

Desti-
nation

Sydney

The natural world

KID'S ART TRAIL

**MOSMAN ART GALLERY
MANLY ART GALLERY & MUSEUM
S.H. ERVIN GALLERY**

4 JANUARY - 20 MARCH 2022



INTRODUCTION

Destination Sydney: The natural world is the third exhibition in a series being shown at Mosman Art Gallery, Manly Art Gallery & Museum and S.H. Ervin Gallery. There are three important Australian women artists featured at Mosman Art Gallery who are all connected by their concerns for the natural world and the environment.

JANET LAURENCE



Janet Laurence is an artist who works with different **art media** including photographs and installations to explore how all living things are **interconnected**.

When you enter the gallery you will see a large, handwoven tapestry called ***Hear the Plant Song 2020***.

Imagine that you are walking through the bush.

Write down the sounds that you can hear.





JANET LAURENCE

The force that through the green fuse drives the flower 2021

Janet Laurence likes to present the beauty found in nature and to raise awareness of the threats to the environment. She regularly uses plants in her **installations**.

Can you add more plants to this installation? Think about the different shapes and colours of the leaves as you draw them. Do you know if any of the plants are endangered near where you live?

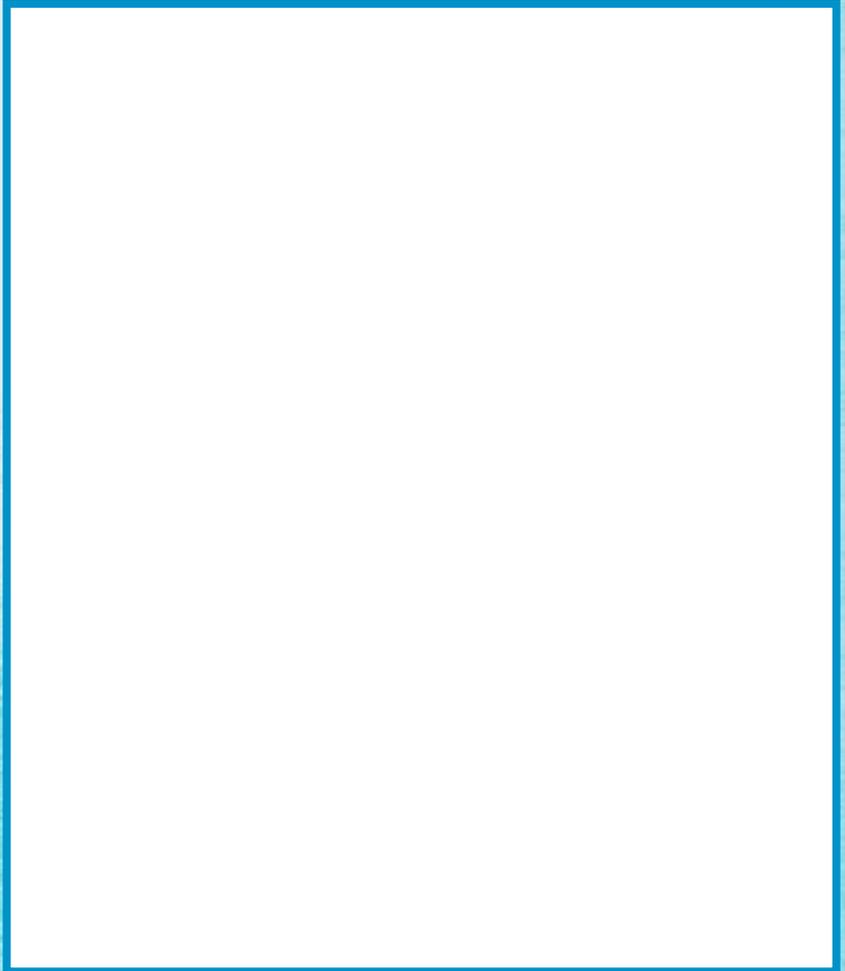


JANET LAURENCE ***Elixir Lab 2005-2021***

(You will find this work on Level 2)

Many plants have healing properties and in this installation the artist shows these plant elixirs or juices. Janet Laurence has staged this installation in galleries across the world, ensuring that each time she researches the local knowledge of the plants from that region.

Imagine that you are a botanist (scientist) and write or draw three items you can see in the Elixir Lab that you would include in your laboratory for experimenting on plants.



CAROLINE ROTHWELL

Sculptures and Topography 2013-2021

Caroline Rothwell is interested in how we can live in a more sustainable way. Her father is an **industrial chemist** and she has always been interested in chemistry and the **properties** of the different materials that she works with as an artist.

Look closely at these sculptures. Can you imagine how these objects would feel? (Remember to look with your eyes only). Complete the opposite words and circle the words that you feel best describe one of these objects.

Hard or

Rough or

Shiny or



CAROLINE ROTHWELL

Equilibrium 2017

In this work the artist has created an installation where a plant is balancing on one side with water in a glass on the other side. In nature this is called the 'balance of nature' that keeps all things living in harmony. Even small changes to this balance have negative effects.

#rothwellofficeplants 2017

(you will find this work upstairs on Level 2)

The *#rothwellofficeplants* are based on Instagram photos of office plants posted from around Australia and the world. These plants that once lived in the wild are now 'tamed' and kept in offices. The artist adds a hand-sewn metal 'skin' or metal leaf to these plants. The tangled thread of the black stitching is left to fall out of the picture frame, (like a spider's web or long tangled hair).

Can you draw some plants and then add in a skin and long threads falling from the frame.

- ★ Can you stand on one leg and lift the other leg in the air?
- ★ Do you need to move your arms to balance your body?
- ★ What happens if you continue to balance on one leg and lift your arms high in the air?
- ★ Does your body sway to find your balance?
- ★ What else do you notice changes in your body?

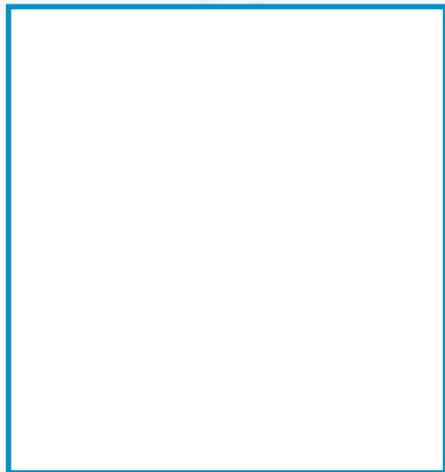
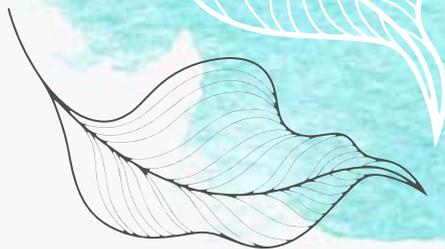


ROBYN STACEY

Dark Wonder Series 2016

Robyn Stacey is a photographer who has used **camera obscura** to make photographs in her **Dark Wonder 2016** series. In these camera obscura images the artist's library or studio becomes the camera. The viewer is sitting in the room and the view from outside comes into the room and covers the floor, walls and ceiling. It appears upside down and in reverse but with the colour and perspective preserved. Stacey captures the place of creativity and the **trace** of the other artists.

*Choose one photograph.
Draw three things that are
from outside the window.*





ROBYN STACEY

Trace 02, from the series Hot House 2001

Robyn Stacey spent time at The Royal Botanic Garden researching the way that scientists capture, record and classify plants. In this series she has photographed the folders that held plant specimens showing the **trace** of the plants that were once inside.

Can you collect some flowers or leaves to press?

You can do this by placing your selection between two sheets of absorbent paper and flatten your selection with a heavy book.

Then wait 2-4 weeks for them to dry completely.

*Can you research their names and **environment**?*



At home choose a window and look outside. What can you see?

Draw your own **camera obscura** image. Include what you can see inside the room and then add what you see outside but draw this upside down.



Complete this crossword puzzle using the underlined words from this list.

DEFINITIONS

Art media – includes painting, drawing, sculpture, crafts, photography, performance and installation art.

Interconnected – having connections between the different parts.

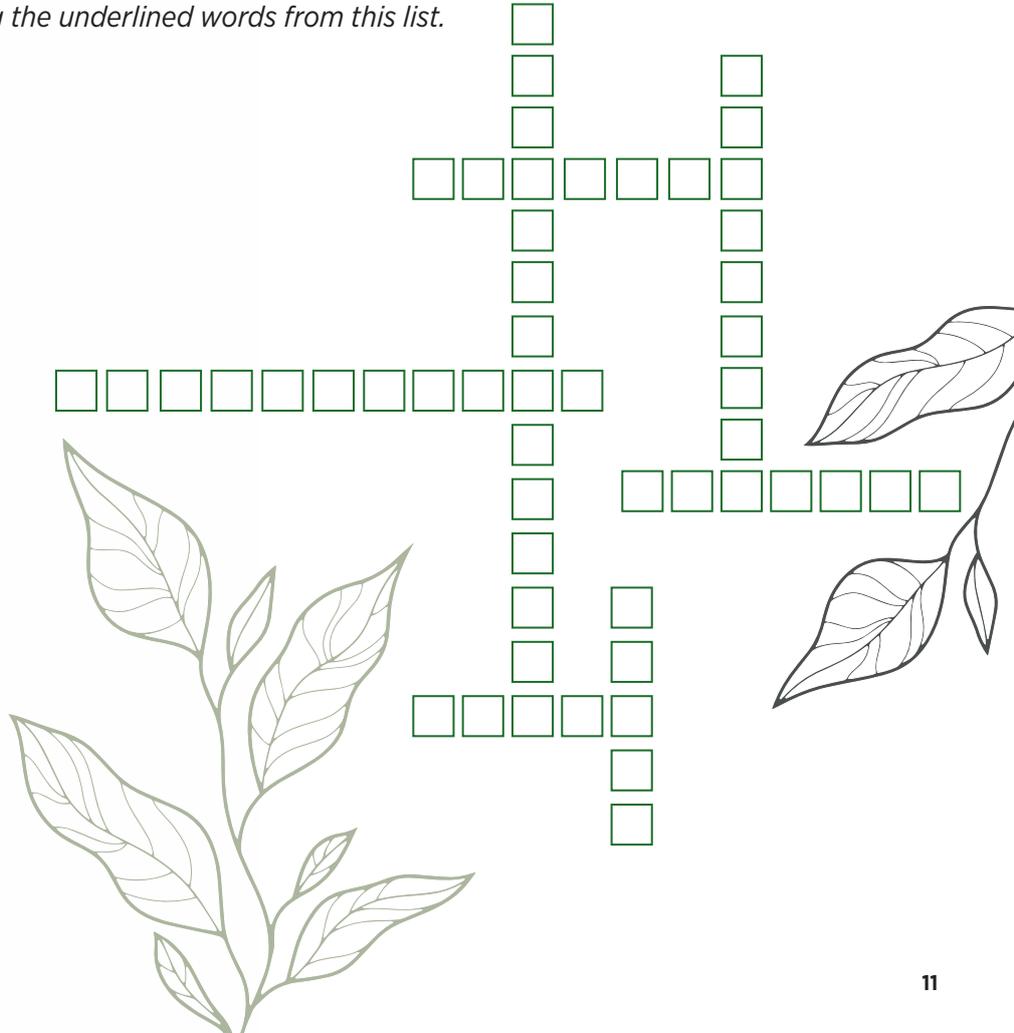
Industrial chemist – A chemist is a scientist who studies chemistry. Chemistry is the study of elements, atoms, molecules, and how they react together.

Properties of materials – Materials may be soft, hard, flexible (bendable), rigid (stiff), transparent (see-through), opaque (meaning light does not shine through it), rough, smooth, shiny, or dull.

Trace – a surviving mark or sign of a former existence. Eg a footprint is a trace of someone's footsteps.

Camera obscura – A camera obscura is a darkened room with a small hole or lens at one side through which an image is projected onto a wall opposite the hole. The words camera obscura comes from Latin meaning “dark chamber”.

Environment – the surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives.



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Thank you for visiting Mosman Art Gallery. This exhibition is also being held at Manly Art Gallery & Museum and S.H. Ervin Gallery. Can you visit these galleries too?



MOSMAN ART GALLERY ACKNOWLEDGES
THE BOROGEAL AND CAMMERAIGAL PEOPLE
AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THIS LAND.

MOSMAN ART GALLERY

1 Art Gallery Way, Mosman
10am – 4pm | Open 7 days
(Closed public holidays)

www.mosmanartgallery.org.au

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