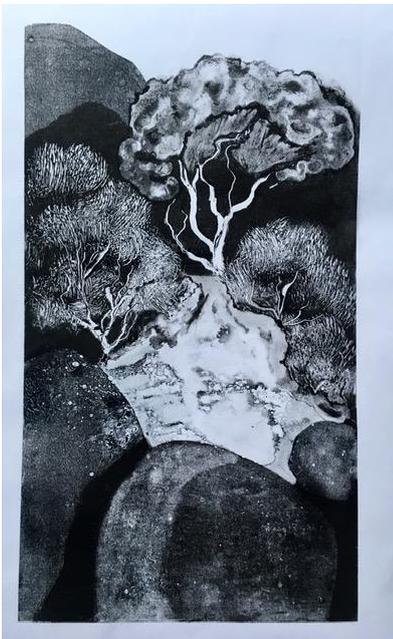


Bridget Seaton – ARTIST NEWSLETTER – July 2021

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN THE STUDIO

PRINTMAKING

Recently I have been busily creating some monotype prints that I hope to include in the Printmakers Association of WA 'Bodies of Work' exhibition, that will take place in November. Once I start printmaking I can't seem to stop so I packed up my paints for a month and worked in mostly black and white to create a series of prints that are inspired by the twisted wind-blown Melaleuca (Lanceolata) trees that grow along parts of the coastline in Cape Leeuwin National Park. I have also been experimenting with collage in my prints which you can see in the print below right.



PAINTING

As winter has descended upon us I have started to venture out again into the bush around the Perth Hills and I am revisiting the challenge of painting the Wandoo Woodlands and Jarrah/Marri forests. It's a challenge because often 'you can't see the wood for the trees', there is so much going on and I will probably be painting it for years to come. I aim for simplification, but I know that I am not there yet. Many of my plein air studies are done whilst on granite outcrops so these will start to feature more in my paintings in the next few months. I am starting to see a seasonal pattern in my work.



Acrylic on canvas painting based on a plein air study

ABSTRACTION

I would like to try to push my work more towards abstraction in the future but I feel like it will take me a while to feel confident painting in this way on a large format. Often when faced with a large and expensive blank canvas one feels compelled to produce something 'good'. Sometimes making lots of small paintings is a great way to explore an idea, that way I'm not investing everything in a big expensive canvas. With this in mind I started to do an abstract a day in my sketchbook during the short week of lockdown that we had in June. I worked in mixed media in paint, collage (from some of my torn up prints) and oil pastel. I am pretty relaxed about what goes into my sketchbook so with the pressure off I produced some little abstracts. A different way of working for me and they were fun (but challenging) to do. Here is one below that sums up a days bushwalking in Mundaring.



BUSH TRAVELS

As many of you know it has been very wet and cold in Perth this year, so in an attempt to find some warmth we travelled up north to the Murchison Rangelands for 8 days. We had some welcome sunshine, but it was not as warm as it usually is, on the plus side due to recent rains the country was looking very green and pretty. We spent a week at Wooleen Station, and it was great to see water in the Murchison River and to explore the rocky outcrops. Wooleen Station is unique in the way that they are restoring the (much degraded) land through reduced stock numbers, pasture rotation and seeding. It is amazing to see what they have achieved by simply letting the land rest. I would definitely recommend a stay there and it has accommodation options to suit everyone. I managed to paint every day (even if it was from the car on a rainy day) and the highlight of my trip was visiting and climbing a rocky bluff not far from the station. I managed to paint the view both from the top and at its base. We intended to continue up into the Kennedy ranges to see more of this type of country but alas the roads were closed due to the wet weather. This trip will no doubt inspire me to create some paintings so my palette may swing towards orange for a while.



PLEIN AIR PAINTING STUDIES FROM MY RECENT CAMPING TRIP IN THE MURCHISON



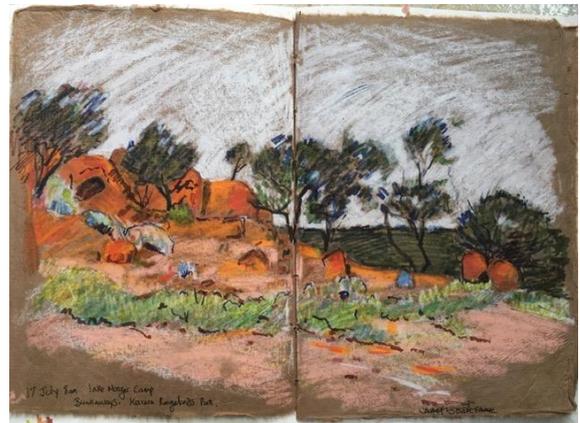
Painting from on top of the bluff
Gouache and pen



And from the base of the bluff
Gouache



Granite boulders on Murchison Station
Gouache and pen



Breakaways near Perenjori
Crayon and pen

EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

I love plein air painting and I am excited to be participating in the **Bungendore Art in the Park Paint Out** on Sunday 19th September (Bungendore Park, Bedfordale). This is a public event where artists paint the surroundings of the park and members of the public come and view the works in progress. In addition there will be an exhibition of the work in November. I am quite used to painting outside but what I am not used to is doing it with an audience so it going to be a bit of a challenge for me.

WORKSHOPS/CLASSES

Below are details of some of the classes/workshops I am running. I have included links to some of the flyers in my email.



Collagraph Course



Painting Workshop



Bookbinding Workshop

REGULAR CLASSES

Term 3 Expressive Landscapes Painting Class

Tuesdays 9 – 11:30am, starts 20th July at Atwell Art Centre (10 weeks) (few spots left)

Printmaking short course – Creative Collagraphy - 4-week printmaking course – making and printing from your own collagraph plate using a press. Friday 13 August – Friday 3rd September at Canning Arts Group. 12:30-3.00pm

WORKSHOPS

Deep Forest – Acrylic Painting Workshop

Try out some new layering techniques in this experimental acrylic painting workshop using the forest as our inspiration. Atwell Art Centre – Wednesday 11th August 10-3.30

Bookbinding Workshop

Saturday 18th September 1pm – 6:30pm at The Glyde-In Community Centre, East Fremantle. Make 3 different handmade books. See the bookbinding section of my website for more info. For bookings contact me on bridgetseaton@outlook.com.