

MEDIA INFORMATION: 26 January 2010



Jenni Worth, *One Face Doll*, natural materials

ella-mental
an
ELEGANTLY ORGANIC EXHIBITION
at
**16 Yacca Way,
173 Port Road, Aldinga
(Aldinga Arts and Eco Village)**
20 – 21, 27 -28 February
4 - 7 and 11 – 14 March
10am – 5pm
Official opening 2pm Saturday 27 February 2010

ella-mental is a Fringe exhibition of elegant assemblages including body sculptures and ornaments as well as wall hangings and framed works. The artworks have been created with organic materials including lustrous silks, the finest wool and organically grown plant dyes and take their themes from the natural world; earth, water, sky and sea.

ella-mental is four artists, Maria Bray, Deborah Miller, Julie Dodderidge and Jenni Worth, who have varied backgrounds ranging from dentistry, architecture, teaching and midwifery. This exhibition features new work experimenting with botanical and natural dye techniques in random undisciplined manner, to create nuno felts, unique 'one face' dolls, dysframing and mixed media printmaking.

Jenni Worth is a collector of the unusual. Objects wearing the patina of time inspire her work, which is rich in ancient texts and fabrics of beauty. Eclectic and sensitive describe Jenni. Her hand stitching reminds one of sacred garments of previous times.

Deborah Miller is a prolific energetic artist. Her passion and intensity create a profusion of masterful works which cover an almost unbelievably vast range of skills. She recognises no boundaries and treads into new territory with exuberant creativity. Her journey is never boring.

Julie Doddridge's skill as an architect influences her art. She explores the un-noticed in hand rendering. The first framed field of view is never the truth, there is always something beyond. She reaches to the outer limits of the picture and goes further on.

Maria Bray is known for her understated works on paper and mixed-media. The new work looks at the relationship between nature and the human spirit. A pilgrimage into eco dyeing with its natural palette inspires her work. She aims for a timelessness that will weather the winds of change.

ella-mental artists apply modern ideas to ancient skills thereby giving them new life. The exhibition takes place in an environmentally designed rammed earth, solar powered building reflecting the ethos of the Eco Village's sustainable building and living practices.

For more information please contact: Sheila Bryce 0416 154 061

ella-mental artists



Jenni Worth, Wall Hanging.

Jenni Worth

Jenni Worth's unique dolls, hangings & clothes tell a story. Inspiration for each individually designed piece begins with the colour & texture of the natural materials she has spent a lifetime collecting each piece honours the skills & beauty from the past as it is re-worked to create the beauty of the



Coral Scarf, Deborah Miller

Deborah Miller:

Recently Deborah spent some time diving the Barrier Reef and the Coral Sea on a research trip. This was an eye opener for her. "It is depressing to see that parts of the lower reef are dead with algae growing on them. There is evidence of coral bleaching on the whole reef. The water temperature of the reef when I was diving 17 years ago was 25C/26C. The water on this trip at the same places and time of year was 27C/28C. Above 28C bleaching occurs. From this point coral can either recover or the little organisms (Zooxanthellae) go onto die if the temperatures remain high. I have used this trip as inspiration for my art works."



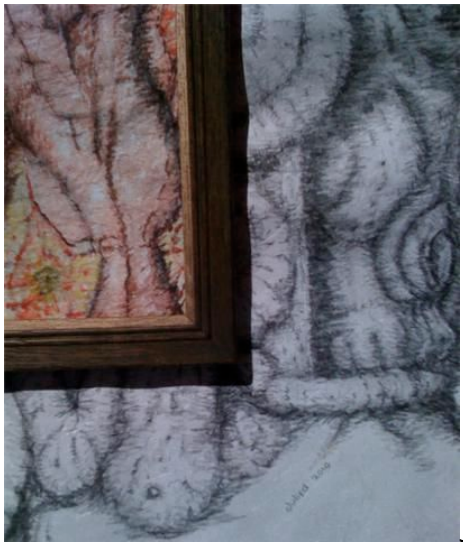
Maria Bray, *waterways* silk and superfine wool textile

Maria Bray:

In these times we are relearning remembering and respecting ancient wild waterways.

Over the past 3 years Maria has been a driving force to design wetlands throughout The Aldinga Arts Eco Village and the patterns created by water over the landscape inspires this body of work.

As a result of drought acid sulphate soils were exposed and this was collected and aged for a natural dyeing process, to create heritage appearance yet contemporary textile body sculptures. Pieces of superfine wool and silk are carefully hand dyed to form unique colours and texture for unrepeatable art works.



Julie Doddridge, *dys framed*

Julie Doddridge:

These exhibits take the images of your natural world, in this case trees and timber, and re-displays or ***dys-frames*** those images to help prompt your questioning of your relationship with your natural world and natural heritage.

The materials used are silk paper, Venetian slime paper, cotton paper, second hand timber picture frames, graphite pencil and pigmented inks.

Photographs are available in higher resolution.