

*Contrasting Lives ...
from the Australian Coast to the English Village*

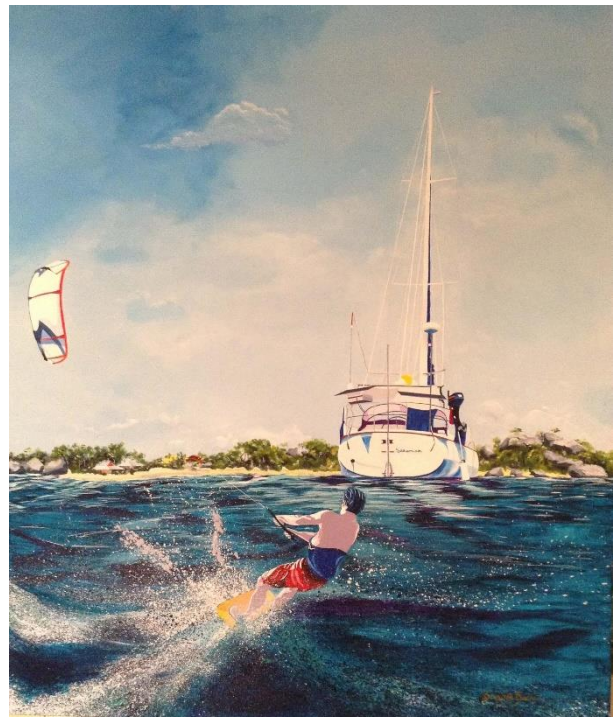
Artists: Cindy Wider with Brigitte Back

TYTO Regional Gallery
73-75 McIlwraith Street Ingham Queensland Australia

4 March to 3 April 2016



Cindy Wider 'Church Of Saint Mary, Whitby'



Brigitte Back 'Inspiration'

Introduction....

How does physical change in location influence and transform an artist's body of work? This exhibition 'Contrasting Lives' explores how two Queensland women express the culture and environment that immediately surrounds them.

Cindy Wider and Brigitte Back are both known for creating large, colourful artworks that depict the Australian lifestyle, however Cindy moved with her husband and daughters to an English Village two years ago while Brigitte remained with her family in Queensland.

Brigitte continues to capture the essence of the great Australian beach and surf lifestyle. Wind, water spray and the freedom of the ocean are dynamically expressed through bright, bold and expressive images of kite surfing.

In stark contrast when Cindy recently moved across the world to an English village a radical metamorphosis took place. Her work transformed to become more compatible with the confined living spaces often experienced in English homes in which Cindy finds herself.

Influenced by the strangely familiar yet radically different experience of English culture Cindy now creates small, finely detailed realism drawings inspired by everyday life. Her work transformed to become more compatible with the confined living spaces often experienced in English homes in which Cindy finds herself.

Cindy Wider

Image: One



Artist: Cindy Wider
Title: A Woman And Her Cuppa
Medium: Acrylic On Canvas Size: 100 x 100 cm
Price: NFS

Description:

This artwork was a finalist in the Wayne Kratzmann Award and included in the QRAA Award 2011 where it toured many regional Queensland galleries including the TYTO. It's an important piece that unites my body of work to Brigitte's in a very special way. I chose to paint in this hard-edge representational style for over 21 years; before moving to an English Village in 2013. Brigitte was first inspired to paint in this hard edge style and over the past eight years she has gradually developed this style further to make it her own unique form of personal expression.

Cindy Wider

Image: Two



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: Just Thinking In Grandad's Garden

Medium: Coloured Pencil on Paper Size: 28.5 x 32cm

Description:

Surrounded by gorgeous English flowers that her Grandad has so carefully tended to throughout the year, my daughter enjoys the beautiful palette of colour that is so welcome after the long grey winter days.

Cindy Wider

Image: Three



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: It's Still My Land

Medium: Graphite and Charcoal on Paper Size: 35 x 29.5cm

Price: NFS

Description:

This man can be seen regularly walking his dogs through the farmer's fields that were once owned by his family. He is often hunting animals with his dogs and generally just keeping an eye on things.

Cindy Wider

Image: Four



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: Mr Snowman Nothing is Forever.

Medium: Charcoal on Paper Size: 30 x 35cm

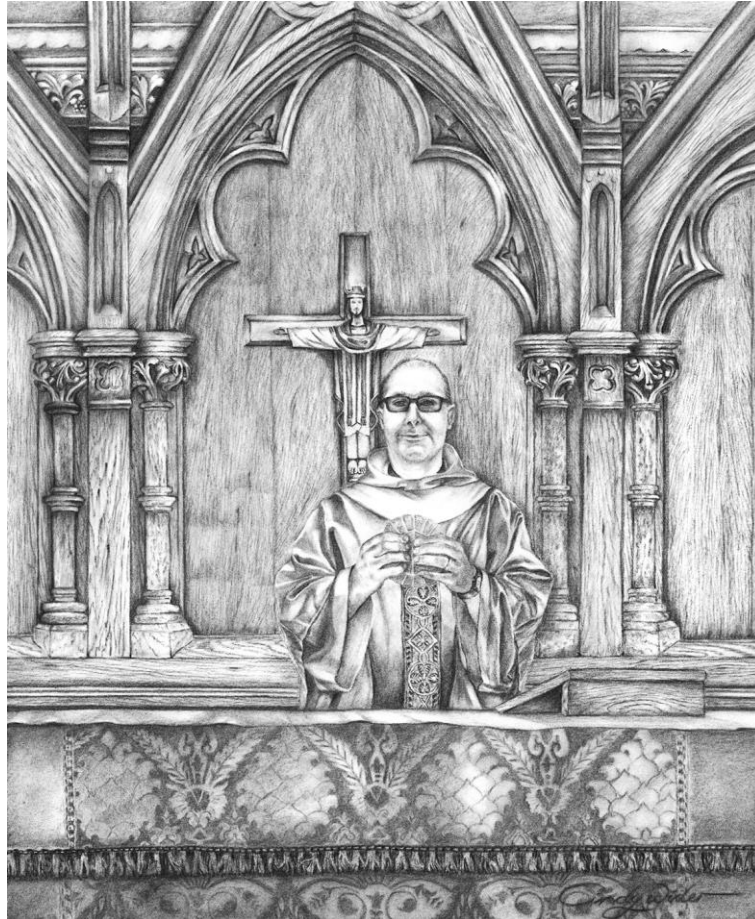
Price: NFS

Description:

Snow is a constant source of wonder and absolute delight. I am in awe of how our children have embraced the significant cultural changes that we have experienced through moving here to an English Village.

Cindy Wider

Image: Five



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: This is My Body, This is My Blood

Medium: Charcoal on Paper Size: 35 x 30cm

Price: NFS

Description:

The local village Vicar Richard Burge is a wonderful happy soul completely devoted to his parish. I admire his faith as he preaches with such absolute conviction in a wonderful fun way to help keep his members attentive and enjoying his services.

Cindy Wider

Image: Six



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: Searching For Treasures At Robin Hood's Bay

Medium: Coloured Pencil on Paper Size: 35 x 29 cm

Price: NFS

Description:

Robin Hood's Bay is a popular seaside tourist location that we occasionally visit. I admire the beautiful rock walls that support the buildings as they balance precariously on top of the cliffs. Visitors can enjoy searching for all kinds of nature's treasures such as fossils along the small strip of sandy beach and tiny fish amidst the seaweed-filled rock pools to make it an exciting day out.

Cindy Wider

Image: Seven



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: Shibden Hall, Halifax

Medium: Charcoal on Paper Size: 30 x 35cm

Price: NFS

Description:

Shibden Hall is a 596 year old Grade two listed historic house which was once the home of the noted 19th Century diarist Anne Lister. So carefully maintained this gorgeous museum is a fine example of one of the wonderful things about living in England. We can learn so much about the lives of the people who lived and worked here many years ago through visiting the various historic homes, museums, churches and castles.

Cindy Wider

Image: Eight



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: Tea, Toast and Post, Robin Hood's Bay

Medium: Charcoal on Paper Size: 30 x 35cm

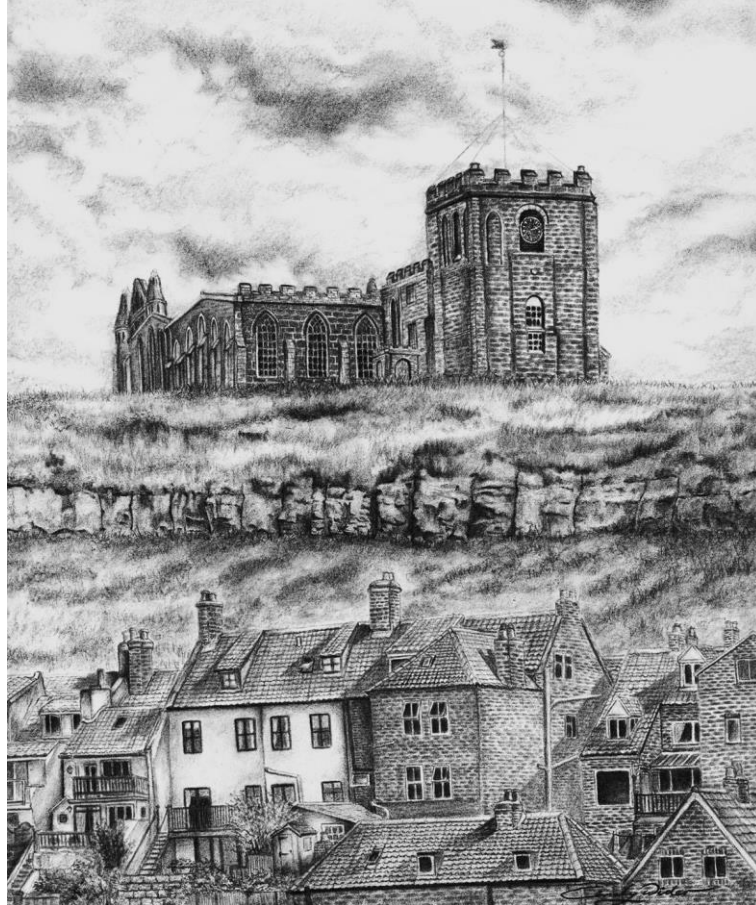
Price: NFS

Description:

When I first discovered this interesting bill-board strapped to a bicycle I immediately felt that this particular scene captured all that is quintessentially English to me. From the old-fashioned bike with its basket full of plastic flowers propped against the weathered-wood door, surrounded by gorgeous stone walls, to the wonderful old post box from the era of King George V on the right.

Cindy Wider

Image: Nine



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: Church of Saint Mary, Whitby

Medium: Charcoal on Paper Size: 35 x 30cm

Price: NFS

Description:

Built upon solid rock, this wonderful old church sits powerfully upon the cliff top above the historic seaside town of Whitby in North Yorkshire.

Cindy Wider

Image: Ten



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: The North Bridge With Burdock Way Flyover

Medium: Charcoal on Paper Size: 30 x 35cm

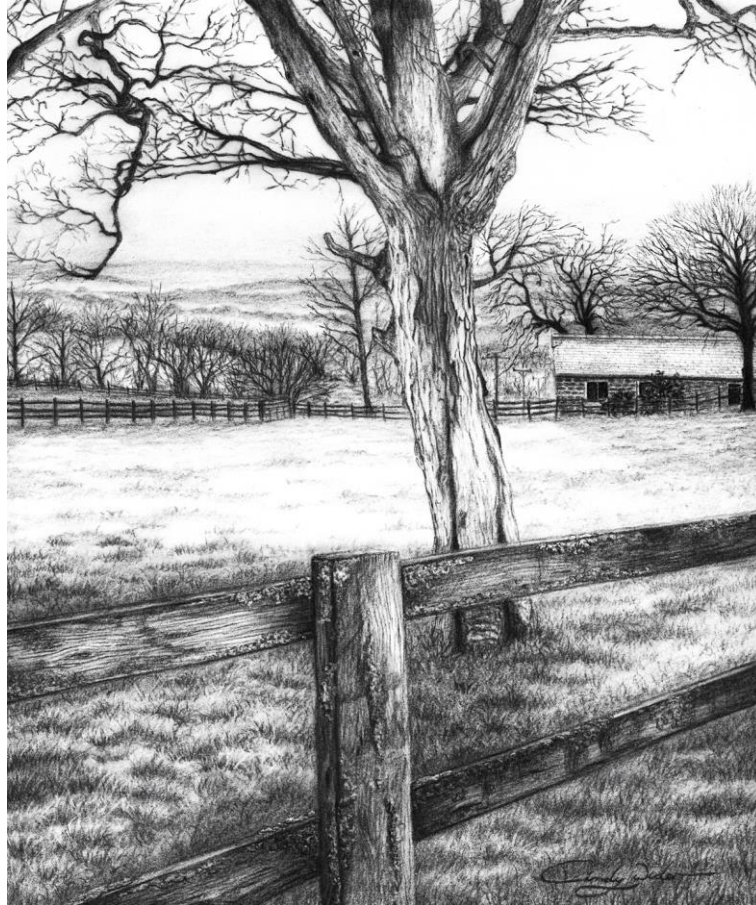
Price: NFS

Description:

In this image we can see a modern bridge; the Burdock Way Flyover - a giant construction made of cement that crosses over the Victorian Gothic designed iron and stone North Bridge below. I was fascinated with this criss-cross of magnificent bridges and the contrasts between the old and new as each one out-does the other.

Cindy Wider

Image: Eleven



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: Winter Sun, Scholes Village Green Belt

Medium: Charcoal on Paper Size: 35 x 30cm

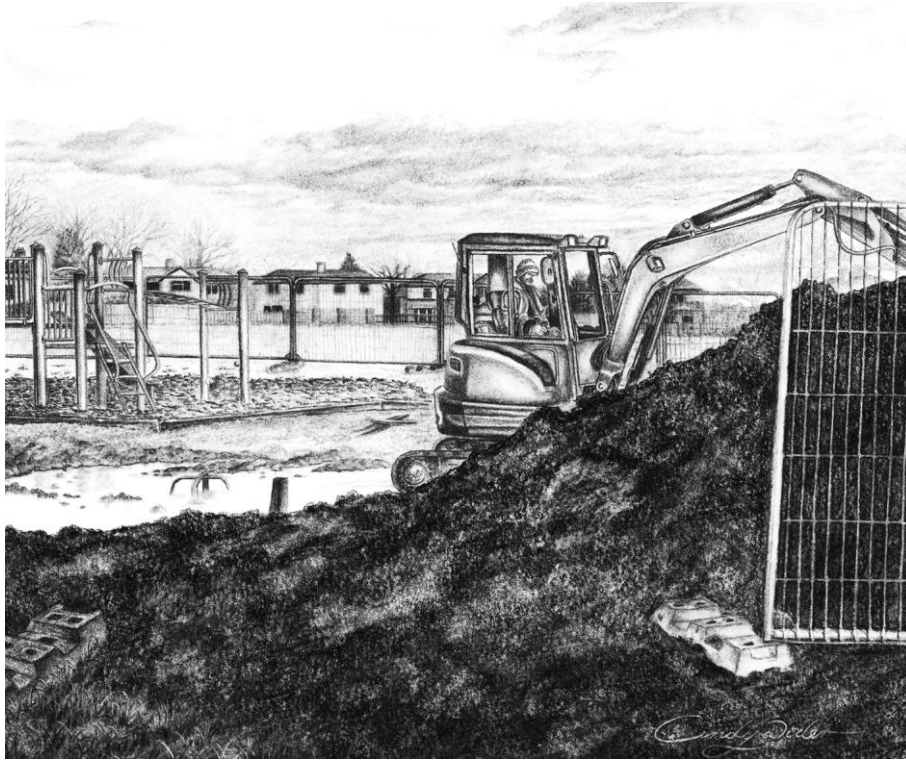
Price: NFS

Description:

We live in a beautiful village surrounded by farmer's fields that I love to visit when I feel a longing for a connection to nature, however, these precious pockets of land are constantly under threat of having houses built upon them. Despite the support of Government policies and existing protections, many local communities repeatedly find themselves fighting proposals to build upon areas of important Green Belt land such as this.

Cindy Wider

Image: Twelve



Artist: Cindy Wider

Title: Making More Space For Play

Medium: Charcoal on Paper Size: 30 x 35cm

Price: NFS

Description:

Battling through cold wind and rain, the workmen do their best to make much needed improvements to the children's playground. A large area of grassed land right in the heart of the village is shared by the community and fondly nicknamed the 'Rec.'

This is an important publicly-owned space where people can socialise and spend time out doors with family and friends. I am proud of my husband who is a member of an important community volunteer group known as 'The Friends Of Scholes Recreation Ground' who are active in improving and maintaining this park environment.

Cindy Wider Artist Statement



"These drawings have been created as a series of 'snap-shots' like tourist post cards capturing precious moments in time. I have chosen to depict images of important people, places and moments that make our life here so interesting and wonderful.

The English village and surrounding areas fascinate me with the wonderful history from eras long gone by, magnificent old churches that still stand firm, wonderful manors and stately homes that are so carefully maintained as museums along with their neatly manicured gardens.

When I see the quaint homes made with stone walls, tiny windows and slate-tiled roof tops like doll's houses I am reminded of the story books I read as a child and somehow it all seems so strangely familiar.

At Christmas time when it begins to snow outside it's such a delight to tuck into the traditional warm English feast (that I also enjoyed in Australia) but makes so much more sense here in this colder climate.

I love seeing the snow gently drifting down from the heavens above and nestling into the leaves of a holly bush, the pretty gardens filled with English flowers such as Tulips, Snowdrops, Bluebells and Daffodils that seem to suddenly appear right at a time when colour is so desperately needed to brighten a grey-sky day.

The English village lifestyle is radically different to the life we live in Australia, through this body of work my goal is to share this experience with you. Although I do miss the sunshine and open skies, brightly coloured flora, bold foliage and fauna that I love about Queensland Australia, England has its very special beauty too. I am deeply appreciating my precious time here."

Cindy Wider Artist Biography

Cindy Wider was born in Brisbane Australia 1968 and grew up in the Western Highlands of Papua New Guinea. At the age of eleven years Cindy (along with her parents and siblings) returned to Australia where she lived until recently.

Two and a half years ago Cindy moved with her husband and their two young daughters to West Yorkshire United Kingdom where she is currently residing and works as a full time artist and author.

A multi-award winning artist, Cindy's artwork was short-listed for the Wayne Kratzmann Art Award in 2011 and her painting titled 'A Woman and Her Cuppa' was included in 'Connection' a touring exhibition of the 2011 Queensland Regional Art Awards. This exhibition was curated by Michele Helmrich (Senior Curator, University of Queensland Art Museum) and toured throughout major Regional Galleries in Queensland then finally shown at the State Library of Queensland in 2012.

Her most recent solo touring exhibition titled "Rolling Hills of White Flat – the reality and fantasy of life on the land from a feminine perspective" in 2011 was very well received at the prestigious Outback Regional Gallery Waltzing Matilda Centre Winton, Queensland.

Cindy was selected as one of twelve artists for the ABC open and Queensland Arts Council project 'Artist by Artist' in 2011. A documentary was created about her artwork <http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2011/09/27/3353170.htm>

A prolific author as well as an artist, she is also a highly regarded internationally recognized author of many art education publications including the soft cover books 'Paint In Your Pyjamas – every woman's guide to finding your life purpose through art' 'Action Painting Workshop' '12 Charcoal Techniques' and 37 e-books which form the CPD accredited 'Complete Drawing and Painting Certificate Course.' Cindy is currently in the process of designing a further 48 e-books that form the young children's version of this same art course.

Brigitte Back

Image: One



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'Selfie'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 120 x 100 cm
Price: \$ 2000.00

Description:

The way our youth think! Gotcha, look at me; independent out in the depth of the sea.

Brigitte Back

Image: Two



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: Selfie-2- 'Just ah! Cruising'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 160 x 82 cm
Price: \$1900.00

Description:

A culture that is! The future. Out here and alone; me and myself!

Brigitte Back

Image: Three



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'Smiling in the Wind'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 60 x 131 cm
Price: \$1650.00

Description:

Such as life, with just me the sand, sun and wind.

Brigitte Back

Image: Four



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'Not Amused'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 70 x 90 cm
Price: \$ 1250.00

Description:

Kahlua, not amused because of the joys of life he has to endure!

Brigitte Back

Image: Five



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'See-ya later K'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 72.5 x 110 cm
Price: \$1600.00

Description:

I just wanna go home! Not again.

Brigitte Back

Image: Six



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'Quite Spectacular'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 65 x 110 cm
Price: \$1600.00

Description:

'Butter slide' skimming the surface.

Brigitte Back

Image: Seven



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'Sea of Life'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 76 x 147 cm
Price: \$1980.00

Description:

Captured a fleeting moment in time with nature.

Brigitte Back

Image: Eight



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'One of a kind'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 100 x 110 cm
Price: \$1800.00

Description:

The joys of flight!

Brigitte Back

Image: Nine



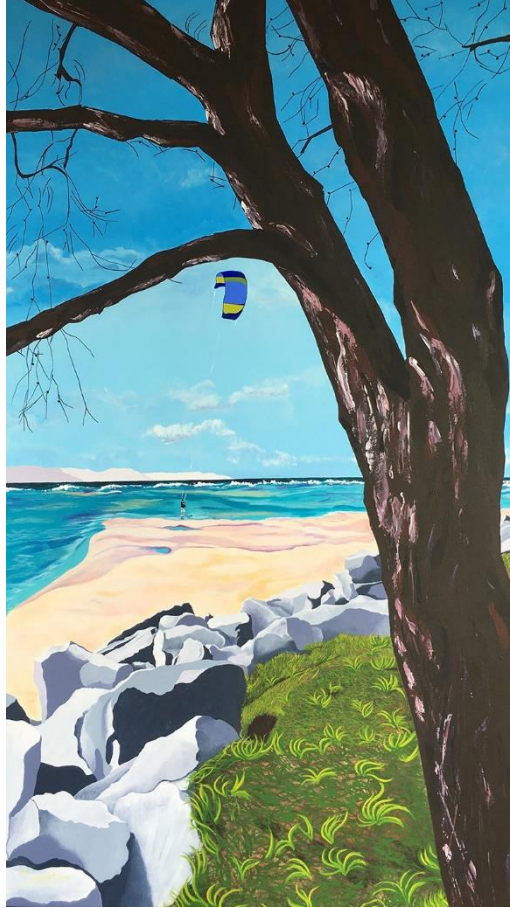
Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'Inspiration'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 90 x 80 cm
Price: \$1600.00

Description:

This is what inspired me to art. To the natural wonders of the world through sun, sail and wind..

Brigitte Back

Image: Ten



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: Kite's up Noosa'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 140 x 80 cm
Price: \$1900.00

Description:

Watching the prevailing winds roll towards me.

Brigitte Back

Image: Eleven



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'Furled and Fun'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 79 cm x 120 cm
Price: \$1890.00

Description:

It is a Rockin' and a Rollin' and times like this is to go out and have some fun:)

Brigitte Back

Image: Twelve



Artist: Brigitte Back
Title: 'Secluded Elusion'
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 120 x 79 cm
Price: \$1600.00

Description:

Secluded, alone and left to think in a moment of time.

Brigitte Back Artist's Statement



"From my very earliest memories I have enjoyed the feeling of wind in my hair and over the years I have held a deep fascination for movement and elements of the ocean.

Much later in my life I spent five years sailing across the Atlantic towards the Caribbean and beyond, with my husbanded Gary and our three boys following the trade winds.

I was always captivated by the motion and excitement of the wind hitting and slapping the sail, the rise and fall of the ocean as we glided and headed towards muddier waters.

These experiences have inspired me to depict kitesurfing in its element, along with the theatrical, gliding movements that the wind creates on the ocean, leaving behind only memories 'selfies' captured as a single moment in time."

Brigitte Back Artist Biography

Brigitte Back was born in Zambia, Luanshya 1960. After living in several countries and then getting married in South Africa, she travelled around the world with her husband and three young sons on board their yacht (Slithermoon) for five years. They visited many interesting countries, socialising with people from different cultures and educated their sons as they explored.

As a full time artist and Internationally recognized online art educator, Brigitte's professional art training began in 2007 when she began to study under the mentorship of artist and author Cindy Wider.

In 2008 Cindy invited Brigitte (as one of her leading art students; chosen from hundreds of others studying with her from around the world) to become one of her first three online 'Certified Art Instructors.' Brigitte has helped hundreds of people learn to draw through assisting them to study this CPD Accredited 'Complete Drawing Certificate Course' online at Drawpj.com with people of all ages from many countries around the world.

She has also exhibited in several important exhibitions in Queensland including the Macgregor Lions Garden City Art Extravaganza Brisbane and the Immanuel Arts Festival Buderim in 2015.