

2021

City of Rockingham

1 -16 May 2021

9am – 4pm daily

ART

AWARDS

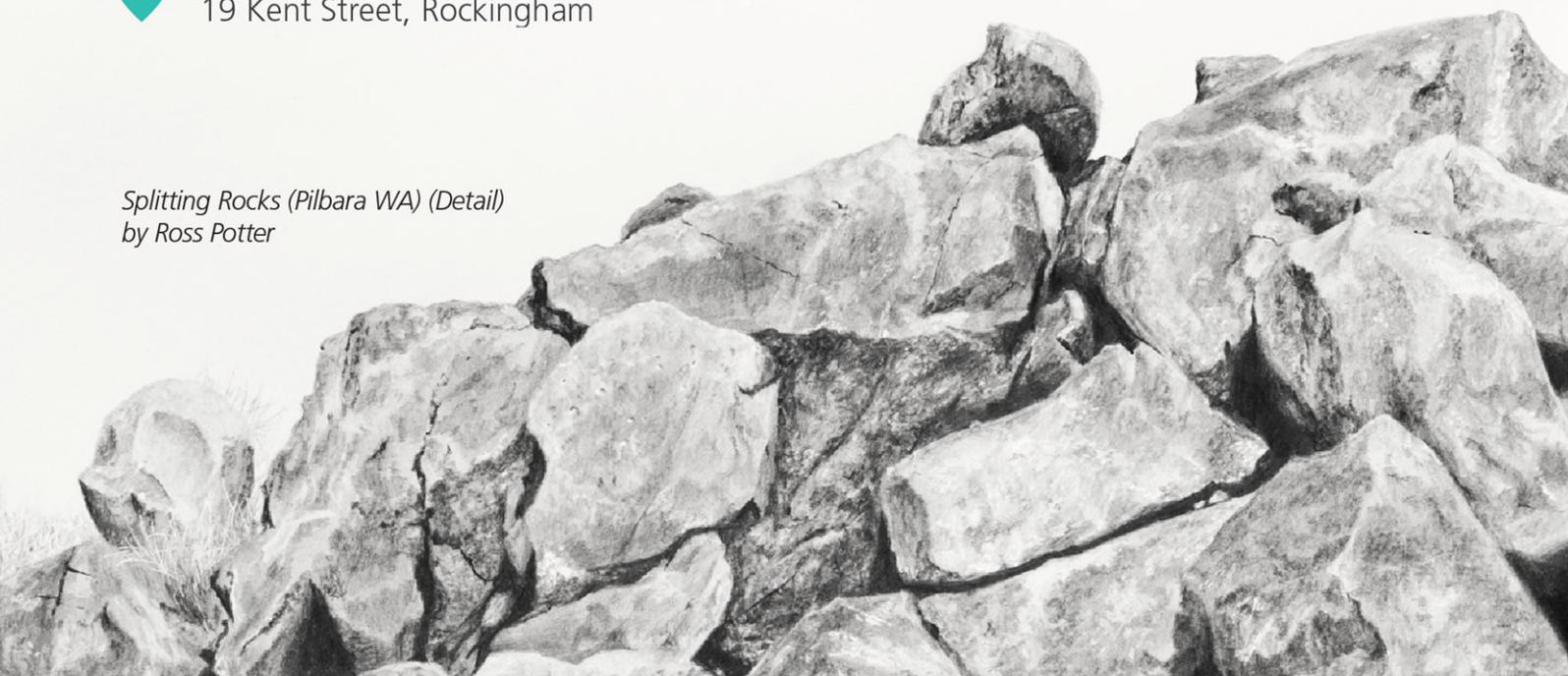
Artist Statements

Responding to theme Connection

 **Rockingham Art Centre,**
11 Kent Street, Rockingham

 **Gary Holland Community Centre,**
19 Kent Street, Rockingham

Splitting Rocks (Pilbara WA) (Detail)
by Ross Potter



rockingham.wa.gov.au



where the coast comes to life

1. Courtney Aaron

Ne-yameng

Ne-yameng is a fond childhood memory of the beautiful everlasting flowers blooming on country during Kambarang, springtime. The ancestors are protecting those who tread lightly on Noongar country and my love of country and the connection to Boodja is part of who I am.

2. Michelle Ayre

The Dolphin and the Sea

The Dolphin and the Sea is inspired by the beautiful beach of Rockingham and the dolphins of the sea. The Rockingham foreshore brings families together to swim, to enjoy meals, to connect to nature and to see the dolphins in their natural habitat.

3. Megan Baker

Restore

Using an aged worn tea towel, I wanted to explore physical ways of representing the patching and mending often needed to maintain connections.

4. Nicholas Bernardi

The Busker

The Busker is connecting with us through his playing and singing. This theme is continued through the notes on the digital revolving billboard and onto the public phone, and then onto the train station just around the corner from the Transperth sign.

5. Natalie Bird

Blackwall Nostalgia 1.

Connection to self through nature: our deep reliance on human-made constructs can cause us to feel disconnected from others, and crucially, from our authentic selves. *Blackwall Nostalgia 1.*, explores the ways in which the natural environment can cultivate improved personal wellbeing, which in turn can positively affect meaningful social connections.

6. Sharon Bunter

Feeling Blue - a self-portrait

Alone in my pit of angst, hoping for hands to reach down, but I am blind in the darkness of fear and confusion. Yearning for a welcoming heart, accepting eyes, listening ears, and gentle voice. Needing connection to another soul.

7. Peter Burns

Lapping of the Waves

From 1887 to 2020 this great artist, Anders Zorn, talked to me through time showing me the compositional secrets of his painting, *Lapping of the Waves*. A long lasting connection exists within every painting that an artist creates for future generations to listen to. Peter Burns after Anders Zorn.

8. Jacq Chorlton

Gum Tree

Outside my studio, I am greeted every morning by a beautiful flowering gum tree. It attracts the birds and the bees. Sometimes it even knocks on my studio roof when a gumnut falls to let me know it is still there. It is my own connection to nature.

9. Carol Clitheroe

K Battery Pt Peron 1942

A connection to place and history. Two gun emplacements, search lights and headquarters were constructed at Pt Peron to help protect the community from attack from the sea. People united to fight for their freedom. The remains of these structures forges a stronger connection to our past and continued independence.

10. Arthur Collard

In the shadows

The artwork represents the connection between land, flora and animals. The background is the stories of the dreamtime. This is how I connect to my culture with the land, animals and story.

11. Nicola Commons

Bush Telegraph

Bush Telegraph provokes thoughts of informal means of communication, but the new modern-day bush telegraph provides instant connection of both local gossip and worldwide information. It has not only changed our everyday lives and relationships with each other, but our natural landscapes also. Let's not lose our connection with nature.

12. Daveena Cox

Plan Bee

Venturing out, I ask people to sit for portraits, making new connections with friends of friends. We talk...and some how we all fit together.

13. Marco D'Adamo

City Gathering

The city is a great place to catch up with old friends and recent people who you have encountered. I believe that social interaction is vital for living a long and complete life.

14. Kerrie Di Cataldo

In Safe Hands

Connecting – a safe haven for our unique wildlife with dedicated carers devoted to the rehabilitation of all manner of native critters. Whether orphaned or injured, many native animals, reptiles and birds are rehabilitated by volunteers at wildlife rescue shelters. Australia's poor environmental record highlights the importance of rearing, rehabilitating, and returning all native wildlife to a safe and healthy habitat.

15. Kimberly de Graauw

Newsfeed vs Nature

Technology allows us to reach countless people. We want connection, so we live through devices. But what do we get? Put the phone down. Look, touch, smell, listen to what's in front of you. Nature, like all things in life, thrives on connection. Feel connection, not connected.

16. Chandy de Wit

Meet the Locals

Connected to the ocean, the Weedy Sea Dragon is such a work of art. This beautiful creature has a magnificent history and hopefully its future isn't in the past? We are all in some way connected to the ocean.

17. Lorraine Defleur

The Kiss in Turmoil

"It is in the kiss, in the only kiss that we sometimes believe we feel this impossible union of souls that we are chasing, this confusion of failing hearts."

- Guy de Maupassant

18. Michael Doherty

Night View - Safety Bay Road

Since moving close to Safety Bay, I've felt a great connection with the community and love of the sea. The Bay named by John Septimus Roe in 1837, as an ideal anchorage point is literally that for the community. My painting is about viewing its everlasting mood and light.

19. Lara Ford

Love Endures

Exploring disconnections between something/someone lost, broken or sacrificed but how love can continue on. Love connects and endures in a gift or through memory - despite trial, disconnection and obscurity of modern life, technology, change or death. Love is greater than all the things that could disconnect us.

20. Thomas Goates

One More Game

One More Game explores the connection that players share in contemporary video games. The work utilises the visual language of video game technologies through digital and pen drawing. The work contributes to the theme by displaying two users working together to complete a shared objective within an intense digital environment.

21. Elayne Greaves

The Early Morning Breeze

My Grandmother taught me to connect with the faeries when I was little, and they are still with me, much loved and respected, even though I am now a Grandmother myself. I am passing this relationship on to my children and their children; in doing so, we connect with my grandmother and her mother forever.

22. Paul Green

Wazawai Dreams

This artwork is a connection of East and West with both subtle and conspicuous references aiming to draw contemplation on issues relating to urbanisation. The Kanji parts of the piece will give some viewers thoughts of karma and humans' connections to nature through the Law of the Universe.

23. Alison Hanrahan

Mates - The Strength of Connection

As I consider mateship, I think of service personnel and their dedication to duty, their bonds of friendship and loyalty. My artwork incorporating the Flanders Poppy and significant dates, depicts a comparison with the Australian Magpie, known to congregate with other members to protect their feeding and nesting territory. Connection through mateship, a unique Australian value!

24. Ann Hart

Cultural Fringes

Solitude captured by colour, light and mood; a complex and illusive tapestry of colour and form. It is not unlike the Aussie way with its multicultural melting pot. The intense light casts strong shadows obscuring my identity while the frayed fringes of my hat remind me of my cultural fragility.

25. Maitland Hill

Booladarlung, Trust, Respect, Sharing

This piece reflects the modern way of life in juxtaposition with the traditional Nyoongar way of living a sustainable life. Nyoongar people are wearing modern clothing, but holding spears in their hands. Booladarlung (Pelican) story is that he was too greedy and stuffed his beak with fish so that egret could not have any. One day a dingo attacked the fat Booladarlung and skinny egret rescued him. Be kind and respectful.

26. Leon Holmes

The Uber

What started as a way to tap a button to get a ride has led to billions of moments of human connection as people go all kinds of places in all kinds of ways with the help of the Uber Ride Sharing Technology.

27. Andy Kent

The Islands

In this work I have explored the connection to place. There would be few people in Perth who haven't gazed out from the coast at the islands of the sound, who do not find a connection to the coast and the islands, who's life hasn't been enhanced by them.

28. Rebecca Kerbey

Conjoined Acquaintances

This work explores interconnection through a layering of images of young women who are experiencing a sense of a change through new experiences. The process of monotype I have employed is, in turn, a process of interconnection using diverse mediums of printmaking, painting and drawing.

29. Caroline Kerr

She Stands Between the Beach and the Ocean

The coastline is forever evolving, containing a myriad of natural wonders deeply connected to the history and culture of Rockingham. The vase is digitally designed and 3D printed in a mixture of local clays. Various glazes abstractly represent the natural beauty of the beaches and lakes of Rockingham that forge community connection.

30. Samantha Laird

Family Tree

For me, connection means getting together with family and friends. It's about putting the electronic devices aside and spending quality time together to strengthen relationships. Time spent with loved ones provides opportunities to identify and connect with each other.

31. Shorena Laue

A Treasure of Memories

When our loved ones are no longer in our presence, and our relationship with them becomes impossible in this world, we are left with a heartache no one can heal. Memories' magical power can transform the pain of loss into the joy of spiritual and imaginal connection with those we still hold dear in our hearts and minds.

32. Elizabeth Law

Together The Road Ahead

Connecting to our fellow human beings is as old as time itself and will always be a necessity to life. Technology is a valuable, modern phenomena and connects us with each other but the human physical touch and a smile is priceless.

33. Bronagh Legge

A Quick Response to Rocko

This artwork is about Rockingham's connection with their past and present. Using the symbolic organic wood, I have created a QR replica of two different codes: one being a link to a historical 1950s image of Rockingham's past from the archive; and a google map link to represent the present.

34. Mary Jane Lemmey

Young At Heart

Dances are held several times a week at the Autumn Centre. Great friendships are formed and the lovely music, movement and the mental challenge of learning all the different dances keeps seniors happy, healthy and young at heart.

35. Jane Li

Stairway to Nature

When I saw the stairway connecting the land and the sea, I felt it connected me with nature. Every time I visit Penguin Island I am amazed at the abundance of wildlife, such as pelican, turns, swallow and on the beach a variety of crabs, star fish and sea urchins.

36. Robyn Long

Water Supporting Life

Inspired by a visit to the beach, enjoying moments, free from distractions. I found myself pondering the scientific mystery of water molecules, two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom, constantly disconnecting and reconnecting. This amazing molecule occupies every living cell, recycled throughout time, connecting all life, past, present and future.

37. Michelle Maliepaard

Future on Horizon

Closely together we walk tall seeking a life that our child will have filled with joy and opportunities. As humans are all porcelain and fragile facing the future of unknown disasters.

38. Elizabeth Marpole

Fibre Falls

Fibre Falls is a mountain-scape made of found recycled plastic that is knitted together. It is representing the environmental impact that micro-plastic has on our planet and as humans we can work together to reduce the amount of plastic we use in our households

39. Wayne McGowan

Lunch with Kaws

Here, works derived through appropriation - that is, Kaws (aka Brain Donnelly) and Manet's "Luncheon in the park" (Dejeuner sur l'Herbe) - comments on our connectedness to the past (Manet) and the present (Kaws) by recontextualising them within a contemporary Australian setting through the use of Australian iconography.

40. Hanae Meyer

Esther (and I)

Esther, my mother, currently shares my studio. It can cause tension. It can also spark ideas. We differ wildly in our creative practice, yet communicate in a shared language of craftsmanship. This is our connection, what I continue to learn from her, the remnants of her work woven into mine.

41. Olive Monte

Secunda Nomine

Secunda Nomine, latin for 'renamed', explores contrasting connections between geographical areas of historical and cultural importance for Rockingham communities. While sites including Cape Peron Battery Complexes and Lake Richmond's heritage and purpose differ significantly, the landscape's distinct features and flora powerfully bridge these physical places, histories, ideas, stories, and values.

42. Linda Montgomery

Poppies are Special

A reminder of the sacrifices that have occurred throughout our history - so many lives lost. Poppies symbolise rebirth. They regrow annually, reminding us of the determination of mankind to overcome the futility of war and its far-reaching devastation. I love Poppies growing in my special garden.

43. Karin Morris

A Place To Be

This place in the river, where my friends and I go canoeing weekly, develops connections. Conversations and time spent with other people creates social connections as well as connections to the natural environment. Both are grounding experiences which instil a sense of peace and happiness.

44. Christine Morton

Narratives in the Debris

Narratives in the Debris is a mixed media work in resin and found objects holding more than their superficial triviality. Objects that link time and place, creating narrative and linking us through the joy of the familiar; collated as pure art elements, striving to balance shape and colour within a framework of story.

45. Steph Moses

Offline

Time to disconnect and see the sea. Connect with those around you. See your circle of friends and family. Like fish in the sea, we can just be Offline.

46. Lurlene Murray

Family Values

The love and connection that I feel for wildlife seems acknowledged when they introduce their young offspring to me. This has happened with a variety of different types of birds. This captures the moment the Galah pair first bring their youngster in.

47. Janice O'Meara

Hope

During the months of December and January I, like many, grappled with emotions when wildfires devastated our beautiful country. Towards the end a photo was taken of nature at it's best. New shoots, new life rising from the ashes. I have admiration with the connections made to support all.

48. Myles O'Neill

Misunderstanding

Misunderstanding is about the two coloured orbs that are opposite but attracted, and still trying to hold each other's hand even though the other hands try to tear them apart.

49. William Hugh O'Brien

Lost in Abstraction

My painting represents a person who is disconnected and lost in the modern world. Most people these days struggle to understand modern music, modern art and modern technology. It all seems to be moving too fast and we feel left behind and confused.

50. Eugene O'Sullivan

Tell Your Own Story One Day at a Time

In a big country tell your own story one day at a time.

51. Leesa Padget

Baggage

European occupation of Australia brought many connections that still cause havoc today. This piece was inspired by a late night photography venture to 'John in the Wilderness' church in the town of Beverley. The ghostly apparition of the invasive Red Fox in the church graveyard was a vision that remained with me long after.

52. Julie Park

Best Friends

The perfect connection between human and animal. A perfect connection to the wonderful scenery at Point Peron. Magnificent ocean scenery, wind in your hair and overwhelming joy to feel alive.

53. Jackie Peach

Pending Storm

Having grown up by the ocean I feel deeply connected to it. From hot summer days to cold blustery winters, my family albums are full of snaps of under the beach umbrella, swimming, exploring the reefs and rock pools and boating to Rottnest. My favourite theme is painting the beach and ocean.

54. Annette Peterson

In the Still I Could Hear the Birds Nest

How we connect to where we live, in suburban Perth, is vitally important. Place perception shapes and influences how we see where we live, and is the combination of place identity and place attachment. Lucy Lippard (1997) argues that the health of society is dependent on our appreciation of place.

55. Anita Phillips

These Things, I did not Know...

Fascinated by the Causeway as it stretches away from the mainland, I chose to focus on Mangles Bay and Garden Island for this piece. While researching, I learnt about the Noongar peoples' history of connection with Meeandip, and felt compelled to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the island...

6. Jacinta Posik

A Father's Presence

Embracing the connection we have with our dad, the translucency in his face is symbolic of the fragility of life and the constant presence he's maintained since his passing. An element of concern washes over his face showing the connection he holds as we undertake our daily lives. By painting overlapping portraits simultaneously in the same layer it connects dad's influence in the last 16 and 14 years of our lives, shaping the individuals that we are today.

57. Ross Potter

Splitting Rocks (Pilbara WA)

Cloven by time and temperature, this seemingly delicate placement of jagged obstructions decorate the land with idle formations. Moulding ever so slowly beyond our comprehension, the sturdy minerals become markers for countless stories throughout history and harnessed correctly, evolve into essential tools for survival on this hard land.

58. Madeline Potter

Us

I chose to portray our connectedness to nature through the eye of the human; how as we perceive the world around us we are inherently connected to every single piece of what we see, from the food we eat to the rocks formed in the ground.

59. Carlota Rivera

Western Heaven

This is my heaven, my connection to WA. The farm where the moment was captured and my in-laws live, my hardworking husband who took some minutes to hold Maya, creating the visual metaphor of heaven. Photography connects me to my father and the desire to express myself.

60. Penny Rulyancich

Along the Forrest Highway

Painted appoximatly June/July when COVID was keeping us all at home. I was portraying the importance of getting out amongst the trees, to breathe and enjoy the simple things we sometimes take for granted.

61. Therese Rustand

Lest We Forget

ANZAC Day is like no other day in our nation. This day, connects Australians from all walks of life. A tradition that evolves and expands every year, as we stand together to show respect and remember those who served and sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

62. Anastasia Scala

Highgate Cemetery

The painting depicts *Highgate Cemetery* in London. Cemeteries grant people a connection to past generations who have left us but remain in our memories. Even centuries on, the living can feel a connection with the dead by visiting their resting place. Graves also reconnect the dead with the earth.

63. Ciara Sewell

Safety Blanket

Experimentation with traditional printmaking processes and the physicality of plaster, a nontraditional printmaking material reminiscent of the home, have been used in the creation of these works. Through documentation of tender and gentle moments within the home, the invaluable and unexpected connections found in mundane everyday life are revealed.

64. Robert Shawcross

Coastal Rocks of Cape Arid

My painting depicts the connection that I have with the beauty of the natural world. It is my consolation that this rugged rocky coastline will continue to remain unchanged in timeless beauty long after the human race has ultimately destroyed itself out of existence.

65. Jenny Shepherdson

Once Upon A Time There Was...

How will our world look without bees? A world without bees would mean a world without fruit, vegetables, nuts, seeds, and animals that eat these plants. Bees connect us to our healthy food sources. They are becoming extinct. We need to save them. The Race is on.

66. Sarcha Simpson

Cold and alone

The new days of electronics and wifi have taken people to a world where we live behind a screen Koo. It strips us down to nothing and gives horrid expectations of your body. Your head is no longer yours and the touch of real people no longer exists. You become cold and alone.

67. Lorri Skinner

Love Letters

The love letters included in my artwork reminded me of the deep connectedness I felt anticipating and receiving letters. I found myself wondering if in this fast, multitasking digital world, we haven't lost the personal touch in our communicating. Does it give us the intimacy and connectedness we all need?

68. Anne Sorensen

Blue Wrens

I fear that we have lost our connection to our physical world. Advances in technology have us relying on our computers and phones as central to our everyday life. Respecting our natural environment and making changes to look after our planet are imperative. Paying homage to the creatures in it.

69. Liliana Stafford

Pathways

This piece is about our connection to the natural world. In a time of high speed wifi we need to remember how to stay in touch with nature. I am fascinated by the unseen made visible: an invisible wind moving a visible leaf. This too, is connection.

70. Karen Starkie

Building Community

Clear blue skies, calm waters, white sandy beaches, people of all races standing together like tall buildings of all shapes, colours and sizes, connecting with each other and the magnificent wonders of nature in this beautiful place.

71. Nicole Steenhof

Indelible Mark

Consider the indelible mark of a storm as it hits the coastline; a storm significant enough to become a marker of time. The power of it consolidates a sense of connection and community between those who lived through this shared experience, although apart, in their own homes.

72. Michelle Stuart

Helpers

The natural world is one of our oldest teachers. It has many things to show us if we are willing to listen and learn. We are connected to the whole planet and everything on it, just like a tree, a mountain, a bird, and the clever Octopus.

73. Justin Swed

Venn Diagram Tea and Testament – Figure 3

A Venn Diagram is an illustration which uses circles to represent the relationship(s) between things. An “Oceanic Feeling” was a phrase used by Romain Rolland in a letter to Sigmund Freud - the term described a sense of timelessness and feeling of being at one with the universe.

74. Carol Thompson

Forest Fire

I live in the Southern Forest WA and lately we have seen the ferocity of fires, felt by the people, communities, animals, and the environment. We have seen the selfless response of the firefighters who have worked tirelessly - connections that exists between residents communities and the environment they call Home.

75. Luke Walsh

Solo Diver Point Peron

Birdseye view of a solo diver exploring the crystal clear waters of Point Peron on a Sunday morning. This fabulous location is great for a wander, jog, swim, snorkel, dive, or simply enjoy the views from multiple vantage points. Impressively beautiful from the ground and even more so from above.

76. Adrianna Wasinska-Fabian

Horses

Since the beginning of time, no single animal has afforded mankind with such a strong connection as horses. They are my biggest and finest inspiration. Horses are giving me the freedom and power during the process of creating. My drawings are an infiltration of biological and behavioral knowledge about horses.

77. Eve Wolfe

Sea Change

I've seen her change since we moved here. Refreshed, renewed, awakened. The sea change has relieved her anxiety. The formless ocean releases her from OCD. Her mind like coral from the deep: strong, intricate, full of beauty. We are all connected to the sea.

78. Lucy Wolfe

Grow Together

We are all connected by nature - animals, trees, flowers. If we respect Mother Earth and love our brothers and sisters we can find our way.

79. Deborah Zibah

The Artful Connectedness

The many layers, lines and marks of this painting, plus the strong tonal value of the work, is a reflection of different relationships in our lives. The immense value of time spent in investing in our families and close friends in a continual, nurturing environment determines the quality of life we choose to pursue.