

Artists in the Port Macquarie Region

Updated 2021

Artist Profile - Julie Mills: Painter

Born in Sydney, Julie often entered children's art competitions and sent illustrations to the Sydney papers who paid the grand sum of \$2 per published drawing. She won her very first pair of jeans through a drawing competition on TV.

She moved to Noosa Qld at 19 and started to immerse herself in painting with so many beautiful beaches and rainforests as subjects. She joined Weyba Art Group and quickly became a committee member involved in organising various exhibitions. Whilst working at Noosa Fine Art & Framing she was inspired by amazing artists and art works coming through the gallery doors.

After moving to Bonny Hills in 2006, Julie continued to exhibit mainly modern seascapes in acrylics or oils, finding success in local exhibitions. She is currently putting her energy into outdoor art, painting seascapes on corrugated iron panels in weatherproof acrylics usually displayed on balconies, walls or fences. She is a member of HVFAA often exhibiting and volunteering at the gallery.

How long have you been practicing?

I have been painting for 50 years

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

Colourful seascapes, often textured, inspired by nature.

What do you love the most about working and living in the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

I love the freedom painting offers. My time, my choice of subject and medium.

Where can people find your work?

Hastings Valley Fine Art Gallery

Bonny Hills Garden Centre

Artist Profile: Kim McLean

Kim McLean: Mixed Media Artist

Kim is a contemporary artist and designer with a diverse style creating beautiful things for people to love.



How long have you been practicing?

Around 30 years

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

Experimentation, exploration and intuition with a dash of research. I take inspiration from my memories and nature and from my family.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

It is such a beautiful natural region, so many places to explore and take inspiration from. I love the beaches and rainforest.

Where can people find your work?

- My home studio gallery
- Hastings Valley Fine Arts Gallery

I also teach art classes that are tailored to each individual's specific needs. An appointment is required.

Facebook: [kimmcleanart](#)

Instagram: [kimmcleanart](#)

Email: [\[email protected\]](#)



Artist Profile: Kim Staples

Kim Staples: Visual Artist and Sculptor

Kim grew up on Sydney's Northern beaches, and made her home in Port Macquarie in 2003 – two places of outstanding natural beauty.

Careers in drafting, interior design, training and facilitation led the pathway to creativity and teaching. Certification in visual arts and art therapy began a new career as a visual artist, art tutor and art therapist. Life experiences, inner emotions and intuition are major factors in her work. This mindset carries into all the mediums she explores including water based mixed media painting and sculpting.

Kim invites the viewer to engage emotionally with her artwork. A lot of Kim's work is self-evident, but some are left for contemplation and query. Her aim is to inspire people to love their natural surroundings as much as she does. Kim has been published in Artist palette, Australian artist and Art edit. Her work is in private collections nationally and internationally, recognized and awarded, sold and displayed locally and in regional galleries. She is one of the contributing artists for the Hello Koalas sculpture trail.



How long have you been practicing?

I have been practicing as a visual artist and art tutor since 2004 and as an art therapist since 2008.

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

My practice embraces a broad spectrum of media, styles and subjects, although the inspiration for each work remains constant – the colours and beauty of my natural surroundings greatly influence my work. Splashes of colour, layers of paint, fine detail, shapes and lines depict my work.

My works are intuitive and emotive. Dynamic colour, deep tones, darks and lights along with natural forms are the foundation of my diverse style of work.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

My natural surroundings living in Port Macquarie constantly inspire me. Nature's bounty is strongly featured in my work. Port Macquarie's oceans, beaches, flora and fauna are part of my collection.

Where can people find your work?

- Sunset Gallery
- Hastings Valley Fine Art Gallery
- Masterpiece Framing
- Studio, where I run personalised art classes in acrylics and mixed media and specialise in special needs.

Website: kimstaplesartoflife.com

Email:

Phone: 0408 550 950



Artist Profile: Tony Williams

Tony Williams: Painter



Tell us a bit about yourself?

I've been a painter now for about 18 years and before that I was a potter with my own studio practice in the Blue Mountains. All while working full-time. A change of circumstances so I took up painting. I then had a studio at the Lennox Street Artist Studios in Newtown for many years. A great place to live and work.

I retired to live in Port almost four years ago and resumed painting at my home. Surprising to me after thinking I'd never leave Newtown, I love living in Port and feel very comfortable here.

I describe my pictures as Abstract Australian Landscape - more or less! I find endless inspiration in the wonderful Australian country, both our seascapes, the ever changing glorious Centre of our country, and the mountains and gullies of the Blue Mountains, the Colo region [where I grew up] to the north of there, and the Central tablelands of NSW. I feel I have this affinity with our awe-inspiring landscapes and my artwork is my interpretation of this landscape. I love it.

I'm planning an extensive trip this year through the Centre of Australia, the North and the West Coast. I hope [I'm sure!] the experiences and landscapes I visit will inspire my work in the future.

What mediums do you use?

I paint with acrylic paints on canvas. I prefer acrylics for their immediacy and vibrancy. At times I use impasto and also found materials like netting, string, tissue or corrugated paper to add texture to some works. I also use oil crayons for definition and pattern. I prefer working with a larger canvas. I find smaller canvases too restricting of the way I work.

How long have you been practicing?

I've been a painter for the past 18 years. Before that I was a potter for about 35 years with my own studio and practice. I worked full time while practicing except the last few years since I retired to live in Port Macquarie.

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

Good question! I certainly get my inspiration from our endlessly wonderful country. The viewer will see from my work that I don't describe myself as a realist but my work does derive from my perceptions of the country. I find endless variety in our landforms and vegetation. From the inspiration of this variety it becomes my interpretation that I transfer to the canvas.

I begin a canvas without much of an idea of form but begin by making lines and patches of colour on the canvas. As I add colour, lines, texture I respond to those markings and the painting begins to take form. As this develops I can then begin to in-fill colours and markings until the painting begins to take form of its own. I

might leave the canvas for a period of time and just let it be there in my view. This time allows me to respond to its form and whether I feel it is completed or not or if something more needs to be added.

Sometimes I never know when its enough but there comes a point when I am satisfied to let it be finished.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

I love the environment we live in - the seascapes, the rocky headlands, the beaches, the close brush of the beach dunes. I love the estuarine areas, the tropical wetlands opposite my house. I also love my house, the place I live. I enjoy the convenience of getting around Port too compared to the inner city where I came from!

My studio is my double garage in my house. I'm very comfortable here

Where can people find your work?

My home studio at 262 Crestwood Drive, by appointment

Website: Bluethumb.com.au/Tony-Williams

Facebook: [tonywilliamsartist](https://www.facebook.com/tonywilliamsartist)

Instagram: [tonywilliams](https://www.instagram.com/tonywilliams),



Mobile: 0406 515 710

Artist Profile: Kim Madden

Kim Madden: Mixed Media Artist



Tell us about your art?

An enthusiastic traveller in Australia and overseas my paintings often reflect this. Buildings, urban scenes, figures and still life are favourite subjects but following on from several long road trips across Australia, including a visit to Alice Springs with several fellow artists, I started to focus on landscape. The desert landscapes with their amazing colours, structures and silence were an initial inspiration but now coastal scenery fires my imagination too.

I first picked up a pencil and brush in 2004 soon after retiring to Port Macquarie. Concentrating initially on learning to draw, then watercolour and lastly oil and mixed media I have been fortunate in having several excellent local teachers. Learning to be good at anything takes time, practice and perseverance. It is a journey of discovery without end. To continue to evolve and improve an artist must be willing to constantly learn, to take risks and experiment, to dare to fail. Then of course there are the wonderful friendships ones makes with fellow artists with opportunities to share ideas, techniques, adventures and a little bit of madness. It is exhilarating at this, the pointy end of life to find a new and engaging passion in art.

I have had some success winning prizes in Regional Exhibitions and have participated in a several small group exhibitions at the Glasshouse, including in 2021 Snowline to Sandune and 2018 Heartfelt.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

Port Macquarie is special because of its intimate relationship with the natural environment. The beaches all have reserves adjacent to them and are not built out, there are wonderful walkways and we are surrounded by fabulous national parks. We also have an outstanding, centrally located cultural precinct in the Glasshouse which provides artists like me with the opportunity to exhibit and to see exhibitions in an exciting and prestigious space.

Where can people find your work?

Hastings Fine Art Gallery, 2a William St, Port Macquarie 2444

Instagram: madden2216

Facebook: Kim Madden

Email:



Artist Profile: Gwen Roberts

Gwen Roberts: Photorealism Painter & Drawer

British born Gwen Roberts is a full time artist now living and working in Australia. Gwen started her working life in the financial industry and has now fulfilled her ambition to dedicate her career to art.

She had a talent for drawing at a young age and a passion for visual arts. Gwen is self-taught and educated herself in the techniques used by the old masters. Gwen says that "art cannot be taught; it has to be discovered".

In 2013 Gwen studied fine art at Winchester School of Art in the United Kingdom before moving to Spain and finally Australia. She has exhibited internationally and has sold her work to private collectors around the globe.

Gwen enjoys sharing her skills and has written a book; 'How to Draw Photorealistic Portraits'. In addition she has produced demonstration videos on YouTube for her followers on social media and given live demonstrations and artist talks.

Gwen implements an uncommon technique known as 'sanding' in the preparation and rendering of a drawing. It is time consuming and labour intensive. The medium is applied in thin layers and laboriously manipulated with fine sandpaper into meticulous detail.

Her art references the psychological repercussions to the stimuli contemporary women are subjected to on a daily basis. Women are beset by idealised images in the media. Gwen's work is a sincere narrative of honest responses to modern social issues from a female perspective. Her heartfelt openness facilitates an intellectual and spiritual connection between artist and viewer.



How long have you been practicing?

I have been a practicing artist for 7 years, however, I have always considered myself an artist from an early age because of my instincts for the craft. Even throughout episodes of non-productivity because for me it is part of my being.

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

I draw with charcoal, pastel and graphite using a little known technique using sandpaper. The 'sanding' technique was refined by artist and 'Ibex Master' Annie Murphy Robinson. Under her guidance I became adept at the craft and cultivated the process to suit my own hand.

I use a robust printing paper and cover it with a charcoal ground. I proceed to burnish it with fine grade sandpaper to form a smooth surface. The drawing is rendered with smaller pieces of sandpaper to peel back or push the medium into the paper. It is labour intensive and demands expertise but enables a flawless rendering, which is the ultimate objective in representational art.

I have recently diversified into working in colour. I prefer oil paint or pastels as these allow multiple applications of delicate glazes to achieve tangible and credible flesh tones. The palette is limited and the background is neutral to produce a harmonised and cohesive aesthetic.

I am devoted to developing my artistic practice and achieving the highest level of expertise. The old masters were my teachers and the contemporary masters are my motivation.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

When my (Australian) husband and I moved from the UK we had the choice of living anywhere in Australia. Port Macquarie is a jewel! The nature lover in me is always astonished by Australia's wildlife and diverse landscape, and this region has natural beauty in abundance.

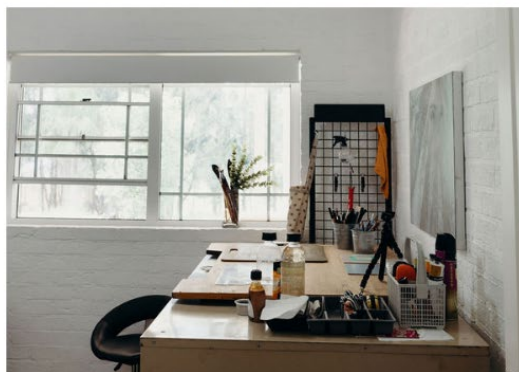
The artist in me loves the vibrant yet relaxed atmosphere I am accustomed to. You're likely to find me sipping a latte in one of the many lovely cafes, bars and restaurants and enjoying the perfect climate. Of course, that is when I manage to wrench myself out from my studio.

Where can people find your work or contact you?

Website: gwenrobertsartist.weebly.com

Instagram: [gwenrobertsart](https://www.instagram.com/gwenrobertsart)

Facebook: [gwenrobertsart](https://www.facebook.com/gwenrobertsart)



Artist Profile: Trudy Ebsworth-Espie

Trudy Ebsworth-Espie: Potter

Trudy has been making pots for over 38 years. Her pots and sculptures are mostly hand thrown on the potters wheel and inspired by her love of animals and nature. She lives in the Greater Port Macquarie Region she finds lots of inspiration on her doorstep, where there is always something new to explore, leading to new designs for her pots.

Her work can be found at:

The Glasshouse, Port Macquarie

Local Markets

Website: ebsworthpots.com

Facebook: [@ebsworthpots](https://www.facebook.com/ebsworthpots)

Instagram: [ebsworthpots](https://www.instagram.com/ebsworthpots)

Ebsworth Pots Studio: Call 0403 233 309 to make an appointment



Artist Profile: Vivianne Hazenveld

Vivianne Hazenveld: Mixed Media Artist

Vivianne is an enthusiastic artist having completed various Fine Art qualifications such as the Diploma of Fine Arts, Craft and Visual Art Practice & Business Skills and several Design Certificates. She likes to explore various media and styles as she believes being an artist is all about experimenting and evolving. She started teaching about 15 years ago and absolutely adores it. She loves seeing how art can help people to express themselves and to give a deep sense of self empowerment. When people create together, a beautiful sense of community and wellbeing is formed.



Tell us about your work?

I'm a Mixed Media Artist and enjoy using whichever medium I feel conveys the right emotion in my work. While most work is done on canvas using largely acrylics, I also create carved pieces, sculpture, artists books and wearable art.

Femininity is a common theme throughout my work, be it in the sensual curves of an abstract or a Goddess figure in one of my paintings. My art is often mixed in layered, in material and meaning.

I've exhibited widely, in galleries such as Sunset Gallery Port Macquarie, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Art Focus Gallery, The Painters Gallery, Lavender Bay Gallery, the Casula Powerhouse, Griffith, Orange Regional Galleries, Warringah Creative Space, Sydney Parliament House and more.

How long have you been practicing?

I believe we are all born as curious creatives in this world, but I have been actively creating and exhibiting art since my late teens. In this time my work has been exhibited in over 40 venues including; Warringah Creative Space, Parliament House Sydney, Underground ARTspace, Mosman Art Gallery, Gallery Lane Cove, The Painters' Gallery, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Lavender Bay Gallery, Glenn St Theatre, Art Focus Gallery, Casula Powerhouse, Orange Regional Gallery, Griffith Regional Galleries and Sunset Gallery in Port Macquarie.

I have been part of many creative events and exhibitions in the Hastings area since 1995, the latest work on display winning "People's Choice" in the Twice Formed Exhibition at Sunset Gallery (2020).

As a facilitator, I have worked with Sabaai, Wesley College, Erin Hill Sketching, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Arthouse Industries, Pinot and Picasso and more recently Port Macquarie Hastings council. I've also curated large public exhibitions and developed and facilitated community events including art experiences including community events and workshops for those suffering from Anxiety and Depression (Sydney) and those affected by the fires (Hastings Area).

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

I drive myself totally nuts by getting inspiration ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE! I can fall in love with the way light hits a tree, a cheeky look in a friend's eye, the way water droplets move along a window, the feel of my hands moving across the canvas... I have yet to find an off switch for this, but must admit I haven't been looking too hard for it!

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

Personally I love the space, in so many ways! Being able to see so much sky, having a studio big enough to carve, spray paint, work on large pieces, and not feeling crowded in by people. I've also met some amazing artists, driven by passion for their work, creating original pieces, who have been very supportive and inspiring.

Tell us about your art classes?

In my classes and workshops, I cover various subjects and techniques including drawing, acrylic painting, mixed media, self expression, therapeutic art and sketching. I've taught at a range of institutions ranging from the Wesley Art Institute, Sabaai in Neutral Bay to the Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Erin Hill Studios, Art Smart at Seaforth, Sunset Gallery and Arthouse Industries in Port Macquarie and I ran my own thriving little art school in Manly, Sydney till 2018.

Regardless of personality and style (bold and expressive, gentle and delicate or anything in between!) I help people to complete a work that truly reflects who they are. I love helping students who don't know where to start or who claim they cannot draw, and then to see their proud smiles when they look at an artwork they have created. I help students to become confident in their creativity and to achieve amazing results, all while enjoying the journey!

Where can people find your work?

My work can be found on my website, Facebook or Instagram, or better still, view it in person at my Studio opposite Billabong Zoo. Phone to make an appointment or come visit during my open studio weekends, usually held the last weekend of every month.

Studio (by appointment): 56 Billabong Drive, Sancrox (opposite of Billabong Zoo)

Website: www.viviannehazenveld.com

Instagram: [viviannehazenveldartandtuitie](https://www.instagram.com/viviannehazenveldartandtuitie)

Facebook: [@ViviannehazenveldArtist](https://www.facebook.com/ViviannehazenveldArtist)



Artist Profile: Rita Carosi

Rita Carosi: Painter

Born in Italy in a small village outside Rome, Rita's parents migrated to Australia when she was 5 years of age. She grew up in the inner western suburb of Sydney and after finishing school, worked as a clerk mainly in the accounts section, which allowed her to work in varied industries. She has always loved art and painting.

After meeting her husband Brian Barker (who also paints) her interest in art grew but it went in the direction of pottery.

She started painting in 1996 and after attending art classes, decided she was a better painter than a potter. She continued working part time and attending art classes on a weekly basis over 3 years.

In 2000 she moved from Sydney to Bonny Hills and joined the Hastings Valley Fine Art Association. Since joining the HVFAA she has diversified her skill as an Artist. Rita started painting in oils and now also paints in acrylics and pastels.



How long have you been practicing?

I started taking art lessons 25 year ago but did not start painting seriously until I moved to Bonny Hills in 2000.

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

My husband and I like to travel and get inspiration from the places we visit. When choosing a subject, I usually look for atmosphere, light and is it telling a story. I capture the moment by taking a photo which I use as a reference and I also sometimes do a sketch. Living in Bonny Hills my subject matter mainly comes from Rainbow Beach. The beach changes on a daily basis and provides an endless supply of scenes from dramatic to soft misty settings.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

As an artist, I love the scenery. You don't have to go too far to get a rural setting either from Comboyne, Wauchope, Long Flat, Beechwood just to name a few and then we have beautiful beaches and coastline. The local artists are very supportive of each other and the lifestyle is relaxed, friendly and of course not to mention the perfect climate.

Where can people find your work?

- Hastings Valley Fine Art Gallery, 2 William Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

- Home studio: Rainbow Beach Studio and Gallery, 15 Kendall Cres Bonny Hills

Mobile: 0418 284 583

Email:

Instagram: ritacarosi_at

Facebook: Rita Carosi



Artist Profile: Brian Barker

Brian Barker: Painter

Brian was born in Sydney and finished his education at Enmore High School. He started his working life as a leather cutter classer, and then served an apprenticeship at the children's historic Golden Books printing company at Woolloomooloo as a Graphic Retoucher now known as a Graphic Designer. His apprenticeship training required him to obtain a Diploma in Art at East Sydney Art College and other related printing courses. Graphic Retouchers in those days had to have hand and eye skills and knowledge of tonal and colour values to interpret in the correction of copies of artwork for printing reproduction. He has worked with many artists which furthered his education in art.

When he and his wife Rita Carosi retired to Bonny Hills twenty years ago, they became involved with the Hastings Valley Fine Art Association which he was the President from 2005 to 2017. As President, Brian was involved in organising many activities including exhibitions and live drawing that has been going for 12 years and established the Hastings Fine Art Gallery. His Passion is for watercolour but also paints in oil, acrylics and pastels, and sees himself as a contemporary impressionist.



How long have you been practicing?

I have painted since I started work as a 14-year-old due to working in the printing industry and finalizing an art course at Eastern Suburbs Art College and working with artists most of my adult life but didn't start painting seriously until I retired and moved to Bonny Hills in 2000.

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

My wife and I have travelled to most parts of Australia and some overseas trips. I love photography as well as painting, consequently taking a lot of photos and when time permits, sketch and paint as we go. Living in Bonny Hills I ride my bike most days and swim at the local beaches. The Hastings region is a great inspiration for my art and I attempt to reflect all that.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

I love the great diversity of scenery, particularly the coastal National Parks, beaches and the tablelands. I have painted many scenes depicting the beauty of the Greater Port Macquarie region. There is always something to paint.

Where can People find your work?

- Hastings Valley Fine Art Gallery, 2 William Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444
- Our home studio: Rainbow Beach Studio and Gallery, 15 Kendall Cres Bonny Hills

- I also enter most exhibitions that are organized in the Mid North Coast, my work has been on display at the Glasshouse Regional Gallery and the ArtWalk festival.

Phone: 02 6586 3236 | Mobile: 0418 284 583

Email: [\[email protected\]](#)

Instagram: brianbarker_art



Artist Profile: Aleisa Byfield

Aleisa Byfield: Ceramic Artist

Aleisa creates individual functional and decorative ceramics with a contemporary aesthetic which includes homewares, jewellery and larger artistic works. Inspired by the fragile, seductive and receptive nature of clay, she relishes in the endless possibilities of ceramics, particularly for self exploration and expression.

She largely finds inspiration in the diversity and unpredictability of the textures, patterns and colours of the natural environment. She sees beauty in the flaws, scars and imperfections that are often overlooked and regularly collects discarded objects that may be incorporated into her pieces. Aleisa enjoys the freedom of using a variety of clays and has a relentless curiosity with experimentation and testing the limits.



How long have you been practicing?

2014 but officially started my business in 2016.

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

Nature is where most of my inspiration comes from but it can also come from everyday objects and materials – from hessian to string. I am also hugely influenced by Japanese pottery, values and way of life. I love texture, design, timber and textiles and attempt to bring these sources of inspiration into my work in both texturizing the clay itself and in the glazes or surface treatments I use. I adore the tactile nature of clay and prefer work that is raw, fractured and individual – I have a huge fear of the mundane and conformity!

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

I love the support and inclusivity of our local creative community and also the magnificence, diversity and unpredictability of the textures, patterns and colours of the coastal environment and hinterland of the Mid North Coast.

Where can people find your work?

- In my online store (see below)
- Artist Market on 4th Sunday of each month
- Local shops – 3 Little Birds, The Brew Box and Arthouse Industries

Website: aleisabyfieldartisan.com

Email:

Mobile: 0423 072 663

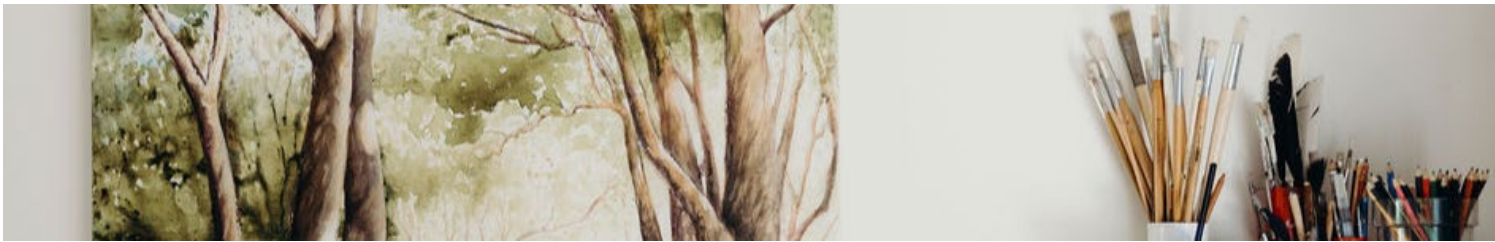
Instagram: [aleisabyfield.artisan](https://www.instagram.com/aleisabyfield.artisan)
Facebook: [@aleisabyfieldartisan](https://www.facebook.com/aleisabyfieldartisan)



Artist Profile: Maureen Hales

Maureen's love of art developed during her early school days. She went on to study at the National Art School in Sydney, and worked for many years as a freelance graphic designer in Australia and overseas. Recent years have seen her rediscover this love which has started an amazing and exciting journey of discovery. From her mixed media portraits in the beginning to seascapes, works on canvas and most recently contemporary works. Her paintings are varied, colourful and captivating and reflect her love of life and her natural surroundings.

Maureen holds regular solo exhibitions and has completed many commission works. She is a regular supporter at the local artists markets and visitors are always most welcome, by appointment, at her quaint home studio and gallery in Port Macquarie on the beautiful Mid North Coast of NSW.



How long have you been practicing?

15 years

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

My medium of choice is acrylic on large wrapped canvas. My inspiration comes from this magical part of the Mid North Coast where I live. Our beautiful clean beaches, rain forests and beautiful countryside fuel my inspiration. I aim to capture this magic in my work.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

I often refer to our Port Macquarie region as 'Paradise 2444'. I love the vibrancy and opportunities that our region has to offer.

Where can people find your work?

You can find me at the local weekend Artists Markets in Port Macquarie and Gladstone. Visitors are always welcome at my home, Benjella Art Studio and Gallery by appointment.

Open Garden and Exhibition days are held annually in May and November. Please enquire for information.

Website: www.maureenhales.com

Email: [\[email protected\]](#)

Mobile: 0413 991 616

Facebook: @maureen.hales



Artist Profile: Caroline Baker

Caroline Baker: Painter

Caroline was raised in a family where art was always of interest as her stepfather's mother was the highly regarded artist Hilda Rix Nicholas. Caroline's stepfather was a sculptor. Despite this Caroline never really undertook painting with her interest more with horses and then a career as a Registered Nurse and later as a mother.

Caroline first picked up a brush in 2000, however after finishing a few paintings she stopped painting due to competing commitments. It was not until Caroline moved to Bonny Hills in 2014 that she picked up the paintbrush again. Caroline also joined the Hastings Valley Fine Arts Association whose members have nurtured and encouraged her growth as an artist.

Caroline enjoys drawing and painting. She uses acrylics, pastels, charcoal, inks and watercolours. Caroline has exhibited and sold in local exhibits and shows.

Caroline is passionate about animals and the environment. She often paints animals and has done some political paintings, which express her concern for the environment and nature.



Tell us about your work?

I am an artist who works in predominately acrylics and pastels but also uses charcoal, watercolour and ink.

How long have you been practicing?

Since 2014

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get your inspiration?

I gain inspiration from many facets - I am inspired by the environment in which we live, colour and light on different subjects, my desire to improve my craft and my imagination. I have many many ideas just waiting to be created, some of which will be actually done.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

I love, love, love living in the greater Port Macquarie region. Not only is the area beautiful with wonderful beaches and mountains, there is also a great sense of community. The area is also full of many very talented artists, many of whom you can find their works at Hastings Valley Fine Arts Gallery.

Where can people find your work?

I exhibit annually as part of the Bonny Hills Artist group and participate in various art competitions in Australia.

Hastings Fine Art Gallery
2a William Street
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Facebook: @c.bakerart
Instagram: c_baker_art
Bluethumb: caroline-baker
Redbubble: CBakerArt



Artist Profile: Jan Wilson

Jan Wilson: Painter

Originating from the mid north coast Jan has resided in a variety of towns along eastern NSW. She studied Art at Newcastle Technical Collage and completed a Diploma of Art at Alexander Mackie College Sydney. She currently belongs to Hastings Valley Fine Art Association and Bonny Hills Artists Group.



Tell us about your work?

I have always been drawing! Using lots of different mediums.

Earlier in my life I was a photographer, but in these later years I enjoy painting in oils and with pastels as this medium lends itself to drawing and painting.

How long have you been practicing?

Feels like all my life! Sometimes I had opportunities to focus on work...other times in life I juggled practice with other necessities...as one does.

How would you describe your creative process and where do you get inspiration?

I like to observe and draw inspiration from life around me, whether at home or travelling.

It is great when I connect with that 'heart spark' of recognition, that tells me this is a great composition or the elements are lining up for a good work... and if I don't get in the way of the process of responding to what I see and feel, I can be pleased to have captured that spark.

But most times it is just making myself relax and start approaching work slowly, observing, fiddling almost till I find a direction through the mess! The value for me is often to enjoy the process, not so much the achievement.

I am inspired by landscape and figurative subjects. I use on-site sketches and some photo references.

I am appreciative of all the years of life drawing that helps ones understanding of figure shapes and movements.

What do you love the most about the Greater Port Macquarie Region?

The natural beauty of the greater Port Macquarie region is inspiring.

Mondays I go plein air with Hastings Valley Fine Arts Association friends and locations are alternated between hinterland and coastal sites around the region...very fortunate for choice!

Where can people find your work?

Hastings Fine Art Gallery
2a William Street
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Home Studio (by appointment)

Email: [\[email protected\]](#)

