



Nicholas Nicola

Biographical Details.

b. Feb. 1959. Melbourne. Australia. The son of parents who had their own milk bar and are of Greek Cypriot heritage. Resides in Sydney. Studied at UNSW from 1977 to 1979. Bachelor of Arts. (Majors in Psychology, Sociology). As a non-degree student studied at Sydney University from 1978 to 1980 to obtain a Fine Arts Major which included studying a variety of subjects such as the Renaissance and Baroque periods, Film Studies, 19th and 20th century Modernism as well as Neo-Classicism. In 1981 completed a Diploma of Education (Dip. Ed) at Sydney Teachers College where introduced to etching by the pre-eminent Australian printmaker Pamela Griffith. Qualified to teach Visual Arts and also teaches E.S.L (English as a Second Language) to migrant/refugee students.

Artist Statement

Nicholas Nicola's etchings display an ongoing interest in the Australian bush. Acknowledging that he is portraying a landscape that was previously occupied by the 'first Australians' Nicholas is aware that - compared to the mature understanding of the land by Aboriginal artists - he is still very much in the process of appreciating this ancient continent. Nicholas perceives a cosmological link between the land and the heavens and incorporates an archetypal view of the sky as 'father' with the Aboriginal view of the land as 'mother.' The union of 'mother' land and 'father' sky - which can also be read as the union between 'spirit' and 'physical' - leads to the union of life between what is mortal with what is eternal; all things on earth die but life also continually regenerates.

Nicholas mostly works in the 6 inch X 4 inch format often combining the etching techniques of drypoint, sugarlift and aquatint.

Subjects & Themes

Australian landscape, travel, cross-cultural, suburbia, mythological.

Collections

Various private collections in Australia as well as Lithuania, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, France, Russia, England, Thailand.

Solo Exhibitions

1998-1999. December- January. 'The Teachers House.' Vilnius. Lithuania.
2005. November-December. 'The Apostrophe's Café.' Surry Hills. Sydney.
2010. April. 'Powerhouse.' Private residence of Ms K. Power. Clovelly. Sydney.

Group Exhibitions

1990. Annual Printmaking Show. Willoughby Art Centre. Sydney.
2005. November-December. EDU-K8R. Fairfield Regional Art Gallery.
2007. Annual Amnesty International Fundraiser. Tap Gallery. Darlinghurst. Sydney.
2008. July. 'Fondue Designs.' Private residence of Ms M. Moutzouris. Camperdown. Sydney.
2008. Julian Ashton School Annual Show. Sydney.
2011. The PRINTMAKERS. Pamela Griffith. Nicholas Nicola. Theo Tremblay. Glen Mackie. Robyn Collier. Tess Barker. June - August. Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. Bungendore. NSW.
2012. November. Artists for Human Rights and Action Exhibition. Blak Dot Gallery. Melbourne.
2012. December. Building Bridges Exhibition. Artists for refugees. UTS. Sydney.

Website

Nicholas Nicola's art work can be viewed on his personal website:
<http://nicholasnicolaetchings.synthasite.com/>
(or websearch: 'nicholas nicola etchings').

Youtube

For a general 'visual overview' of Nicholas Nicola's Australian landscape etchings go to:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_V9gO6oTj0
to see a photomontage video titled '*Mother Earth, Father Sky.*'