

## CATHY FRANZI

*Cathy Franzi is a highly regarded ceramic artist who lives and works in Canberra. Through the materiality of ceramics and its possibilities for form, surface imagery and installation, Cathy explores ways to express cultural values attributed to Australian plants. Her work is underpinned by research in the botanical sciences, natural history collections and fieldwork on location. Initially trained in science, her love of the natural world is exemplified by the botanical approach she takes to her work. Working in porcelain and also black clay her vessels are wheel thrown then altered into elegant shapes before being enriched with various methods of surface decoration. These techniques range from hand-drawn stencils and delicate inlaid ink drawings to the dramatic and textured effect of sgraffito – the technique of carving her design through colour onto the ceramic surface. With the eyes of both the scientist and the artist, Cathy's love of the natural world is exemplified by the detailed approach she takes to her work.*

*Cathy graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Sydney before returning to her interest in ceramics. During the early part of her career, she fine-tuned her skills throwing in large potteries, and travelled and worked overseas. In 2010, she completed a Master of Visual Arts at the Australian National University School of Art & Design. After completing a practice-led PhD in Visual Arts (Ceramics) she received the ANU Vice-Chancellor's College Artist Fellowship. Cathy has undertaken several residencies over the years including the Centre for Ceramics in Berlin, Fremantle Arts Centre and the Bundanon Trust. In 2020, she received a Highly Commended award in the Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize and in 2021 was the People's Choice winner for the Klytie Pate Ceramics Award. In 2020, Cathy received funding from artsACT to support new research into printmaking approaches applied to ceramics and in 2021, she was the recipient of Australia Council for the Arts funding to support research, culminating in a solo exhibition in Berlin in 2023. Cathy has worked as a teacher of ceramics over her career and is currently a lecturer at the School of Art & Design at the Australian National University. She was the president of the Australian Ceramics Association from 2017 - 2021. Cathy's work is held in several collections including the Canberra Museum and Gallery, ACT Legislative Assembly, Grassi Museum of Applied Arts in Leipzig (Germany), Parliament House Art Collection and Manly Art Gallery & Museum.*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1985 Bachelor of Science, University of Sydney
- 1996 - Tutor, Canberra Potters' Society
- 2010 Master of Visual Arts, School of Art, Australian National University
- 2011 Artist Talk, The Pottery Workshop, Jingdezhen, China
- 2011-15 Doctor of Philosophy, School of Art, Australian National University
- 2011-13 Sessional lecturer, Ceramics workshop, School of Art, Australian National University
- 2012 Postgraduate panel, Australian Ceramics Triennale, Adelaide
- 2013 Postgraduate symposium, International Festival Ceramics, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK
- 2014 -15 Organising committee, 2015 Australian Ceramics Triennale, Canberra
- 2015 Presenter, Australian Ceramics Triennale, Canberra
- 2016 Vice-Chancellor's College Artist Fellows Scheme, Visiting Fellow in the Research School of Biology, ANU  
Presenter, POTober, Ceramic Arts Association of Western Australia, Perth  
Artist in Residence, Craft ACT  
Residence, Research School of Biology, Australian National University  
Artist in Residence, Bundanon Trust
- 2016 - Ceramics tutor, Centre for Continuing Education, ANU
- 2017-22 President, The Australian Ceramics Association
- 2017 Sessional lecturer, Ceramics workshop, School of Art, Australian National University
- 2018 Artist in Residence, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA
- 2018 - 19 Artist in Residence, Art of the Threatened Species (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and Orana Arts)
- 2019 Presenter, Australian Ceramics Triennale, Hobart
- 2022 Sessional lecturer, Ceramics workshop, School of Art, Australian National University, Canberra
- 2023 Lecturer, Ceramics Workshop, School of Art & Design, Australian National University, Canberra

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 "Where the river flows", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"Coast to Coast", Sabbia Gallery, Redfern, NSW  
"On the Edge"/ am Rande, Michael Reid Berlin & Berlin Design Week, Germany
- 2022 "Verdant", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney  
"Wild Flora", Michael Reid Berlin, Berlin, Germany  
"High country", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2020 "Natural affinity", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2019 "Seven mountains and a lake", Beaver Galleries, Canberra

- 2018 "Coastal : Botanical", Narek Gallery, Bermagui, NSW
- "Inflorescence", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- "A visit to the river", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2016 "On the nature of things", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2015 "Wonder & Loss", Narek Galleries, Tanja, NSW
- "Islands and Corridors", School of Art, ANU, Canberra
- 2014 "The Arid Zone", Craft ACT, Canberra
- 2013 "Painting the hills of Canberra", Craft ACT, Canberra
- 2012 Canberra Bells and Ginninderra Peppercress", Craft ACT, Canberra

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Klytie Pate Ceramics Award, Arts Mansfield, VIC
- "Florescence", Sturt Gallery, Mittagong, NSW
- 2022 "Clunes Ceramic Award", Union Bank Arts Centre, Clunes, VIC
- "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2021 "Little Wonders", Schaller Gallery, Baroda, Michigan, USA
- CO:LAB and Transformation, CraftACT : Craft + Design Centre, Canberra, ACT
- 2021 "Muswellbrook Art Prize", Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, NSW
- "Stanthorpe Art Prize", Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery, QLD
- "Klytie Pate Ceramics Award", Arts Mansfield, VIC
- 2020 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2019 Presenter's Exhibition, The Australian Ceramics Triennale, Hobart
- "Drawings – Ceramic Masters 2019", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2018 "Wild: Flora and Fauna in Australian Art", Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW
- "Cultivate: inspired by nature", Sturt Gallery, Mittagong, NSW
- "Something Blue"- Ceramic Masters, Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- "Celebration: 20 years of collecting visual art", Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra
- 2017 "Lines of Site: finding the Sublime in Canberra, M16 ArtSpace, Canberra
- "Clunes Ceramic Award, Union Bank Art Centre, Clunes, VIC
- "Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize, Ravenswood School, Sydney
- "50 Vessels", Suncoast Clayworkers, Nambour, QLD
- "Naturally Yours", School of Art and Design Gallery, ANU
- "Artist in Residence exhibition, Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre, Canberra
- "Vice Chancellor's College Artists Fellows Scheme, School of Art, ANU, Canberra
- "Klytie Chancellor's Ceramics Exhibition, Arts Council of Mansfield, VIC
- 2016 "Small works 2016", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- "Delicate Touch V", Narek Galleries, Tanja, NSW
- "From the Red Heart" (with Sharon Field), Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra
- "Doug Alexander", Drill Hall Gallery, ANU, Canberra
- Complexity of Shape Symposium, Research School of Biology, ANU, Canberra
- 2016 Biennial Nth Qld Ceramic Awards, Pinnacles Gallery, Townsville
- "Bush Capital: the Natural History of the ACT", Canberra Museum and Gallery
- Ignition Ceramic Awards, Maroochy Botanical Gardens, Qld
- 2015 "From the Landscape" (with Neville French), Kerrie Lowe Gallery, Sydney
- Clunes Ceramic Award, Union Bank Arts Centre, Clunes, Vic
- A Potted History of Canberra Region Ceramics, Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra
- "Stomping Ground", ACT Legislative Assembly Gallery, Canberra
- 2015 Australian Ceramics Triennale Presenters Exhibition, ANU, Canberra
- "Belonging", The Australian Ceramics Association, School of Art, ANU, Canberra
- 2014 "The Course of Objects", Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney
- "Contemporary Porcelain", Kerrie Lowe Gallery, Sydney
- 2013 "Inhabit", CraftACT: Craft and Design Centre, Canberra
- 2012 "Signature", CraftACT: Craft and Design Centre, Canberra
- 2011 "Material Matters", ANU School of Art, Canberra
- 2006 "Impact", Watling Galleries, Brisbane
- 2005 Thermocouple (with Chris Harford), Watson Arts Centre, Canberra

## AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2023 Finalist, Klytie Pate Ceramics Award, Arts Mansfield, VIC
- 2021 People's Choice Award, Klytie Pate Ceramics Award, Arts Mansfield, VIC  
Finalist, Muswellbrook Art Prize, Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, NSW  
Finalist, Stanthorpe Art Prize, Stanthorpe Regional Art Centre, NSW  
CraftACT: Craft + Design, CoLab: Architectural Design Mentorship Program  
Grant recipient, The Australia Council of the Arts, Arts Project for Individuals funding
- 2020 Highly Commended, Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize, South Australian Museum  
Grant recipient, Homefront Funding, artsACT, ACT Government
- 2019-22 Grant recipient, artsACT Arts Activity Funding
- 2018 Open Award, Ignition Awards for Ceramic Excellence, Nambour, QLD  
Workplace Research Associates Award, Capital Arts Patrons' Organisation, Canberra  
Grant recipient, Capital Arts Patrons' Organisation funding, ACT
- 2017 Finalist, Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize  
Highly Commended, Clunes Ceramic Award, Clunes, VIC  
People's Choice Award, Klytie Pate Ceramics Award, Mansfield, VIC  
Grant recipient, ACT Arts Fund, Project Funding, ACT Government
- 2016 Walker Ceramics Award, Canberra Potters' Society Annual Exhibition  
300g Award, Ignition Ceramic Awards, Maroochy Botanical Gardens, QLD  
Scott Brickworks Acquisitive Award, 2016 Biennial Nth Qld Ceramic Awards, Townsville, QLD
- 2015 Walker Ceramics and People's Choice, Canberra Potters' Society Annual Exhibition
- 2011-15 Australian Postgraduate Award, ANU CASS PhD Scholarship/ Australian Postgraduate Award
- 2013 Craft ACT Award, Canberra Potters' Society Annual Exhibition
- 2012 Doug Alexander Award, Canberra Potters' Society Annual Exhibition
- 2009 ANU School of Art Nelson Nichols Scholarship in Ceramics

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 "Franzi celebrates Australia's High Country flora", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 19 February  
"Careful Cathy captures flora", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Citynews.com.au*, 21 February
- 2018 "A Place for Plants", Meredith Hinchliffe, *The Journal of Australian Ceramics*, Vol 57, No 2, July  
"My Garden Path", Gardening Australia, ABC TV (series 29/07 March 14)  
"Franzi's ceramics burst with confidence after river visit", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Citynews.com.au*, 26 February  
"Ceramic evocation of a coastal scene", Kerrie-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 22 February
- 2017 "Cathy Franzi", Sukjin Choi, *Korean Monthly Ceramic Art*, 258
- 2016 "An Australian Botanical Narrative", Cathy Franzi, *Journal of Australian Ceramics*, 55/2
- 2014 "Botanical Ceramics", Cathy Franzi, *Ceramics Ireland*, 32  
"Art and Environment in a Suitcase Exhibition", Cathy Franzi, *Seed Broadcast Journal*, USA
- 2013 "Ceramics and the Australian Botanical Narrative", Cathy Franzi, *Journal of Australian Ceramics*, 52/3
- 2011 "Tale of Adventure", Cathy Franzi, *Craft Australia Newsletter*  
"Two Communities", Cathy Franzi, *Journal of Australian Ceramics*, 50/3
- 2005 President/Society profile, Cathy Franzi, *Journal of Australian Ceramics*, 44/1
- 1996 "Potting in Thailand", Cathy Franzi and Chris Harford, *Ceramic Review*, 157  
"Chris Harford", Cathy Franzi, *Pottery in Australia*, 35/4  
"Time for Tea", Cathy Franzi, *Pottery in Australia*, 35/4

## COLLECTIONS

Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra; Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra; ACT Legislative Assembly, Canberra; Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery; Manly Art Gallery & Museum, Sydney; Shepparton Art Museum; Art Gallery of Ballarat; Australian National University Art Collection, Canberra; University of Wollongong Faculty of Creative Arts Collection, Wollongong, NSW; Canberra Centenary Time Capsule; Research School of Biology, Australian National University; Grassi Museum of Applied Arts, Leipzig, Germany