

Rights of Nature 2018 - National Exhibition
Spring Hill Reservoirs, Spring Hill, Brisbane



AELA Earth Arts Program

Curator: Jenny Brown

Assistant Curator: Joseph Burgess

Technical Support: James Lee

More information: jenny@earthlaws.org.au

Tuesday 23 October, 10am - 5pm: open to the public

Wednesday 24 October, 10am - 5.30pm: open to the public (ticketed event 5.30pm - 10pm)

Thursday 25 October, 5.30pm - 9.30pm (ticketed event)

Saturday 27 October, 5.00pm - 10pm: open to the public

Sunday 28 October 10am - 5pm: open to the public - performances from midday

The program at the Spring Hill Reservoirs venue as part of AELA's Bi-Annual Rights of Nature Celebration, RONA18 – "Rights of Nature Australia 2018" has been designed to promote cultural engagement with the emerging, global, Rights of Nature movement, and to celebrate the [Australian Peoples' Tribunal for Community and Nature's Rights](#), which is being held on Saturday 27th October 2018 at the Federal Law Court in Brisbane. The exhibition brings together works by artists from around Australia who reflect on the broader flaws in our systems, institutions and approaches that are preventing us from transitioning to earth centred governance. Routes to counter-culture ways of being-in-the-world are also pursued through a focus on the agency of plants, animals and active citizens.

Reflecting on the site of the Spring Hill Reservoirs, an experimental listening session tracing root systems of botany, psychology, language and colonisation is also provided. Artists use voice to unearth subterranean threads, tapping chambered memories and generating new echoes within this former artificial body of water.



Dale Collier is a Darkinjung/Wiradjuri socio-politically engaged practitioner. 'Pseudophryne Cementia' is a moving image work about connecting to country through culture that is strange and unfamiliar. It attempts to diffuse the boundaries between contemporary art and creative action whilst considering nationhood in relation to finite resources and sustainable practice.

Anastasia Tyurina interprets scientific images as aesthetic forms that have been captured by a scanning electron microscope. She considers microscale drops of water from different aquatic systems after evaporation in an attempt to discover morphological features of the patterns related to water contamination. The work provides a means to expand our appreciation of our connection to water.



For ticketed events please see: www.earthlaws.org.au/rona18



Fiona Hall has an overriding interest in the complex relationship between humans and the natural world, and her works have variously addressed colonialism, consumerism, globalisation, natural history and the environment – important issues yet ones that are engaged with in always alluring, alchemical form. Her carpet 'Clearing' from 2008 is included in our show.

Helen Hardess and **Jude Roberts** present their work 'Stygofauna nests', which are scientific equipment that draw samples of bore water for analysis. They recreate plankton nests in waxed paper to reveal the deep time histories and hidden relationships of groundwater systems and the life forms they support.



Suzanne Bartos Suzanne Bartos combines her interest in social issues, psychotherapy and theatre for this work "4x5x100 = 2000 prayers for the earth".

She invites visitors to spin each of the "prayer wheels", made from repurposed oil drums five times, and if a hundred people participate then 2000 prayers for the climate have been made.

Spoken word poet **Caresse Creswell** and video artist **Di James** created 'Bleach' as a response to the Great Barrier Reef 2016 Rights of Nature Tribunal case. It's an invitation to engage in political action differently, with smiles from our hearts, to come from the place of our love. It's an invitation to create a selfie swarm that mimics the coral spawning. #bleachforthereef



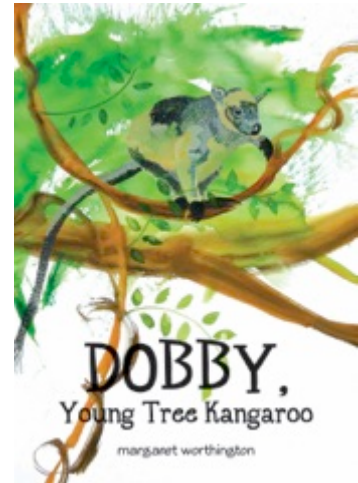
Jill Sampson is an artist and the producer of the Bimblebox Art Project. In her work 'Vanishing Food Bowls' she teases out some of the issues related to the risk of Australia losing its ability to feed itself, and the way that this idea interconnects with our rapid loss of rare and beautiful biodiversity.

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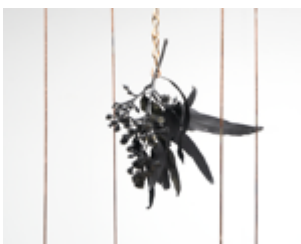
Marian Drew is interested in the agency of animals that she perceives as being implicit in the way they experience and act in the world around them. For this moving image work she presents bees as sentient beings with their different viewpoints to our own.

Margaret Worthington created an educational visual diary about her stay in North Queensland with a tree kangaroo carer. The work has been developed into a book and is available for sale at our show and throughout October at her AELA Rights of Nature exhibition at the Cairns Botanic Gardens Visitors Centre.



Renata Buziak fuses organic and photographic materials as part of an image making process. She presents her fabric print series 'The Wrong Kind of Beauty' that shows the fragility of the landscape produced by the gullyng process. Renata made this work with co-members of the Bloom Collective.

Kay Lawrence researches the problematic relationship between nature and culture from within a feminist paradigm. The work *Liminal Being #2* 2018 is included in this show.



Merete Megaritty has for several years now, focused her sculptural practice on the notion of the broken, mutated bush and species. In her work *Offering* 2018, she is responding to the sacrifice of the forests to allow for industrial scale agriculture and livestock production.

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Aviva Reed is an interdisciplinary visual ecologist. Her work uses storytelling, visualisations, soundscapes and physical movement to reveal features of systems occurring through complexity. Her book *Eon* explores time and scale and is for sale at our show.

Jenny Brown in this Bayeux Tapestry style storyboard begins with Mary Graham's: 'I am located therefore I am.' Hannah Arendt's identification of determinants causing world alienation plots a course from this Indigenous position. It sits in the world of activist-on-the-run Bev Smiles now caught in Kaufman's hyperreal 'Adaptation.'



Programming assistance from Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Brisbane City Council and House Conspiracy.



NATURE'S RIGHT PERFORMANCE – Sunday from midday

Jaye Carcary's spoken word meditation will open a ground for individual and collective listening that can expand, contract and reset by reconnecting attention to our bodies, and those of others with whom we share water, air and time.

Ancestress, from Bimbilove, who is a Birri Gubba and Kungalu woman, will present an abstract aural exploration of plant stories and voice.

Libby Harward is a Ngugi woman from the Quandamooka. Her work MINYANGNYINDA YARINYA? MINYANG NYINDA YAGAY BA? (WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?) layers the sounds the plants hear, in the composition of a new noise rite.

Curated by Danni Zuvela

Nature's Right is a collaboration between the Australian Earth Laws Alliance, Liquid Architecture and people + artist + place (Jenna Green and Marisa Georgiou).

The Spring Hill Reservoirs is a heritage building that is not fully accessible. For further information please call 0407677371.

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