

STITCHED AND BOUND

10 SEPTEMBER 2022 - 5 NOVEMBER 2022

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MJAC

Presented by the West Australian Quilters Association (WAQA), *stitched and bound* is a biennial exhibition featuring works by West Australian artists that challenge conventional quilting. The exhibition will be showcased at Midland Junction Arts Centre from 10 September before embarking on a tour of 5 regional galleries across the state.

This will be the thirteenth *stitched and bound* exhibition, the first of which took place in 1995. For each exhibition, the works are selected by a panel of 3 independent jurors. This year, jurors Leanne Bray, Janet Holmes à Court, and Lisa Walton, selected 45 works by 38 artists.

The exhibiting artists are Vicki Ames, Tracey Bareli, Delys Brady, Janette Campbell, Marilyn Clark-Murphy, Robyn Clout, Lesley Clugston, Myra Cornwell, Meg Cowey, Ruth de Vos, Tracy Destree, Julie Devereux, Jan Dunstan, Jan Fisher, Shelagh Fitzpatrick, Erin Ginty, Margery Goodall, Meagan Howe, Janine and Peter Judge, Lana Lefroy, Susan Mader, Denise Mallon, Julie McAllister, Cindy Morris, Carol Patrick, Jan Rowe, Frances Dorothy Schifferli, Carolyn Scott, Nadja Sevic, Susan Sheath, Caitlin Stewart, Jane Stone, Helen Sugars Duff, Philippa Thomas, Lesley Warren, Barbara Weeks, Louise Wells, Anne Williams and Judith Wilton.



Judith Wilton, *Brush with Technology* (detail), 2022, hand dyed cottons, commercial cotton and synthetic fabrics, 140 x 72 cm.

The works combine traditional and non-traditional quilted forms using a variety of materials and techniques. They explore a diversity of themes, including the artists' personal histories, Western Australia's history and environment, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Erin Ginty's work *Safety Blanket* explores her experience of living with chronic pain. Ginty accumulated packets of medication, which she then printed onto a fleshy coloured fabric that is reminiscent of bruising. She found the process of making the work and externalising her experience cathartic and meditative.

Margery Goodall's *Quairading Banksia* is part of a series responding to the destruction of West Australia's natural landscape. This work is inspired by the green-grey foliage and pink and yellow blossoms of the endangered *Banksia cuneata*. Also known as the matchstick banksia, this plant survives in small fragments of bushland in a region where 93% of bushland has been cleared.

Louise Wells' work *If the Walls Could Talk* investigates the history of Point King Lighthouse in Albany, of which only ruins remain. Between 1858 – 1911, 3 lightkeepers and their wives raised 5, 8 and 10 children respectively in this 4-room cottage. At this isolated post, the families had to be both self-sufficient and resilient. Wells' work asks what these ruins could tell us about their lives.

Julie McAllister's *Wool Bales* examines the inextricable links between Australia's burgeoning wool export market and railway development in the late 1800s. This abstract work portrays their synergistic relationship. The metal zips juxtaposed with muted wool scraps represent the railways servicing pastoral communities.

Twelve talented textile artists, ten of whom have work in the exhibition, will undertake residencies at Midland Junction Arts Centre before and during the exhibition. They will be working on a collaborative project from 10 August – 9 November, with the support of WAQA's major sponsor Handcrafters House, who is generously donating materials and equipment. This will coincide with Midland Junction Arts Centre's Open Day on Saturday 27 August as part of the City of Swan's Open Studios, where the artists will be running numerous free arts and craft activities for visitors.

WAQA provides the opportunity for West Australians interested in quilting to connect, socialise and share and preserve quilting knowledge. Their Contemporary Quilt Group is the natural home of anyone interested in art quilting, while members in 'Community Quilts' donate their time and skills to make quilts that are distributed to a wide range of charities. Whatever your interest in quilting you will find others in WAQA who share it. The Association and its members are frequently involved in community events, such as the Perth Royal Show. WAQA operates as part of Quilt Australia (formerly the Australian Council of Quilters) and works alongside other state quilting organisations.

WAQA's *stitched and bound* exhibition, on display at Midland Junction Arts Centre from 10 September – 5 November, highlights the creative potential of quilting and the dynamic new work by some of the state's leading textile artists. Come and see the artists while in residence and visit their website for updates on the tour of regional venues that continues until June 2023.

www.stitchedandboundblog.wordpress.com

<https://www.facebook.com/stitchedandboundartquiltexhibition>

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Midland Junction Arts Centre

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Wed - Fri 10am - 5pm, Sat 11am - 3pm

