JENNY ORCHARD

Expressing the connected nature of all life and matter is at the core of Jenny Orchard’s art practice. The paintings, collages and ceramics in her recent work form part of a narrative about a fictitious and parallel world in a state of change. Her work references the places in which she has lived and lives as well as her fascination with European tradition, African and Aboriginal mythologies, Australian contemporary culture and the environment. Jenny’s ceramic ‘creatures’ and vases are formed using earthenware clay and an array of vibrantly coloured glazes, each one possessing a unique personality and exhibiting a complete defiance of convention. This intermix of elements combined with the decorative tradition of clay expresses her interest in the interconnectedness of life, culture and form. The gathered, painted and re-arranged images that form her works on paper are imbued with a quality of surprise and tempt the viewer’s imagination and poetic responses. As Jenny explains, “Each image or ceramic forms a story on its own, but the narrative running through all of them is that of accelerated change, chance encounters and the suggestion of parallel realities.” They rejuvenate within us a child-like wonder of life on the planet, and conversely invite us to contemplate the darker notions of our meddling with it.

Born in Turkey, Jenny grew up in Zimbabwe and emigrated to Australia in 1976. She studied at the College of Fine Arts in Sydney, receiving her Bachelor of Arts in 1980. Jenny has exhibited widely in Australia and has participated in shows in Japan, Germany, Italy and the USA. Her work has been extensively acquired and is represented, amongst others, in the collections of the National Gallery of Australia, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, Queensland Art Gallery, Art Gallery of South Australia and the National Gallery of Victoria.

BIOGRAPHY
1977-79 College of Fine Art, University of NSW, Sydney
1982-98 Various teaching positions at University of NSW; University of Sydney; National Art School, Sydney; Randwick CAE, Sydney
2006 Masters degree, College of Fine Art, University of NSW, Sydney
current Phd, Sydney College of the Arts

SOLO EXHIBITIONS
2016 “Living in the clouds”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2014 “My Journey Through The Hidden Suburbs of Reconstruction”, Maunsell Wickes, Sydney
2013 “See with your heart”, Despard Gallery, Hobart
“Delinquent children”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2012 “Progress Report”, Frances Keevil Gallery, Sydney
2011 “Zookinii”, Perc Tucker Gallery, Townsville
2010 “Dining with cannibals”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
“Weeping weeds”, Despard Gallery, Hobart
2008 “Creatures of consequence”, Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery
2007 “Creatures of consequence”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
“Misfits in Metempsychosia”, Maunsell Wickes, Sydney
“Zookinis from Metempsychosia”, Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney
2005 “Plant People - Soul Flowers”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2004 “Metempsychosia”, The Foyer Gallery, Sydney College of the Arts
“Plant People, Soul Flowers”, Sir Herman Black Gallery, University of Sydney
2002 “Odd couples - transitional creatures”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2000 “Imps, Goddesses, Tricksters and the Spirit of the Tree”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
1999 Customs House, Sydney
1998 Beaver Galleries, Canberra
“Flower-fish”, Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
1988 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1987 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1986 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1985 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
1981 Blackfriars Gallery, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS
2017 “Small works 2017”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Despard Gallery, Carriageworks, Sydney
2015
Ceramics 2015, Maunsell Wickes, Sydney
“Uncertain Paradise” Gallery Imazoo, Seoul, Korea
“Art from Australia”, Gail Art Museum, Gyeonggi-do, Korea

2013
“Small works”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra

2011
“Rusty Vessel Stories”, Maunsell Wickes at Barry Stern, Sydney
“Sculpture by the Sea”, Bondi, Sydney

2010
“Sculpture by the Sea”, Bondi, Sydney
“The Sculpture Show”, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
“The Inedible Zookini”, Cudgegong Gallery, NSW

2009
“Replacements: other drawing, reveries of the everyday”, Tin Sheds Gallery, University of Sydney
“Animal Farm”, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
“Sculpture by the Sea”, Bondi, Sydney
“International Ceramic Conference”, Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney

2008
“Arafura Exchange, Trajectory of memories - tradition and modernity in ceramics, Australian and Indonesian artists”, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin.

2006
SOFA, Chicago, USA
“Trace” College of Fine Arts Exhibition/Performance space, University of NSW, Sydney
“Chilli” Cudgegong Gallery, Gulgong, NSW

2004
“The Hollow and the Whole; Contemporary Ceramics”, Delmar Gallery, Sydney
“Singular Visions”, Cowra Art Gallery, Cowra, NSW

2003
“The Christmas Show, The Ceramic Gallery, Paddington, Sydney
Ceramics, The Australian and New Zealand Context. Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery

2001
International Ceramics, Rufford Craft Center, Nottingham, UK
“Australian Dreamscapes”, Bartley Drey Gallery, London

2000
“Celebration”, Manly Art Gallery, Sydney
Australian Ceramics, Marianne Heller, Heidelberg, Germany

1999
SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)

1998
SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)

1997
Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney
Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
Kutani International Invitation, Kutani, Japan
SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)

1996
SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
“Free the Beast”, Despard Gallery, Hobart

1995
SOFA, Miami, USA
Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche in Faenze, Italy
“Delinquent Angel”, Australian Historical, Aboriginal and Contemporary Ceramics

1994
CINAFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)

1993
CINAFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
“The Family Show”, Despard Gallery, Hobart
“Modern Hybrids”, Despard Gallery, Hobart

1992
Gallery L of Hamburg, Germany

1991-92
Macquarie Galleries, Sydney

1990
Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
Tao Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

1989
Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
“Contemporary Australian Ceramics”, Couturier Gallery, L.A., USA
Perth International Crafts Triennial, Art Gallery of Western Australia

1988
Stuart Devlin Award Exhibition, Meat Market Centre, Melbourne
Macquarie Galleries, Sydney

1986
First National Ceramic Award

1985
“Celebration”, collaborative mural and sculpture with Robyn Gordon, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
Burnie Art Gallery, Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery
Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Hobart
“Just for the Show”, Shepparton Art Gallery
“Clay & Fibre”, Orange Regional Art Gallery
“The Patterned Edge”, Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney
“Image and Surface”, Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney
“Indulgences”, Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney
“Artists - Ceramics”, Wollongong Art Gallery
1981 Mayfair Ceramic Award Exhibition
“New Directions in Australian Ceramics”, Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS
2017 Winner, Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Vic
Winner, University of Queensland’s National Self Portrait Prize 2017, UQ Art Museum, Brisbane
2014 Korea-Australia Arts Foundation Prize (KAAFP)
2005 Sculptures for Methodist Ladies College, Sydney
2002 Acquisitive award - Schubert International Ceramic Award, Gold Coast, Qld
2001 6m tall sculpture for Joshua Berger, Paddington, Sydney
1990 Fish panels for Vatuele Resort, Fiji
1987 Eight ceramic murals for Sheraton International Hotel, Arlington, Virginia, USA
70ft long ceramic mural for Darling Harbour, Sydney

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
2010 “In the realm of the imagination”, Kerry-Anne Cousins, Canberra Times, 20 February
2007 “Creatures repel and attract”, Kerry-Anne Cousins, Canberra Times, 21 June, pg. 8
2006 Australian Art Review, iss. 11
500 Animals in Clay, Lark Books
2005 “Strange figures of deep mutation”, Meredith Hinchliffe, Canberra Times, 1 March
2004 Australian Art Review, iss. 5
2003 Ceramics: Art and Perception, No. 52
2002 “Elemental beauty from the earth”, Meredith Hinchliffe, Canberra Times, 3 October
2000 Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung, 20 November
“Wild with whimsy”, Fran Kennely, Canberra Times, 2 July
1998 Pottery in Australia, No. 37/3, September
Exhibition review, Priscilla Henderson, Muse, March
“Element of whimsy in creative ceramics”, Myra McIntyre, Canberra Times, 20 February
1997 Masters of Their Craft, Norris Iannou, Craftsman House
Ceramics: Art and Perception, No. 30
1996 Australian Art and Artists, Sue Melville and Julie Rollinson, Science Press
1995 Contemporary Ceramic Art in Australia and New Zealand, Janet Mansfield, Craftsman House
1992 Ceramics: Art and Perception, No. 7
1990 Exhibition review, Huntleys Australian Art Investor, February
Aspects of Art, L Tesoriero & H Nilson, Science Press
New Art Two - New Directions in Contemporary Australian Art, Craftsman House
The Elton John Collection, Volume IV, Diverse Collection, Sothebys
Exhibition review, Australian Financial Review, 16 September
1987 Spirit & Place - Artworks on Commonwealth Properties in Australia, Pot Still Press
Exhibition review, Sydney Morning Herald, 28 April
1986 Exhibition review, Sydney Morning Herald, 3 December

REPRESENTED
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth;
Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; Queensland Art Gallery,
Brisbane; Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart; Powerhouse Museum, Sydney; University of NSW; Queensland Institute of Technology; Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, TAS; Newcastle Region Art Gallery, NSW; Orange Regional Gallery, NSW; Shepparton Art Gallery, Vic; Gold Coast City Gallery, Qld; Bathurst Regional Gallery, NSW; Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW; Newcastle Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, NSW; Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW; Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority, Cooma; Darling Downs Institute, Qld; Aichi Prefecture Design Centre, Japan; Shepparton Art Museum, Vic