arts at Edith Cowan University in 2021 and is currently a finalist in the Fremantle Arts Centre 2023 Print Awards. Kristy has work in the ECU collection, is a guest curator for Mundaring Art Centre and was an exhibiting artist for the Goolugatup Invitational (recent graduate) exhibition in 2022.

Contact Information

Instagram: @kristy.scaddan

Brianne SHARP

Artist Statement

Memories of a place are often altered as we try to recall them over time. The way we recall a place of significance from our past is built around our emotional connection to that memory and how we felt at that place in time. The stronger our emotional connection to a place is, the easier it is to recall details from that time, but for others it may be almost lost.

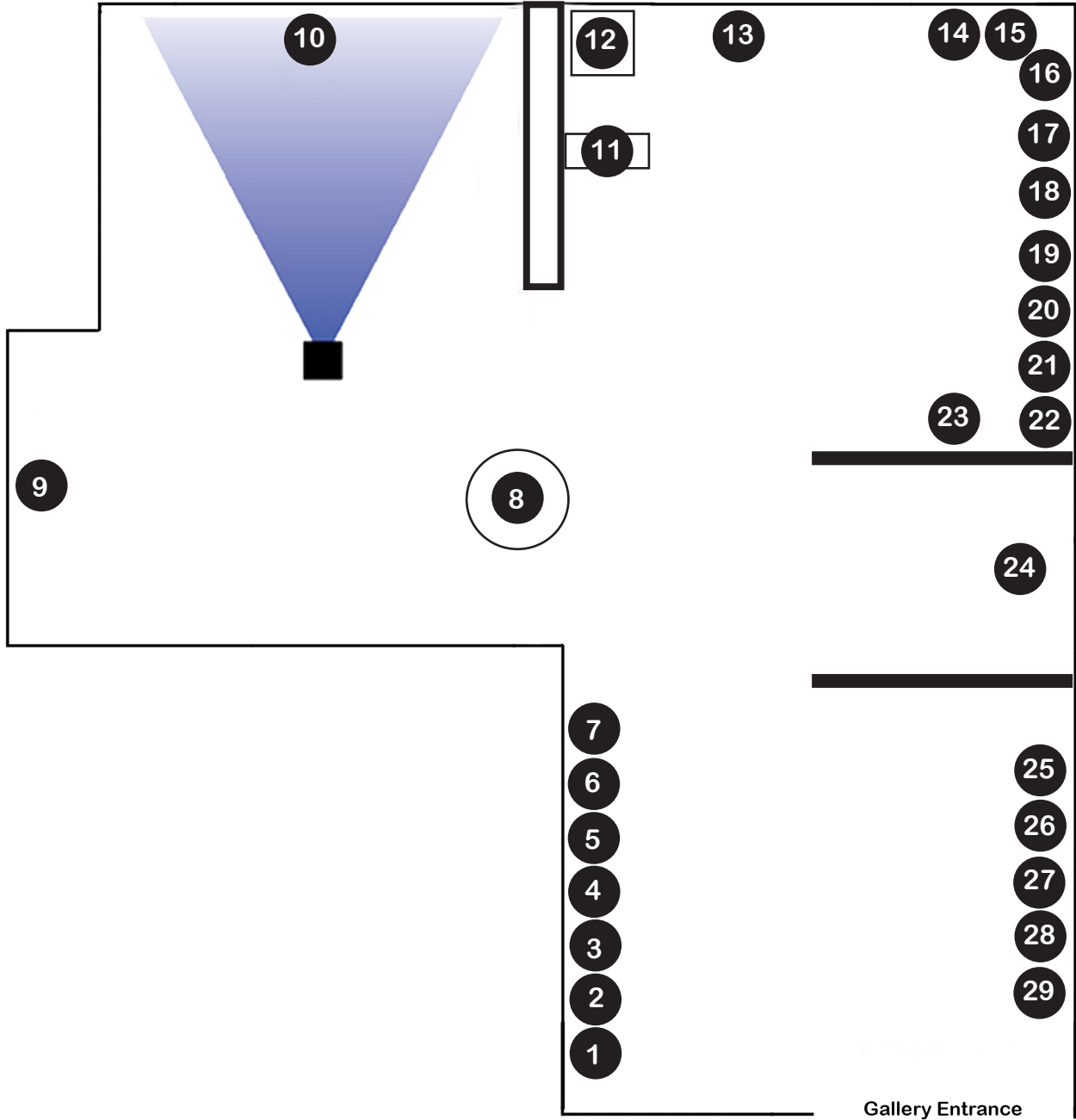
Settle explores how memory can transform a place. Growing up away from my extended family, my strongest memories of my grandparents' home is of their dining table. A place we wouldn't get to visit often, the dining table is the heart of their home, always set and ready, waiting for visitors. A place where I would sit as a child and watch the dynamics of my family unfold, all the moving parts coming together to create a place of belonging and connection. Then, a few days later we would be gone, and my grandparents dining table would become a place of nostalgia. Over time the dining table has become synonymous to feelings of connection, nostalgia, and loss.

Biography

Brianne Sharp is an emerging artist from Perth, Western Australia, graduating in 2022 from Edith Cowan University with a Bachelor of Contemporary Arts. Her work incorporates glassworks, painting, sculpture, and installation with a focus on materiality and the act of making itself. Through her work, she aims to navigate the complexities of our relationship with ourselves, investigating aspects of identity and memory. She works towards having a sustainable practice, using predominately recycled materials, and found objects in her work.

Contact Information

Instagram: @briannesharp



List of Works

- 1 Robyn Bernadt, *Landscape Construction #1*, 2022, Found Paper. 28.5 x 32.5cm, \$430
- 2 Robyn Bernadt, *Landscape Construction #2*, 2022, Found Paper. 32.4 x 37.4cm, \$430
- 3 Robyn Bernadt, *Landscape Construction #3*, 2022, Found Paper. 40.4 x 35.5cm, \$430
- 4 Robyn Bernadt, *Landscape Construction #4*, 2022, Found Paper. 32 x 36.5cm, \$430
- 5 Robyn Bernadt, *Landscape Construction #5*, 2022, Found Paper. 37.5 x 19.4cm, \$430
- 6 Robyn Bernadt, *Landscape Construction #6*, 2022, Found Paper. 32.4 x 37.4cm, \$430
- 7 Robyn Bernadt, *Landscape Construction #7*, 2022, Found Paper. 42.4 x 32.2cm, \$430
- 8 Brianne Sharp, *Settle*, 2023, Cast kiln formed float glass setting. Various dimensions, EOI
- 9 Hugh Breslin, *Yellagonga*, 2023, Oil on Canvas Triptych. 160 x 50 x 3.5cm, 160 x 100 x 3.5cm, 160 x 50 x 3.5cm, \$2400
- 10 Louise Grimshaw, *The Fairsky*, 2023, 70gsm Okawara Paper Sculpture Installation. 97cm x 10m with Projection. EOI
- 11 Kristy Scaddan, *Impermanent Artist Book I*, 2023, Solvent Transfer on 300gsm Hahnemuehle. Closed size 15 x 15cm, \$290
- 12 Kristy Scaddan, *Impermanent Artist Book II*, 2023, Solvent Transfer on 300gsm Hahnemuehle. Open size 118 x 16cm, \$170
- 13 Kristy Scaddan, *Impermanent*, 2023, Solvent Transfer and Paper Lithography on Rice Paper Installation. Various dimensions, EOI
- 14 Rebecca Hepworth, *Bella*, 2023, Framed Graphite on 200gsm Saunders watercolour Paper. 50 x 60cm, \$500
- 15 Rebecca Hepworth, *Wardrobe Malfunction*, 2023, Framed Pastel and Monoprint on 245gsm Stonehenge Paper. 50 x 60cm, \$500

- 16 Rebecca Hepworth, *Better Than 2 in the Bush*, 2023, Watercolour on 300gsm Saunders Paper. 40 x 40cm, \$300
- 17 Rebecca Hepworth, *It's More Afraid Than You*, 2023, Pastel on 300gsm Art Spectrum Colourfix Pastel Paper. 50 x 70cm, \$400
- 18 Rebecca Hepworth, *Apple of My Eye*, 2023, Oil on Canvas. 20 x 20.4cm, \$200
- 19 Rebecca Hepworth, *Fly the Coop*, 2023, Pastel on 300gsm Art Spectrum Colourfix Pastel Paper. 100 x 140 cm, \$700
- 20 Rebecca Hepworth, *Learning Curve*, 2023, Oil on found Canvas. 15 x 14.5cm, \$200
- 21 Rebecca Hepworth, *Kids are a Pain in the Neck, Amiright?*, 2020, Watercolour and Pencil on Paper. 30 x 42cm, \$200
- 22 Rebecca Hepworth, *Wide Open Spaces*, 2023, Graphite and pencil on 300gsm Lana Watercolour Paper. 38 x 57cm, \$300
- 23 Rebecca Hepworth, *Boundless*, 2023, Graphite and Watercolour on 300gsm Saunders Watercolour Paper. 56 x 76cm, \$500
- 24 Shanti Gelmi, *Notions*, 2023, Mixed media installation, screen printed and found small vintage sewing patterns on made timber spools, found Indian newspapers, oak dowel needles with shellac, linen thread with artists own audio. EOI
- 25 Robyn Bernadt, *Fan #1*, 2023, Found Paper. 36 x 19cm, \$70
- 26 Robyn Bernadt, *Fan #2*, 2023, Found Paper. 36 x 19cm, \$70
- 27 Robyn Bernadt, *Fan #3*, 2023, Found Paper. 36 x 19cm, \$70
- 28 Robyn Bernadt, *Fan #4*, 2023, Found Paper. 36 x 19cm, \$70
- 29 Robyn Bernadt, *Fan #5*, 2023, Found Paper. 36 x 19cm, \$70