

Elsbeth Jones - a Life in Art - an Artful Life



Nimbin artist Elspeth Jones isn't fussed about a name for her exhibition at the Nimbin Regional Gallery. "Think of it as an archeological dig," she said. "It's not a retrospective," she said. "It's more like a diary."

Her large collection of artworks from high school and art school to the present are displayed on walls, on tables, in workbooks, and pegged to the clotheslines that dissect the space. "It's like I'm hanging out in my dirty laundry, and I suppose I am," Elspeth said.

There are works in oil, acrylic, watercolour, chalk, but the predominant medium is charcoal, utilising a wide range of styles and subjects - family portraits, life drawing, landscapes, poster art - which represent people, places and events which have been important in her life.

"My mother collected everything, I mean literally everything that I did, so when she died I inherited it all back, and it's been sitting

in boxes for a few years waiting for me to work out what I'm going to do with it," Elspeth said. "Well this is it." These days Elspeth is considered a 'public artist' who, working mostly on a commission basis, has painted huge murals throughout the area, including the Evans Head Post Office.

In 1993 she helped create the Nimbin Museum, winner of the 1999 Culture and Heritage Award, and today her work appears on shopfronts and walls, in private houses, on banners, flags, posters, websites, t-shirts and even vehicles, including the famous Peacebus.

By contrast, her images on display have a compelling intimacy. They amply show Elspeth's keen eye and confident hand, but even more they reveal tantalising insights into the private world of this prolific local artist.

The exhibition closes on Monday 12th November.



Looking out at Blue Knob

'Looking Out - Looking In' is Blue Knob Hall Gallery's latest exhibition. Fifteen local and regional artists have included works that have been inspired by our beautiful rainbow region and beyond.

The strong theme of this exhibition is based on the artists' experiences of special times, special places and special people.

The sleeping giant of Mount Warning dominates Robert Jackson's views from home, and so his oil paintings show the mountain from several aspects. Shirley Miller has spent much time painting out in the deserts of Australia and so her gouache 'Rock

Pool Series' from Alice Springs is a strong reminder of her special time out there.

Adrian Ward's carved camphor laurel bust of 'Ken', a local Nimbin identity and ex-Vietnam veteran who died earlier this year, is a beautiful tribute to a very special person. Warwick Saxby's exquisite Australian White Beech 'The Cube' is a clever literal translation of the title of his show.

Leigh Arnold's hebel and glass gothic window titled 'Looking Out - Looking In' is a new direction he is taking with his work. Paul Roguszka's coachwood and ebonised blackbutt 'Twin

Cabinets on Side Table' are a beautiful example of his meticulous woodworking skills.

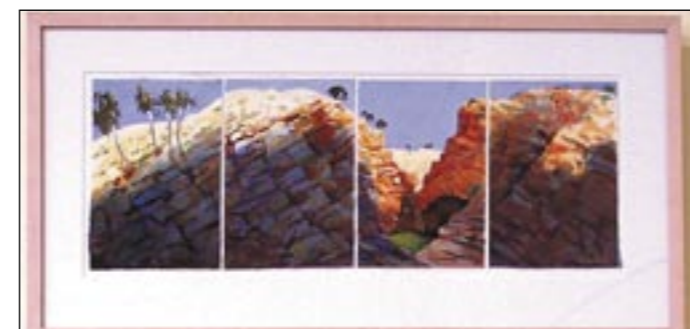
We also have some powerful paintings from well-known artist Ruth Rich, who recently had a solo exhibition and cinema evening at the Gallery. Ruth's work is a testament to her incredible journey as a surviving child whose family were killed during the Holocaust, and how she has been able to work through and look within to start the healing process.

Other artists included in the show are Anthea Moffatt oils on canvas, Geert Cole stained glass, Mac

McMahon hebel, Claire L'Arivee mixed media on canvas, Robin Moore oils on board, Diana McCartney-Filgate watercolours on paper, Susanne Waldon watercolours on paper, Helena Herendi felt and mixed media, Francisco Janssen mixed media sculpture.

This show will be open Wednesdays to Sundays 10-4pm till Sunday 2nd December.

On Show. Robert Jackson, Pelican's Rest (below), Robin Moore, Caldera Dawn (top right), Shirley Miller, Hidden Pool Series - Alice Springs (right).



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Nimbin Central School - Girls' Artwork

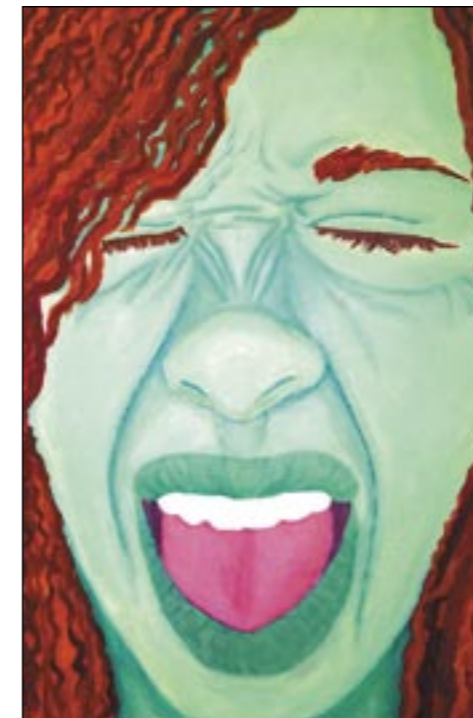
High school students at Nimbin's K-12 school specially like Visual Arts. The art teachers Cath Marshall and Marg Canning live locally, and have helped the school build a strong reputation on its achievements in both art and photography.

This year, the girls have been producing works for use in a community safety project, producing images on themes that are aspects of the experience of women and girls.

Reproduced with kind permission are works by (left to right): Morrigan Biscoe, Sarah Layer and Tegwyn Evans.

The school's HSC major art works, by an all-girl class, will be on display in the MPU for the rest of this Term, and are well worth a look.

For your diary: the final performing arts Bahzooley for the year will be held Friday 30th November in the school's MPU.



Social Life - getting Out and About



Around Town. Happy Nimbinites and others, snapped at: the Nim-Fm 8th Birthday party, the Nightcap Forest Ball, and the Pink Ribbon Day fundraiser at the Bowlo, where Matilda looked happy in Che's arms, and at the opening of Nimbin's newest eatery, The Spangled Drongo.

At right, poster for the doco to be screened exclusively at the Blue Knob Hall & Gallery on on Sunday 2nd and Monday 3rd December at 7.15 pm.



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