

WATERS' EDGE: creating environments

Jill Chism

17 July to 30 August 2009



Water, the 'Mother of all Substances', which slips through our fingers, etched its way into a central focus for my art practice in 2006. The theme of water builds on my previous environmental and public art practice where I explored the interplay of the natural elements.

A Creative Fellowship from Arts Queensland in 2007, and the support of five galleries along the Queensland coast, gave me the impetus to commence research and create work. During this time I explored a range of water catchment areas from Noosa to Low Isles and out to Lawn Hill National Park on the border of Queensland and the Northern Territory.

Later I worked with three Queensland Regional Galleries, Cairns, Mackay and Townsville and eight other selected artists at chosen sites in their region. It is this work in the form of photographs, projected images and recreated installations that will appear in exhibitions in those cities in 2009 and 2010.

Recent disasters, extended droughts, bushfires, extensive flooding and increasing pollution of waterways have placed unprecedented focus on water issues. It has also created awareness of the negative imprint we humans have inflicted on the natural environment.

In the context of artists' camps, in the later stage of the project, further in-depth evaluation of these issues has developed, using a global, local or personal approach to specific sites. The invited artists to these sites include Susan Doherty and Tijn Meulendijks, at sites around Cairns, Tracey Heathwood, Ashley Holmes and Ngaio Lenz, around Mackay and Barbara Pierce, Anthony Cuthbertson and Pam Lane for sites near Townsville.

It is my pleasure to invite you to explore the results of my broader exploration of the theme of water along with the work that resulted from a significant collaboration with these 8 other regional artists.

Jill Chism – Curator

EXHIBITION LAUNCH
Friday 24 July – 6.30pm

ARTISTS' TALK
Friday 24 July – 5.30pm

Hear the fascinating stories behind this powerful environmental exhibition by Jill Chism and participating artists Tijn Meulendijks and Susan Doherty.

ADULT WEEKEND WORKSHOP
THE LITTORAL ZONE – TWO DAYS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ART
WITH JILL CHISM

Saturday 15 August and Sunday 16 August (10.00am – 4.30pm)

Exhibiting artist and teacher Jill Chism will take students on an exciting non-traditional art workshop exploring the concepts of environmental and ephemeral art. With a short overview in the Gallery, students will then create artworks using found objects on sight at the mouth of the Barron River. Own transport, lunch and digital camera required. Beginners are welcome.

Cost: \$60 or \$70 FOG. Bookings Essential.



Jill Chism,



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A TRAVELLING
EXHIBITION BY JILL
CHISM

SUPPORTING ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE IN THE HEART OF CAIRNS

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