

## Chantal Labbé

### Artist Statement

"The Cocoon".

The cocoon represents a journey,  
a progression through the stages of life.  
A change,  
a development,  
an adaptation,  
a metamorphosis.

A reflection of self,  
an abstract figurative self-portrait,  
wrapped in a cocoon bandage.  
A protective encasing,  
a cushion,  
wrapping,  
swaddling, and  
shield.  
A safe shelter from the outside world.  
A form of self-preservation.

But to me they also appear lonely,  
restrained,  
confined,  
trapped,  
separated, and  
isolated.  
To cocoon oneself is to retreat  
from the stressful conditions  
of a harsh or unfriendly environment.

Rich earthy terracotta clay,  
a connection to the land,  
a new unfamiliar environment.  
White porcelain fingerprints  
enveloping the upper body  
like ceremonial markings.  
Markings that tell a story,  
distinguish identity, and  
establish one's sense of belonging.

### Bio

I am a Canadian-born ceramic artist currently living and working in Brisbane, Australia. I completed my Bachelor of Visual Arts with First Class Honors at Sydney College of the Arts, The University of Sydney in 2007. In 2015, I participated as a Board Member for Ceramics Arts Queensland.

Upcoming/current exhibitions include: "It's all about the food 2" to be held at Hanasho Flower and Art, Westend Brisbane from the 3 – 26 November 2016; "Cuppa: A Survey of contemporary Australian handmade ceramic cups" held at Makers Gallery, Clayfield from 25 June – 24 July 2016.

Past group shows include the: 2015 Ceramic Arts Queensland Siliceous Awards from the 18-25 September, Brisbane Institute of Art, Windsor; and the 2015 "Botanic" exhibition from the 13-27 February, Coastal Artisans, Peregian Beach Village, Sunshine Coast; and the 2015 Mixed Artists exhibition at Hanasho Flower and Art, from the 1-30 December, Westend.

Current regular stockists include: Hanasho Flower and Art, Makers Gallery and Petrichor Gallery in Western Australia. I am also represented online by the Handmade Exchange.

# Stanley Street gallery

## CV

### Education

2004-2007 Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours First Class), Object Art & Design (Ceramics) Sydney College of the Arts, The University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

### Group Exhibitions

2016 Mixed Artist Christmas Exhibition, 1- 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, Hanasho, Westend, Brisbane, QLD  
2016 It's all about the food, 3-26<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Hanasho, Westend, Brisbane, QLD  
2016 Cuppa.: A Survey of contemporary Australian hand made ceramic cups, 25<sup>th</sup> June – 24<sup>th</sup> July 2016, Makers Gallery, Clayfield, QLD  
2015 Group Exhibition, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 – 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, hART Beats Gallery, Indooroopilly, QLD  
2015 Mixed Artist's Night, 1-30<sup>th</sup> December, Hanasho, Westend, Brisbane, QLD  
2015 Ceramic Arts Queensland Siliceous Awards, 18-25<sup>th</sup> September, Brisbane Institute of Art, Windsor, QLD  
2015 Botanic, 13-27<sup>th</sup> February, Coastal Artisans, Peregian Beach Village, Sunshine Coast, QLD  
2014 Brisbane Design PopUp Exhibition, 12-13<sup>th</sup> December, Holland Park, Brisbane, QLD  
2014 Cups, 1-30<sup>th</sup> November, Hanasho, Westend, Brisbane, QLD  
2014 Members Exhibition, 14-25<sup>th</sup> October, Ceramic Arts Qld Royal Qld Art Society Gallery, Petrie Terrace, Brisbane, QLD  
2009 For Art's Sake, 4-15<sup>th</sup> November, Addison Road Gallery, Marrickville, NSW  
2009 Triads, 22<sup>nd</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November, ESP Gallery, Illawara Road, Marrickville, NSW  
2009 Oodles of Doodles, 1-30<sup>th</sup> June, Foodscapes Place Café, Rozelle, NSW  
2008 smARTarts Festival, 5-13<sup>th</sup> April, ArtSPACE Gallery, Pine Street, Chippendale, NSW  
2007 Honours Degree Show, 13-24<sup>th</sup> November, Sydney College of the Arts, The University of Sydney, NSW  
2007 Utility: Feast and Famine, 2-5<sup>th</sup> August, Sydney Design Week, Exit Gallery, Rozelle, NSW  
2006 Degree Show, 5-16<sup>th</sup> December, Sydney College of the Arts, The University of Sydney, NSW

### Society Leadership Roles

2015 - 2016 Board Member, Ceramic Arts Queensland, Brisbane, QLD

### Citations

2016 Made It Designer Spotlight Interview, 9<sup>th</sup> December available online.  
2016 The Journal of Australian Ceramics, Ceramics Shots: Casta Ceramic Shadow, April 2016, Volume 55, Issue 1, page 64  
2015 The Journal of Australian Ceramics, Ceramics Shots: Colour Colour Colour, November 2015, Volume 54, Issue 3, page 91  
2015 Queensland Country Life Magazine, Mid-year Shopping Guide, July 2015 (with the Little Distinctions)  
2008 The Journal of Australian Ceramics, 17 July 2008, Issue 47/2, Australia  
2008 Featured Artist Profile, South Sydney Herald, Volume One Number Sixty-three, August Issue, Sydney, Australia

### Commissions

2015 Set of plates for Nadine Shaw, Food Photographer, Spring Hill, Queensland, Australia  
2015 Dinnerware set of 14 side plates and 14 dinner plates for Scrumptious Reads, Fortitude Valley, Queensland, Australia

### Related Professional Experience

2010 – Present - Freelance Ceramic Teacher & Tutor, Noosa Various Locations in New South Wales and Queensland  
2011 Ceramic Studio & Personal Assistant to Kylie Johnson at Paper Boat Press, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia  
2009-2012 Assistant Glaze Technician for Deco Under glazes in Sydney and Brisbane, Australia  
2010 Acting Executive Assistant to the Dean, Sydney College of the Arts, New South Wales, Australia  
2007-2010 Project Officer, Image Digitization Project (2007), and SCA Images Online (2008-2010), Sydney College of the Arts, New South Wales, Australia

### Community

2016 The Kids' Cancer Project, donation of brooches to be auctioned on 19<sup>th</sup> November to purchase bears from The Kids' Cancer Project and donate them to children in hospital this Christmas. The link to the album. The link to the listing.  
2009 For Art's Sake Exhibition: Painting donation and volunteer for installation, Addison Road Gallery, Marrickville, New South Wales, Australia  
2009 Open Day Volunteer, Sydney College of the Arts, The University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
2009 Open Day Demonstrations, New South Wales Pottery Supplies, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia