

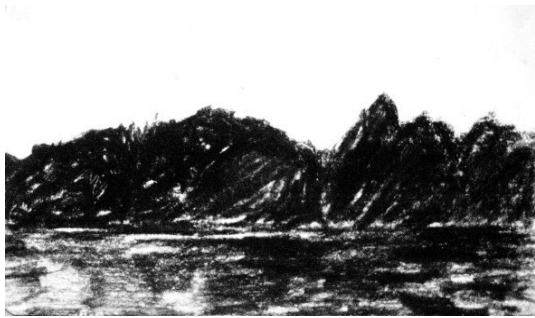
appendix



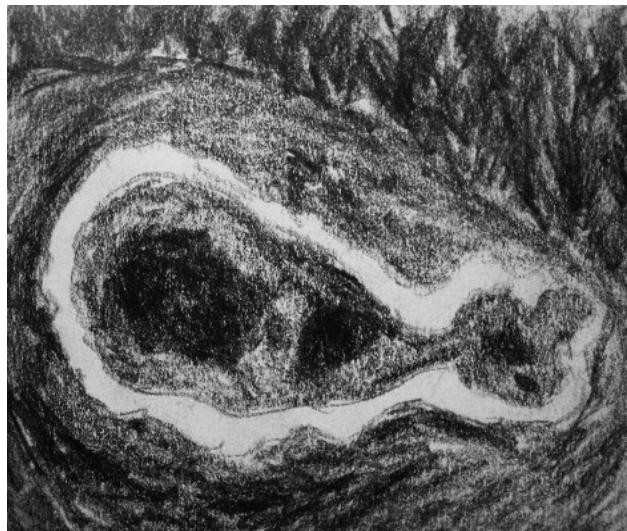
cooks river mangrove



'Kandinsky Tree.' B& W. 6"X 4". drypoint.
copperplate.Cooks River.



cooks river sketches



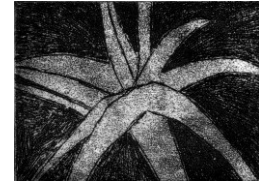
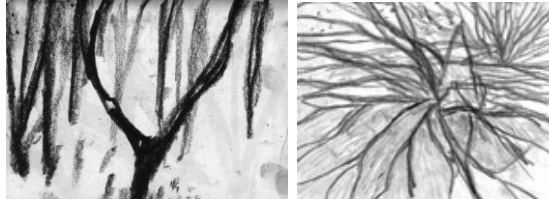
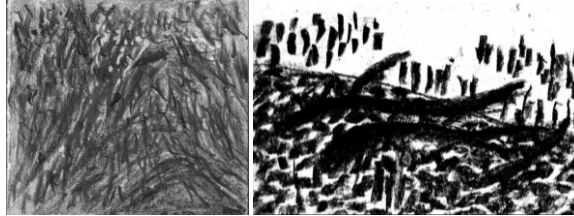
wolli creek supernova sketch



'Cooks River'. B&W. 20cm X 5cm. plastic plate. Another title for this work is *The River Lethe* which is the Ancient Greek mythical river of forgetting. Above are Cooks River images and a Wolli Creek drawing.



Wolli Creek tree and drawings



Star Plant (Paradise)
Cooks River. 10cm X 7cm.
B&W. aquatint. zinc plate.



Satellite Plant
Cooks River. 10cm X 7cm.
B&W. aquatint. zinc plate.



Mougamarra Reserve trees

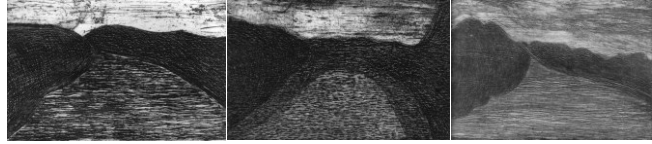
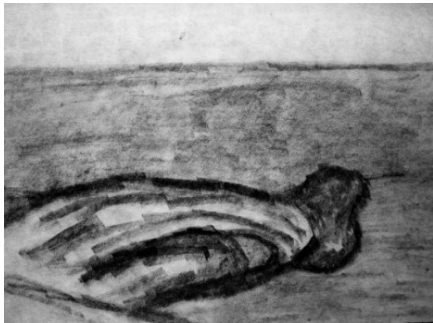


Sydney Royal Botanical Garden tree

The three tree womb etchings are based on these trees 'discovered' while on a visit with friends who graciously took me to Mougamarra Reserve in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park right by the Hawkesbury River (spectacularly viewed from high vantage points). 'Mougamarra' is Aboriginal for 'preserve for the future' (an apt expression to soberly consider when one learns that since the European takeover 200 odd years ago up to 90% of rainforest/native forest vegetation has been cleared). Mougamarra is only open to the public for six weekends a year at Spring in August & September when many colourful, diverse, beautiful wildflowers blossom. (From an Ancient Greek point of view these wildflowers could be welcoming Persephone's visit to the surface – Demeter's daughter emerging from the unwelcome grasp of Hades in the Underworld - which ritualistically occurs every Spring. It is a magnificent treat to see these wildflowers. The second womb etching which is simply a circle can nominally be compared with Aboriginal symbol making but came about by finally focusing on a single design element – in this case: a circle – and clarifying the picture plane to contrasting areas of black & white relying on the mind to 'finish or 'complete' the idea portrayed. As for 'Supernova' is based on a sketch of a shallow rock pool in Wolli Creek, a large area of bush that is near where I live. Whenever I am in the mood for it there's a good half-hour bush walk going close by the railway line between Bardwell Park and Turrella which at times you can pretend that you are right out of the city; at one point is a little old rectangle-shaped pool that looks as if it was built in the 20s or 30s. There is also a small cave overlooking a rainforest grove where homeless men during the Depression camped out. What is truly striking is these large outcrops of massive rocks that hover above over you while walking along a more open stretch. I once dubbed these 'rock heads' 'the dinosaurs.' Overall, the whole stretch of this bush is a very serene oasis. A universe unto its own.



Gordons Bay photo and sketches



Hades

Beulah

Paradise

Divine Comedy Cooks River triptych. William Blake's Beulah is a subconscious world where dreams come from and which provides inspiration to the poet. In Beulah 'contrary opposites' can exist in harmony together. All three works B&W. 6"X4" drypoint. copperplate.



Royal Botanical garden tree. The second tree is in Botany Bay National Park and was the basis for the Hydra etching.

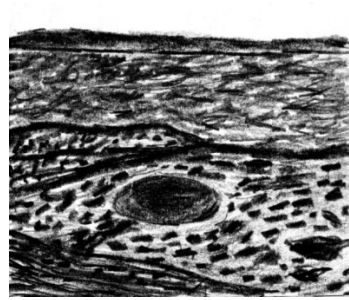




Shelley Beach



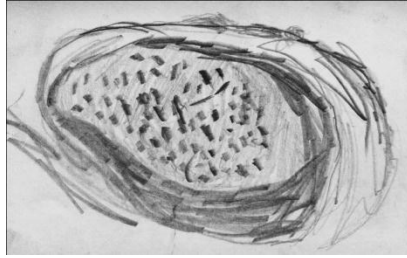
Shelley Beach



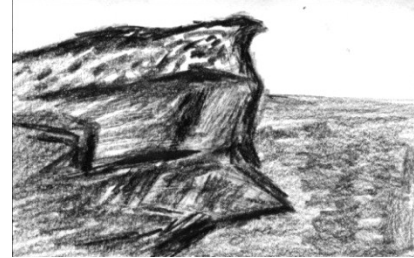
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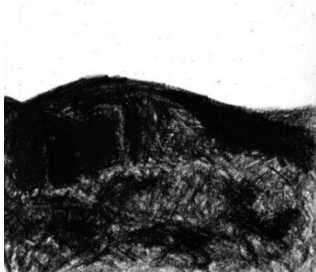
Rocks. Shelley Beach



Wombarra



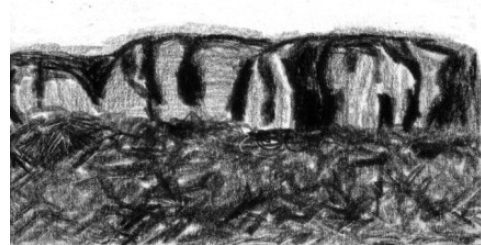
Curramoors



Coledale



Coledale



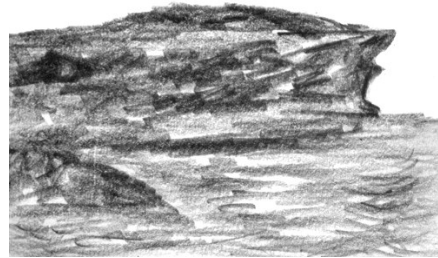
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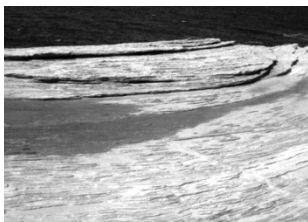
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Nielson Park



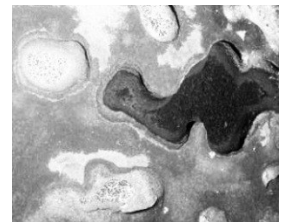
Bronte



Botany Bay National Park



Mougamarra Reserve



Bundeena

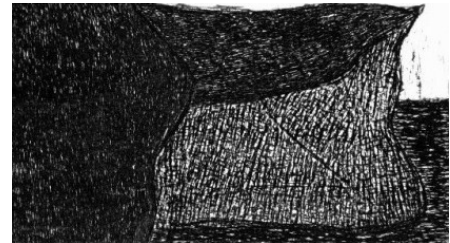


'Road to Mullumbimby.' B&W. 8" X 6". drypoint. zinc plate. Mt. Chincogan appears spectacularly as you round a bend on the way in to Mullumbimby after you turn off the main highway. In the Byron Bay environ there is not much public transport and while staying with friends in Bangalow I found that the most convenient way to get around is to hitch-hike. Interestingly enough it is mainly locals who pick you as they appreciate the difficulties of there not being an adequate public transport system. However, I have a vivid memory of being with a young Tasmanian guy - who had driven up all the way from Victoria in his minivan and whose ambition was to go as far north as he possibly could and then simply turn around and head back south - who was overawed when he saw this great mountain. I'm not sure if it is Mt. Chincogan or Mt. Warning but I have been told that one of them is associated with an Aboriginal women's sacred site. The etching is based on a sketch. I met a lot of 'drifters' while hitching. On my return trip to Sydney I had a long lift (I had decided to simply hitch home after all the buses were full due to many people going home during a very torrid bushfire season) with this middle-aged Queensland moustached, black-haired olive-skinned guy with a cockney accent in his Gemini and his sick pig dog in the backseat who had 'escaped' from his wife - "she had been 'brainwashed' by the religious people" - as he put it and - knowing only the local surroundings of a small township since childhood - was heading south to 'Mexico' (as he called NSW) to eventually go all the way to WA. "As far away as possible." He thought Taree and Newcastle were incredibly large places. As I caught a close to midnight train from Newcastle back to Sydney I still think to this day what his reaction was when he headed into the grand sprawling metropolis that is Sydney and how he would have simply been overcome by the gigantic sight of the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the skyscrapers of the CBD.



'White Ox'. Dorrigo. 9"x10". sepia on cream drypoint. aquatint. zinc plate. At the end of the 70s an old school friend & his girlfriend impulsively hopped into their little Freeway sedan car one day & left Sydney to start a new life up the coast. They were not sure where they would end up but it happened to be in an old shack at the back of Dorrigo. They rented it cheaply off a local farmer. When I visited this 'sea change' couple they were in the middle of renovating their place to make it a real home. This rather 'Rembrandt-like' etching is based on a photo taken of a window that looks through to the spacious tranquil green property that was all around them. White Ox is the brand of the tobacco on the table.

below: I look at these cliff as outcrops of Mt. Purgatory. Such is the way the mind wanders while resting during a long bushwalk. To also imagine that on top of this rock face may have once laid Prometheus; chained by Zeus for giving humanity the gift of fire. His liver was eaten away everyday by an eagle; finally the "fire-giver" was rescued by Hercules. The hope of all the purgatorial: from unbearable endurance can come eternal release.



'Bronte'. sepia. 2cm X 6cm. copperplate. 'Eagle Rock.' Royal National Park. Mt. Purgatory I. B&W. 6" X 4". drypoint. copperplate.

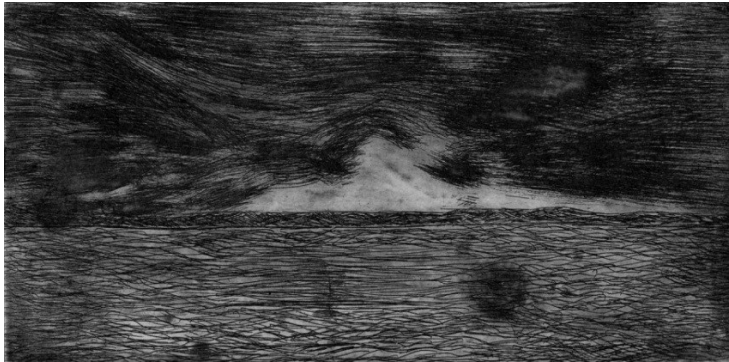


'Looking into the Future.'

B&W. aquatint. 8" X 8" zinc plate. (Dedicated to KV). This work is not of any particular land mass but the texture which was achieved by the etching process of aquatinting was inspired by coastal rocks. I like to walk amid the rocky outcrops that one often finds at many Australian beaches admiring the patterns and textures that have been sculpted into the surfaces of the rocks by water and wind.

'Sunset. Greenpatch. Jervis Bay.'

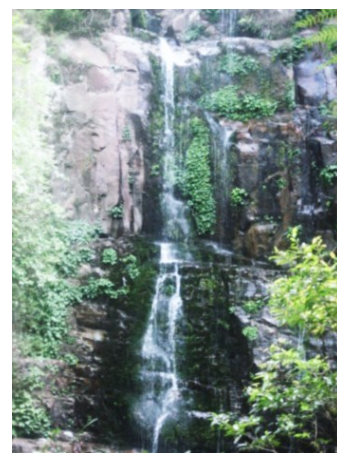
Black on grey. 8" X 4" drypoint. zinc plate. Greenpatch is a popular spot at Jervis Bay and it was wondrous looking at the water at sunset as the sun's rays glided over the smooth water of the inlet. I have always liked the south coast - especially in winter - due to its wild quality but on this night it was the serenity of Nature which inspired me to also consider the enormous beauty of this coast line. The dark sky whose movement contrasts with the stillness of the sea was done by streaking steel wool over the hard ground wax on the zinc plate then placing it in the acid bath.



'Minnamurra Tree'. Jamberoo.
6" X 7". B&W. zinc plate.



'Minnamurra Falls'. Jamberoo.
6" X 4". B&W. zinc plate.

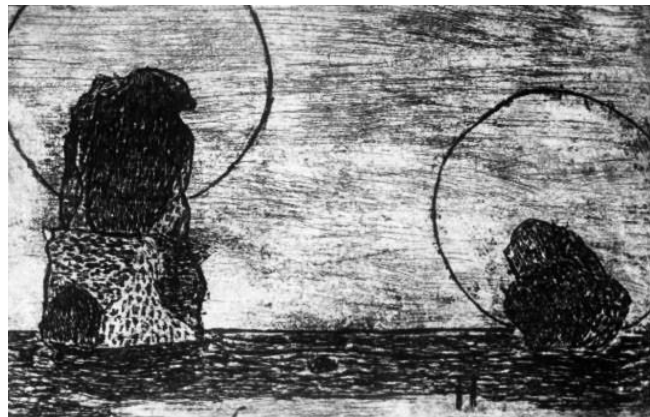


Minnamurra Rainforest waterfall.



'Ulysses & the Sirens at Bronte.' B&W. 6"X 4".
copperplate.

This work is rather dark but deliberately so to evoke a mysterious mood. It may not be to many people's taste but I appreciate it as a work that compels you to meditate upon the inner tensions taking place - rather than only giving this drama a quick mental glance. I was also interested in playing around with texture which explains the rough-edge scratchy surfaces. This image is based on an ancient illustration whereby Ulysses is tied to the mast as he listens to the entrancing but deadly sounds of the beautiful Sirens who were half-bird half-female. In the background is the headland jutting out at Bronte which has been whimsically added to somewhat give this legendary scenario an Australian context. Thus I coyly include it in this landscape series.



'Apostles of the Universe.' Great Ocean Road. Victoria.
B&W. 6"X 4". drypoint. copperplate.

This playful image with its touch of magic realism with the included halo rings is more or less self-explanatory as these two pillars belong to the well-known natural feature known as the Twelve Apostles along the Great Ocean Road in Victoria. This particular image is based on a photo of these two 'Twelve Apostles' which I took with two friends standing by them. They are the two tiny figures in the foreground on the beach. In the photo these two rock pillars look monumental. It was only 'natural' that halos were added in this depiction of these two Apostles which help to emphasize their spirituality; it was also only natural that the title relates these two large natural forms to the monumentality of the whole cosmos. By the way I was amazed how at sunset the apostles really did look as spectacular as they do in all the postcards. In fact, I was so impressed I bought one.



'Eve' along a coastal stretch of the Garden of Eden. Seven Miles Beach. Gerroa. South Coast. I went for a drive with a Colombian friend - now living in Australia - to show her the South Coast. The day turned out to be very windy. I ended up taking this photo of her which also shows the long stretches of beach that are a common feature. Gerroa is about two and a half hours south of Sydney.



misguided angel



pillar of time



pillar of time



pillar of time



eternity



pillars of time



pillar of time



foundation of time



fern angel

All photos were taken at Minnamora Forest. Jamberoo on the South Coast two hours south of Sydney.