



## **Helen Hancock**

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### ***Artist Statement***

In my latest series, *Treasures*, I am recording objects that have been in the family care, in some cases for over 150 years. The objects have a connection to a story and a person. Apart from painting and drawing, I am producing four books which not only trace several families' history but also many objects that reflect a cultural history. Four books in parallel because I have been photographing & drawing objects within my mother's home for years while trying to get the story behind the objects. For many objects their history has been forgotten but it is still a clue to someone's life. Often research or close inspection of an object can reveal unknown stories, often a time and place. The objects then lose their inanimate nature and motivate representation, drawing or painting.

For years I have painted the Darling Downs *landscape*, its changing patterns and colours of the different seasons. Expressive watercolour or oil paintings interpret the energy, patterns and colours created by sunlight through the day and atmosphere.

Over recent years, the suburban sprawl is creating an evolution of the local landscape. Activity and confusion as seemingly random suburban growth proceeds. Farmlands turn into suburbs; areas of concentration of buildings, roads, increased traffic and thousands of roofs glistening in the sun. Power poles and power lines strung across the countryside.

Developing the series *Silk* 2000-2002 was form of relaxation & pain diversion. The diversity of styles within the series, reflect the varied emotions experienced. Pain is normally a way our body protects us from further injury, except when it becomes the disease itself. Complex Regional Pain Syndrome.

I have heard many times an artist should not experiment, but rather develop a style and stick with it..... I have not. I love *different techniques, subjects and mediums*.

### ***Curriculum Vitae - January 2019***

1978 Diploma of Arts, (Visual Communication). Qld College of Art, Griffith University, Brisbane.

Worked full time in various aspects of graphic design in Melbourne, Edinburgh, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Alice Springs & Toowoomba. Returned to graphic art to learn and maintain the skill with computers. Volunteering my time to Toowoomba & Darling Downs Family History Society Inc. to design, produce and illustrate the productions of their history books.

I have exhibited in many competitive exhibitions and group Exhibitions around Australia. Acquired at Suncorp Art Awards, 1987 for the Suncorp Art Collection and Acquired at Stanthorpe Art Festival, 1990 for the Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery. "Autumn Palette"

### **Solo Exhibitions**

#### ***Silk***

Qld Arts Council Touring Exhibition 2006-2007. *Moranbah, Julie Creek, Yeppon, Cloncurry, Bowen, Mungindi, Texas, Gympie, Biloela, Tully.*

Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery. April 2002

#### ***6pm***

Balonne River Gallery, Surat. June 2002

Dalby Regional Gallery. April 2001

Doggett Street Studio, Brisbane. August 2000

#### ***A Landscape of Drought***

Bauhaus Art Gallery, Brisbane, 1995

Dalby Regional Gallery May 2001

#### ***Until now***

Toowoomba Art Gallery, 1993

## Competitive Exhibitions

Jacaranda Drawing Award, Grafton. 1996  
Stanthorpe Art Festival Sculpture Award 1994  
Gold Coast Sculpture Award. 1994  
Winsor & Newton National Art Award for Watercolours, Sydney, 1993, 1994  
Stanthorpe Art Festival, Stanthorpe 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996  
Logan Art Award, Brisbane, 1989, 1992  
Mosman Art Prize, Sydney, 1989, 1990, 1993  
Suncorp Art Awards, Brisbane 1987, 1989, 1991

## Other Exhibitions & Representations

Healing Spirt, St Vincent's Hospital, Toowoomba 2018.  
Participated in Arts Council Toowoomba's Members' Exhibition "Impact" 2013  
Arts Council Toowoomba's inaugural Members' Exhibition "What is Blue to you" 2011  
Qld Artworkers Alliance members exhibition 2009, 2010.  
B.C. Gallery, Gold Coast 1998, 1999  
Burns Gallery, Eumundi 1998  
About Face Restaurant, Brisbane 1996-7  
Ursula's Fine Art and Antiques, Mudgeeraba, Gold Coast Hinterland, 1995  
Bauhaus Art Gallery, Brisbane 1995 -98  
"Waste Not: Post-packed", Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, 1995  
(*toured Townsville, Cairns, Brisbane, Bundaberg, Mackay, Thuringowa, Gladstone, Logan and Sydney, 1995-96*)  
"Waste Not : A Material Issue", Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, 1994  
Ardrossan Gallery, Brisbane, 1987, 1988, 1989

## Community Art (# indicates paid activity, otherwise volunteer)

- Working with Toowoomba & Darling Downs Family History Society Inc.
  - 2018 Arrabury
  - 2016 Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery, Part 3
  - 2015 Blackgully
  - 2014 Squatters of the Darling Downs
  - 2013 Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery, Part 2
  - 2012 A Detail History of Gowrie Junction
  - 2011 Darling Downs Biographical Register to 1900 Part 3
  - 2010-11 Roaming around Rockville
  - 2009 Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery
  - 2007-08 CD of the Transcription of Christopher Rolleston
  - 2006 Darling Downs Biographical Register to 1900 Part 2
  - 2005-06 Darling Downs Biographical Register to 1900 Part 1
- Participated in ACTinc Artists in Garden 2009
- Artist-in-residence with Cambooya Landcare Assoc. on Community Weed Awareness Day May 08.  
Organiser of second exhibition, TRC Greenmount Service Centre July - Aug 08 and The Pepperina Gallery, Nobby Sept 08, from community photographs taken on the day and artwork produced as a result as the Artist-in-residence #
- Working with Cambooya Landcare Assoc. Inc; organising a community photographic exhibition  
The Pepperina Gallery, Nobby, to promote Community Weed Awareness Day May 2008 #
- Completed QCAN course in "Facilitating in Cultural Community Development" 2007
- Attended Cultural Community Development workshop (QCAN) 2007
- Participated in ACTinc Avant Garden 2008 #
- Coordinator of Harvesting the Arts Festival, Cambooya Shire,  
Design & Artwork of the Festival booklet
- Cambooya Shire Australia Day Award for community services. (Arts) 2004
- Organiser for Art Expo Exhibition 2000, Cambooya Hall as part of the Arts Expo & workshops.
- Secretary Cambooya Shire Junior Performance Festival 1999 - 2005
- Active committee member of Toowoomba Gallery Society 1987 -1999



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