

Ruth Halbert

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EDUCATION

- 2015 Graduate Certificate TESOL, Central Institute of Technology, WA.
- 2012 Bachelor of Contemporary Arts (Visual Arts), Edith Cowan University, WA.
- 1984 Bachelor of Science (Agriculture, Honours), The University of Western Australia.

ART PRACTICE

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *Castaway + Witness*, The Sanctuary, Denmark, WA.
- 2017 *Castaway*, Paper Mountain Gallery, Northbridge, WA.
- 2013 *To the Station*, Beverley Station Art Gallery, Beverley, WA.

COLLABORATIONS

- 2023-24 (upcoming) *Confined*, Cossack, Albany and Fremantle, with Rose Barton (as AKIN collective)
- 2022 (upcoming) *Legacy*, Vancouver Arts Centre, Albany, WA, curated with Jen Mitchell.
- 2021 *Legacy*, Collie Art Gallery, Collie, WA, curated with Jen Mitchell.
HERENOW21, Indian Ocean Craft Triennial, There Is! gallery, Perth WA, curated by Rose Barton.
Oblivion, Indian Ocean Craft Triennial, Bunbury Regional Art Gallery, with Christopher Young, Elisa Markes-Young and Katharina Meister.
- 2020 *Sound Cloth*, Scotsdale Hall, Denmark, WA, with sound artist Campbell Creswick.
- 2019 *Fragmented Memories*, Spectrum Project Space, Edith Cowan University, Mount Lawley, WA. With Jane Ziemons (artist) and Danielle Fusco (curator).
Touchstones, ArtsHouse, Denmark, WA, curated by Jen Mitchell.
Seeking Sanctuary, a film by Rob Castiglione.
- 2018 *amity*, Vancouver Arts Centre, Albany, WA, with Emily Murch.
- 2016 *Reconfigure*, Harvison Gallery, Perth, WA, with Deb Oakley and Kirsten Biven
- 2012 *Between 2 Worlds*, Kulcha Multicultural Art Space, Fremantle, WA, with Alberdina Plug and Amal Al Babyli.
- 2011 *nexus*, Heathcote Museum and Gallery, Applecross, WA, with Hilary Buckland, Alberdina Plug, Amal Al Babyli and Julie Jackman.

DURATIONAL AND SPOKEN WORD

- 2019 - 2020 Storytelling performances at Denmark Festival of Voice and Brave New Works, Denmark, WA.
- 2018 *Witness*, venues in Denmark, Albany and Perth, WA.
- 2016 - 2018 *Dear Prime Minister*, at www.ruthhalbert.com.au/dear-prime-minister
- 2017 *Dear Prime Minister*, Paper Mountain Gallery, Northbridge, WA and Denmark Festival of Voice, Denmark, WA.

JURIED AND BY INVITATION EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *SWAN 2022 South West Art Now*, Bunbury Regional Art Gallery, curated by Dr Diana McGirr.
- 2021 *Rare Craft*, Indian Ocean Craft Triennial, Gallery 152, York, WA.
- 2018 *Beyond the Seam*, Contemporary Art Space Mandurah, Mandurah, WA, curated by Dr Martien van Zuilen.
Stations of the Cross 2018, Wesley Uniting Church, Perth, WA and Geraldton Regional Art Gallery, Geraldton, WA, curated by Claire Bushby.
- 2014 *What Is Textile?*, Kalopsia Collective, Ocean Terminal, Leith, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2012 *City of Swan Contemporary Art Award*, Midland Junction Art Centre, Midland, WA.
Stitched and Bound 2012: Contemporary Quilts, Heathcote Gallery, Applecross, WA.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)

- 2021 *Then & Now*, a survey show of the Albany Weavers, Vancouver Arts Centre, Albany, WA.
- 2020 *Hanging by a Thread*, Holmes à Court Gallery @ no. 10, West Perth, WA.
- 2017 *40X40*, Brunswick Street Gallery, Fitzroy, Victoria.
- 2014 *Inspired by Nalda*, The Painted Tree Gallery, Northcliffe, WA.

- 2013 *Mysterium*, Gallery Central, Central Institute of Technology, Northbridge, WA.
- 2012 *Monster*, The Oats Factory (Melody Smith Gallery), Carlisle, WA.
- 2011 *Happenstance*, Graduate Show, Edith Cowan University, Mount Lawley, WA.
Global Echo, Spectrum Project Space, Edith Cowan University, Mt Lawley, WA, and in the United Kingdom and North America.
- 2010 *ArtStrings*, Cullity Gallery, UWA, Nedlands, WA.

FORUM PANELIST

- 2021 Denmark Arts Creative Summer: On Collaboration panel.
- 2018 Stations of the Cross: Industry Forum.

AWARDS, GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

- 2021 Co-recipient with Elisa Markes-Young, Christopher Young, Lee Kinsella and Katharina Meister of Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Creative Development U-15k for *Oblivion* exhibition.
- 2018 City of Albany grant for *amity* exhibition.
- 2014 Artist in Residence at Rud AIR, Dalsland, Sweden (one month).
- 2013 Artist in Residence at Beverley Station Art Gallery, Beverley, WA (one month).
- 2011 303LOWE Encouragement Award for best graduate work, Edith Cowan University, WA.

COLLECTIONS

City of Bunbury and City of Melville, Western Australia.
Edith Cowan University, Mt Lawley, WA; and universities in the UK and North America.
Private collections in Australia, Sweden and USA.

MEMBERSHIPS

- 2016 - current Albany Weavers, Vancouver Arts Centre, Albany, WA.
- 2012 - current NAVA (National Association for the Visual Arts) Membership (Australia).
- 2011 - current Artsource MAX Membership (Western Australia).
- 2009 - current Western Australian Fibre and Textile Association (WAFTA).
- 2020 Board member Denmark Arts.
- 2012 - 2014 Artsource studios in West Perth.

TEACHING

- 2022 one-on-one weaving lessons
- 2000 - 2006 knitting classes, Calico and Ivy, Perth.

RUTH HALBERT BIO AND STATEMENT OF PRACTICE

Ruth Halbert (b. 1963) is an artist raised on Wiilman Boodja, now living and working on Pibbulmun and Menang Boodja. Ruth's wheatbelt childhood grounded her in handcrafting using natural materials. Her practice of making for personal use opened a connection to the world-wide community of makers and to the historic legacy of textile crafts. Following a career in science she returned to her textile roots and undertook a Bachelor of Contemporary Art at Edith Cowan University. Working from an ArtSource studio in Perth she showed in group exhibitions and undertook residencies in rural WA and Sweden. Since moving to the south coast she has had solo and collaborative exhibitions in the South West, Great Southern and Perth.

For Ruth, the touch and feeling alive in thread, fibre and cloth are the basis of drawing audiences into deep engagement with her work. She uses textiles to create an immersive experience for exploring themes of interrelation and to resist exclusion. Her work includes ongoing investigation into her colonial history as well as current social justice issues. From her science background she uses number play to enrich her visual language, combined with a developing interest in Jungian concepts of archetype and metaphor. Her work seeks to challenge and beguile the audience, contributing to an ongoing dialogue.