

Ilona Lasmanis

Bio

Educated in Melbourne and Canberra

1965-1968 Graduate of the National Art School and Alexander Machie Teacher's College, Sydney

1969 - 2007 Full time and part time teaching Visual Arts in various Canberra High Schools and Colleges

## Artist Statement

My art interests and explorations are like those of a polyglot, that is I work with both 2 and 3 dimensional forms. The scope of my work ranges from Bronze Casting, painting, printmaking, book art construction right through to working with textiles.

My artistic curiosity is often aroused as much by a new technique as a new subject matter. Most frequently the landscape or specific places are the basis for my inspiration but equally the simple pleasures of suburban life, the garden, the pets feature in my work.

Riverland Matters

The Waterhole Series - November 2010

The Murray River and the Riverlands of Victoria are great Australian icons; symbolic of it's wealth, it's strength, and prosperity; a way of life. To an outsider, at least, this is a way of life which now appears to be under attack. The mighty Murray is in trouble; more is needed from it and less is to be had. With the draught and the climate change debate come memories of a different Australia. An older Australia; a more relaxed place where there was enough for all and some to spare.

The waterhole series taps into this notion of nostalgia. Long hot summer days, the river, cool waterholes, swimming, splashing, floating, freedom, laughter, children playing. A bygone era; an age of innocence perhaps? The bowl shape seemed an appropriate form to represent a waterhole, the white on white imagery was a simple and convenient metaphor for loss. Echoes of the past, half remembered, half forgotten no longer clearly visible. I like the fact that a bowl is also a vessel that holds liquid, I think this gives symmetry to my idea.

## Exhibitions

2009

Magpie Exhibition, Group show at Gallery 12, Pialligo, ACT  
Dialogue; Mika Group Exhibition, Anca Gallery, Watson, ACT

2007

Drawn Onward, Mika group exhibition, ANCA

2005

Reflections on a Looking Glass, Mika group exhibition, ANCA  
Explorations, solo exhibition, Waratah Galley

2004

Collective Diversity, Mika group exhibition, ANCA

2000

CMAG, ACT Group exhibition in conjunction with Helen Geier's Retrospective Exhibition, work on paper

1995

Participant, Wearable Art show, Goulbourn Regional Gallery, NSW  
Exhibitor Calvary Hospital Art Show, ACT

1994

Wearable Art Awards, Nelson, New Zealand

1993

Floriart, co-exhibitor, Rydges Hotel, ACT

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1989

Women and Their Art Exhibition, Sister Trust, Gorman House, ACT

1986

Solo Exhibition, textile art, Tilley Devine's Cafe ACT

Participant Alice Springs Craft Exhibition, textile work

1985

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1984

Participant Alice Springs Craft Exhibition, textile work

Participant in the Functional Craft Show ACT

Crafts Council, ACT Annual Exhibition

1983

Fabrica Crafts Council, ACT

In addition my work is represented in the Kangaroo Press 1991 publication, "Silk Painting