

SHANNON GARSON

Shannon Garson's hand thrown porcelain vessels are beautifully hand painted with drawings exploring the strange beauty and wonder of the natural world. Her background as a painter also informs her works, as she explains; "When using the vessel as a canvas for a drawing, I consider the whole of the pots – this includes three surfaces, the inside, the outside and the bottom... I want the surface of the pot to be part of the drawing, not just a surface for the drawing to sit on. I want the whole pot to be experienced, from the weight of it as you pick it up, the texture, the drawing, colour, smoothness of the glaze, all the elements draw the viewer into experiencing the vessel." Birds, symbols and delicate foliage are all intricately drawn and embellished with abstract markings and glazes built up over numerous layers and firings. Beyond the imagery another important element for Shannon is her use of domestic and traditional forms - teacups, bowls and vases take her work beyond the conceptual and into our everyday lives and shared cultural history. The beauty of Shannon's work lies in her ability to create a tactile and visceral experience where colour, imagery, texture and form are harmoniously intertwined.

Shannon Garson completed her Bachelor of Visual Arts, Queensland University of Technology in 1993 majoring as a painter. Shortly after, she began decorating after a stint at the Brisbane Gallery Amfora which then led her to throwing and decorating her own vessels. In 2005 Shannon was awarded the Churchill Fellowship which allowed her to travel to France and Italy to study various important ceramics collections before undertaking a four week residency at Dartington Pottery in Devon, UK. Shannon gained her Master of Visual Arts at the School of Art and Design, Australian National University in Canberra in 2015 and was the Director of the Australian Ceramics Association from 2013-2017. Shannon has received numerous awards and grants including most recently the best three dimensional art work at the 2020 Sunshine Coast Art Prize and the Judges Commendation for her piece in the 2018 Queensland Regional Art Awards.

BIOGRAPHY

- 1990-3 Bachelor of Visual Arts, Queensland University of Technology
- 2005 Churchill Fellowship – travel to study ceramic collections in France and Italy
- 2005 Artist in Residence – Dartington Pottery, Devon, UK
- 2013-17 President of the Australian Ceramics Association
- 2014-18 Director of Australian Ceramics Film Festival, National Ceramics Conference
- 2015 Master of Visual Arts, Australian National University, Canberra
- 2017 Curator "Omnus Terra", in conjunction with NCECA conference, Portland, Oregon, U.S
Curator "Objects of Desire- Contemporary Clay, Artisan, Brisbane, Tweed Regional Gallery, NSW
Director/Project Manager "Objects of Desire" Film and exhibition 11 artists in a group show exploring contemporary directions in clay and ephemeral sculpture, short films of 4 participating artists.
Judge - Gold Coast Ceramics Award, Gold Coast QLD
- 2019 Artist in Residence - Church of England Grammar School, Brisbane, Qld
Teacher - Sturt Summer School, Frensham Ladies College, Mittagong

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 "Wrack", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2022 "We are stardust", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2021 "Shimmering world", Noosa Regional Gallery, Noosa, Qld
- 2016 "Infinite variety", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2015 "Tidelines", Narek Galleries, Tathra, NSW
- 2013 "Petrichor", Art Nuvo Gallery, Buderim, Qld
- 2012 "Gleanings", Narek Galleries, Tathra, NSW

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2020 "Porcelain", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Twenty-Boundless", Rochfort Gallery, Sydney
- 2019 "Precious nature" (with Julie Bartholomew and Fiona Hiscock), Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Wanderlust", travelling exhibition for Queensland Art Awards, Flying Arts
"depths of light", Narek Galleries, Bermagui, NSW
- 2018 "Entwine" (with Farley Cameron), Art Nuvo Gallery, Buderim, Qld
"Wildflower women", Caloundra Regional Gallery, Qld
- 2017 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"objects of desire", NCECA, Portland, Oregon, USA
Clunes Ceramic Award, Union Bank Arts Centre, Clunes, Vic

- 2016 "Delicate Touch V", Narek Galleries, NSW
"Across the table, across the land", NCECA, Kansas City, USA
- 2014 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"The course of objects", Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney
"Only for the birds", Mu Gallery, Sydney
- 2013 Waterhouse Natural History Prize, South Australian Museum, SA
- 2012 "Swamp Cartography", Noosa Regional Gallery, Qld
- 2011 "Swamp Cartography", Noosa Regional Gallery, Qld
"Delicate touch IV", Narek Gallery, NSW
- 2010 "Teawares", JamFactory, Adelaide
- 2009 "Ceramic Journeys", Fusions, Brisbane
"Pourers", Object Sydney
- 2008 "The Magnolia Project", Salmon Galleries, Sydney
The 8th International Mino Ceramics Award, Mino, Japan
- 2006 "Botanica", Craft Queensland, Brisbane
"Delightful things", Umbrella Collective inaugural event, Brisbane
- 2005 "Surrounds", Redland Art Gallery, Brisbane
- 2004 "Christmas Show", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"The Bowl'd and the Beautiful", Ceramic Art Gallery, Sydney
"Still life in porcelain", Salmon Galleries, Sydney
- 2003 Gold Coast International Ceramic Award, Gold Coast City Gallery, Qld
- 2002 "The Paddock", Craft Queensland, Brisbane
- 2001 "Cheer", Queensland Craft Council, Brisbane
- 2000 "Porcelain Tattoo", Queensland Craft Council, Brisbane

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2020 Best Three-dimensional, Sunshine Coast Art Prize, Caloundra Regional Gallery, Qld
- 2019 Regional Arts Grant
- 2018 Judges Commendation, Queensland Regional Art Awards
- 2017 Finalist, Clunes Ceramic Award, Union Bank Arts Centre, Clunes, Vic
- 2013 Finalist, Waterhouse Natural History Prize, South Australian Museum, SA
- 2011 Noosa Travelling Scholarship
- 2009 Arts Queensland Grant
- 2008 Ignition Ceramic Prize, Australian National University, Canberra
- 2007 Space Furniture New Design Award, Craft Queensland, Brisbane
- 2006 Established Artists, New work grant, NAVA
- 2005 Churchill Fellowship
- 2004 Stanthorpe Arts Festival Aquisitive Prize, Qld
- 2003 Josephine Ulrick Award for Excellence in Ceramics, Gold Coast International Ceramics Awards, Qld

PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 "Garson's ceramics draw on beauty of nature", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Citynews.com.au*, 13 February
- 2022 "Poetic observations of the natural world", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 2 April
"We are stardust" review, Meredith Hinchliffe, *Citynews.com.au*, 4 April
- 2020 "Engrossing exhibition of fine porcelain", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Citynews.com.au*, 3 June
- 2019 "Capturing the essence of a fragile world", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 25 October
- 2010 *Salt Magazine*, Autumn issue
- 2009 *Queensland Homes*, October
- 2005 *Australian Journal of Ceramics*, March
- 2004 *Craft Arts International*, March
- 2003 *Ceramics Art and Perception*, Vol 54
Inside Out, February
- 2002 *Country Style*, February
- 2000 *Pottery in Australia*, vol 39

COLLECTIONS

Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld; Stanthorpe Regional Gallery, Qld