

# Stanley Street gallery

## Jenny Pollak

### Artist Statement

The head is the first and most important studio the artist has. It is the playground where ideas take shape and the place where the energy and passion needed to create an artwork are generated.

My process of making art invariably involves considerable periods of time dwelling in the imagination long before any attempt is made to bring a work out into the physical world and I like to think that my most valuable asset is my capacity to dream.

Most of my sculptural pieces arrive as I travel along an imaginary path in pursuit of an image. Often playful and always surprising, many of my ideas dwell in a place which I think of as a secret marriage between between the real and the ideal, two sides of an imaginary line searching for dialogue.

In the pieces here, the juxtaposition of two materials or ideas are brought together to create something that hadn't existed before.

In making these works I am interested in finding a metaphor that transcends the idea (in this case – the loss of species through climate change) and to find a visual representation that can engage the viewer more directly.

### Bio

I am a full time practicing artist working in photography, video and sculpture. My artwork is often steeped in the deep connection I have to the natural environment and concerns itself with how we, as humans, sit in relationship to it. In 2005/2006 I was artist in resident at the Electron Microscope Unit, Sydney University, where I used a scanning electron microscope to capture images of single celled organisms. This was followed in 2009 by a residency at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, where I explored the ancient lineage that connects us to plants. In recent years my arts practice has extended to include video installation and poetry resulting in *The Immortals*, a large multi media installation at the Manly Art Gallery and Museum in 2016 which looks at a time when humans are no longer around. ([www.jennypollak.com](http://www.jennypollak.com))

### CV

#### solo and two person exhibitions

2016	<i>photographs</i> – Slot Window Gallery, Redfern, Sydney
2015	<i>multi media installation</i> – Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney
2011	<i>sculptural installation, photographs</i> – Depot II Gallery, Sydney
2010	<i>multi media installation</i> – Palm House, Botanic Gardens, Sydney
2010	<i>photographs and multi media installation</i> – Red Box Gallery, Sydney
2008	<i>photographs and multi media installation</i> – Macleay Museum, Sydney
2007	<i>photographs</i> – Sara Roney Gallery, Sydney
2006	<i>sculptures and electron micrographs</i> – Studio Show
2005	<i>sculptures and electron micrographs</i> – Manning Regional Art Gallery, NSW
2004	<i>photographs and text</i> – Noosa Regional Gallery QLD
2003	<i>prints and photographs</i> – Studio Show
2002	<i>photographs and text</i> – Amelie Wallace Gallery, New York
2001	<i>photographs and text</i> – Ewart Gallery, Sydney
2000	<i>sculptures, prints and photographs</i> – Customs House, Sydney

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## prizes (visual arts)

2012	<i>winner of the People's Choice Award, Love Lace – Powerhouse Museum, Sydney</i>
2011	<i>winner of the Facade Project, national public art award – VAC, La Trobe University</i>
2005	<i>1st prize for sculpture – Hunters Hill Art Prize, Sydney</i>
2003	<i>1st prize for sculpture – Walkom Manning Art Prize, NSW</i>
1997	<i>1st prize for sculpture – Hunters Hill Art Prize, Sydney</i>
1993/94/96	<i>1st prize for sculpture – Fairfield City Festival of the Arts, Sydney</i>
1993	<i>1st prize for printmaking – Mosman Art Prize</i>

## prizes (poetry)

2016	<i>1st Prize</i> Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize USQ
2016	<i>1st &amp; 2nd Prize</i> WB Yeats Poetry Prize for Australia
2014	<i>shortlisted</i> Fish Poetry Prize, Ireland
2013	<i>3rd Prize</i> Australian Catholic University Poetry Award, Melbourne
2013	<i>4th place</i> International Welsh Poetry Competition

## group shows/collaborations

2016	Black Box Theatre, Nambour QLD (multi media work Dangerous Song)
2013	Willoughby Art Prize, Sydney (Connexion points)
2011/12/13	Powerhouse Museum Sydney (Lovelace)
2012	Macleay Museum, Sydney (Coral: Art Science Life)
2012	Paper Now, Incinerator Art Space, Sydney
2011	Hazelhurst Art Award, Sydney.
2004/11/12	Waterhouse Art Prize, South Australian Museum
2008	NSW Art Gallery (Dobell Prize)
2008	Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor, NSW
1997	Sculpture by the sea
1989	Cultural Centre, Santo Domingo, Mexico City.
1986	Studio Camnitzer 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show, New York

## acquisitions

2011	New World Order – Terra Australis – ceramic sculpture, National Museum, Canberra.
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