beavergalleries Artists in lockdown series

At home with Cathy Franzi



Q. What is getting you through lockdown?

A. Gardening, talking to loved ones, rediscovering cryptic crosswords with my partner and starting new work in the studio.

Q. What is your daily lockdown ritual?

A. One daily or evening ritual is to write a list of things to achieve the next day. Then in the morning I don't have to make too many decisions!

Q. Where are you finding inspiration at the moment?

A. I'm working on my next solo show with Beaver Galleries in February, inspired by the alpine flora of the Snowy Mountains. I hope to see the spring flowers this season, but for now I'm relying on bushwalking memories, photos and some great plant guidebooks. It's very exciting to imaginatively explore a different landscape for a new body of work.

Q. Has the COVID pandemic/lockdown changed your work, and the way you work, in any way?

A. Working alone in my home studio is not unusual but I miss getting out. I had a residency planned for the WA wildflower season at the Vancouver Arts Centre in Albany, with field trips planned with threatened species officers. I'm very sad to miss this opportunity but getting on with new ideas and new work in the studio.