

Biography

Based in Northern NSW, Rochelle Summerfield creates drawings and multimedia artworks that are deeply influenced by her connections and experiences with the rivers and habitat where she lives. Through drawing, paint, collage and digital media, her work delves into the plight of riparian ecosystems, as she raises awareness about the human need for connection with nature.

Rochelle has work in numerous public and private collections, including the State Library of Victoria. She has been selected for national exhibitions, artist residencies and was overall winner of the photomedia prize, 2017 Moreton Bay Region Art Awards, Qld. Exhibitions include the Windmill Trust Scholarship 20th Anniversary Retrospective and the nationally touring 'As Far As The Eye Can See', curated by Rilka Oakley of Blue Mountains Cultural Centre.

Her most recent solo show was 'Crossroads' at the Western Plains Cultural Centre December 2019, exploring the drought affected Macquarie River. In 2021, Rochelle was part of 'Irreverent Matter', at Hazelhurst Arts Centre, Sydney with an installation exploring the feral population. Another exciting group project is 'Hopeful Disruptions: Caring for Birrinba (Clarence River)'. With onsite environmental work in conjunction with exhibitions, it had the support by NSW Arts Restart and Arts NR. Upcoming, Rochelle has been selected to exhibit in *WATER: presence and absence*, curator Rilka Oakley, 10 December 2022- 29 January 2023, at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba. Rochelle has an MA by Research, at Southern Cross University and First Class Honours.

C.V

2006 Master of Arts by Research, Southern Cross University (SCU), Lismore.
1998 Bachelor of Arts (Visual Arts) with Honours, First Class, SCU, Lismore.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2020 SLOT Window Gallery, Alexandria, Sydney 30th August- 26th September
2019-20 'Crossroads' HomeGround December 2019 – February 2020, Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo
2017 'A Wayfarer on the Nepean', Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest, Sydney
2016 'Indicators Show Depth', Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW
2014 'Subject to Flooding', Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
2013 'She's Hunting House', Branch3D, Sydney
2011 'Elevation', HeadOn, Ampersand Café & Bookstore, Paddington
2008 'It Was In Her Passing', Tweed River Art Gallery, NSW
2005 '(aha) mutable face', Next contemporary art space, Southern Cross University.

SELECTED GROUP & COLLABORATIVE EXHIBITIONS

2022 (Upcoming) *WATER: presence and absence*, curator Rilka Oakley, 10 Dec 2022- 29 Jan 2023, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba
(Upcoming) 'Hopeful Disruptions: Caring for Birrinba (the Clarence River)', Plunge Clarence Valley Arts & Cultural Festival, Seelands Hall, experiential installations & collaboration installations

2021 'Irreverent Matter', coordinated by Janet Parker-Smith & Rochelle Summerfield, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, 10 artists, Penelope Cain, Dean Cross, Chris Dolman, Liam Garstang, Rew Hanks, Deborah Kelly, Pia Larsen, Janet Parker-Smith, Rochelle Summerfield and Sandra Winkworth apply creative and bold innovative use of collage in new & mixed media to generate dialogues on identity and the environment in a post-industrialised Australian society.

April 'Hopeful Disruptions: Caring for Birrinba (the Clarence River)', ongoing guerilla weed eradication and art collaborations.

2018-2020 'As far as the eye can see', curator Rilka Oakley, National touring show Blue Mountains Cultural Centre (Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW, Riddock Art Gallery SA, Horsham Regional Art Gallery, VIC, Devonport

Regional Gallery, TAS, Tamworth Regional Gallery, NSW, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, QLD Redcliffe Art Gallery, QLD, Noosa Regional Gallery, QLD, Logan Art Gallery, QLD)

2018 Paper Contemporary, Sydney Art Fair

'Swan Hill Print and Drawing Acquisitive Awards', finalist, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery

- 2017 'Artstate' Lismore, Arts Events – video projection 'Warning Remote Areas Ahead'
'Windmill Trust Scholarship 20th Anniversary Retrospective', Murray Art Museum Albury
'Northern Rivers Contemporary' Paper Contemporary, Sydney Contemporary
'Moreton Bay Region Art Awards', Strathpine Community Centre, Strathpine QLD
'Undercurrents', Pop-Up 'Plunge' Art and Cultural Festival, Clarence Valley
- 2016 'As far as the eye can see', Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, NSW
'Local Provenance', Tweed Regional Art Gallery, NSW
'Future Public' artist residency/ public exhibition, curator Alex Wisser, Artlands, Dubbo
- 2015 'Aberrant Play', contemporary print Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW
'Marie Ellis OAM Drawing Prize', finalist, Jugglers Art Space Inc., Brisbane
- 2014 'Skirmish' multi-media and collaborative cross-discipline research project, 'InConversation' exhibition at Spectrum Project Space, Edith Cowan University, Perth
- 2013 'Paperworks II', Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
'Women in the Arts: States of Play', Knock Knock Contemporary Artists Initiative
'Hawkesbury Art Prize', finalist, Purple Noon Art, Sculpture Gallery, NSW
- 2012 'Going Gaga with Dada', Brenda May Gallery, Sydney

GRANTS

- 2021 Art Restart Grant group show 'Hopeful Disruptions: Caring for Birrinba (the Clarence River)'
- 2019 NSW Artists' Grant for 'Crossroads' multimedia video project, NAVA
- 2016 NSW Artists' Grant for group multimedia video animation project 'Undercurrents', NAVA
QUICKS grant for ARTLANDS conference, NSW Ministry of Arts
- 2010 Janet Holmes à Court Artists' Grant, The Eckersley's Art Materials Prize, NAVA
- 2004 Southern Cross University Postgraduate Research Scholarship

AWARDS

- 2017 'Moreton Bay Region Art Awards', Overall Winner photo-digital, Dr. C. Gray (Judge)
- 2016 Print Council of Australia 2016 Print Commission
- 2014 'Windmill Trust Scholarship Encouragement Award', NAVA
- 2009 'Picture This 09', Judge Naomi Cass, Merit Prize, Brunswick Street Gallery
Winner 'Tony Abernathy Memorial Prize', CPM National Biennial Print Award
Regional Arts Fund Quick Response Grants Program
Print Council of Australia 2009 Print Commission
- 2007 Winner 'Barbara Carroll Social and Political Prize', CPM National Print Awards, TRAG
Winner, 'Kempsey Shire Other Works on Paper', Kempsey

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

- 2019 'Hazelhurst Artist in Residence', Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Sydney
Freemantle Arts Centre, Western Australia
- 2018 'Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence studio program', Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre
- 2016 'Professional Development Artist Residency', Penrith Regional Gallery & Lewers
'Future Public' artist residency/ public exhibition, curator Alex Wisser, Artlands, Dubbo
- 2013 Freemantle Arts Centre, Western Australia

COLLECTIONS

National Library Permanent Collection, State Library of Victoria Collection, RMIT Gallery Melbourne, Charles Sturt University Art Collection, University Of Ballarat Art Collection, Grafton Regional Gallery, Tweed Regional Gallery, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Print Council Of Australia, Arjo Wiggins/Canson Australia Pty Ltd, Kardinia International College Southern Cross University Collection, Print Council Of Australia, Anglican Church Grammar School, Brisbane, Mount Pleasant Printery, Wollongong, Wesley College, Glen Waverly, Melbourne and Private Collections.