Ulaidhean / Treasures

Society of Scottish Artists at Gairloch Museum 6 July - 28 September 2024.





DOWNSTAIRS GALLERY CLOCKWISE FROM ENTRANCE:

MICHELE BIANCO

Lochan' Open Carved Sphere

Inspired by ripple patterns and shimmering light on the surface of a lochan ruffled by the wind. This is my interpretation of the Scottish carved stone spheres found at Neolithic sites throughout Scotland.

HELLE RASK CRAWFORD

The Paper Boat

Two small boys are trying out whether their prized possession, the paper boat can float.

KEVIN ANDREW MORRIS

Gairloch Guggles

Gairloch Guggles references the areas rich fishing history as well as my own family heritage. Exploring themes of identity and place through local eating and drinking cultures, focusing on narratives and rituals associated with place.

LISA FENTON O'BRIEN

Heavy Rainfall, Shieldaig, April 10th 1pm

Rain, a natural and precious resource, often abundant in the NW Highlands. Exploring the beauty within the sometimes seeming relentlessness, and trying to record the varying heaviness of rainfall through capturing the drops on a flat surface using ink.

SANDRA KENNEDY

Leum (Leap)

It might be somebody or something, you guard it jealousy - you protect it above everything and everybody. You never realise the limitations this puts on your thinking and your decisions until one day you do. Take this opportunity, it might be the only one you get.

ROSIE NEWMAN

Francisca's Head Dress

The engravings are inspired by microalgae photographs provided by Algal Biotechnologist

(UHI SAMS). The headdress is individually crafted for the scientist to wear for her portrait, whilst immersed in the sea. The artist is exploring connection to marine habitats & phenomenology.

JANETTE SUMNER

Bobbin Girl

My piece represents a tactile reflection of my ancestry. I unwound the remaining silk from the bobbin and then embedded it into the scroll, thus continuing the thread with my great-grand-mother who was a silk mill bobbin girl in the 19th century, with my love of antique bobbins.

GILLIAN MURRAY

Looking over Ganavan Sands

Ganavan Sands is a hidden gem of a place that I didn't expect to find in Oban. A treasure at the end of Oban's North coastal road, Ganavan (meaning 'white sands' in Gaelic) filled me with happiness with it's beautiful sands and sparkling sea with views over Mull and Lismore.

DIANE DAWSON

Glimpse 2

Original silkscreen & collage prints, where the visual inspiration of the golden fish in a municipal setting, allowed me to interpret them as jewels or treasure in their natural habitat.

PORTIA KNIGHT

Shoreline Habits III

Shoreline Habits III is made with 35 Himanthalia elongata seaweed 'buttons' gathered as drift over a period of two years. The composition references a Victorian seaweed album held at the Aberdeen Art Gallery Treasure Hub containing many tiny fragments of precious pressed seaweed.

AILEEN KEITH

ATTIC

The attic : a place of curiousity, exploration, excavation and discovery.

DOWNSTAIRS GALLERY CONTINUED:

GYLLIAN THOMSON

Jesse

This tapestry is finely woven. It is a portrait of my daughter in a renaissance style influenced by the art of classical Rome. It is untouchable and precious and shows her sensitivity. The aversion of looking at the viewer at that time was a sign of a woman's obeisance.

TRACEY JOHNSTON

Bookcase Shelf I

A still life painting of favourite collected objects and books on my bookcase. Staffordshire pottery figurines, an illustrated box, folk cat and two favourite books I read to my daughter.

CHARLOTTE WATTERS

Down to the water

This painting looks down through the trees to a sparkling water below. It speaks of place and time. The treasures within character and memory and fleeting fragmented time.

JAYNE STOKES

A Winter Walk

I like to incorporate the use of old tins, ceramic fragments and matchboxes within my work. The objects I utilise have a history of their own, having been on a journey themselves after time spent in someone's pocket on a shelf or in the sea.

IRFNF BI AIR

Black Dawn

The memory of the ship that foundered in Stornoway harbour in 1919, bringing their men back from the First World War. The memory lives on.

RUARIDH LITSTER-CAMPBELL **TIGERS**

This is a painting of a pair of Onitsuka Tigers I bought in a shop in Melbourne. They are a size too big and have a hole in the heel but I wore them extensively.

LORNA A KIRKWOOD-SMITH

Oak Beauty Moth

Part of a series of works on found windfall items and wildlife.

GILL WALTON

Reliquary - Alpine Black Swallowtail

These works are what I imagine future reliquaries to be. They hold sacred our ecosystem and all it's precious inhabitants.

FIONA MAHER

They're always singing sweetest melodies

Banner style print incorporating intaglio and collagraph print techniques on vintage pianola roll with song lyrics.

LUCILLA SIM

Time Passage

Printed, painted and embossed items are assembled together on the cover of an old hard backed book.

JANNETTE MACDONALD

Memory Places 2 - Lewis Land Monuments

Celebrating the Lewis Land Monuments, lesser known national treasures, this image was made with analogue methods printed digitally. Double exposures, layers, time, old and new ways. It was taken during a residency at The Island Darkroom, Lewis.

GRACE SIREGAR

Pandemic - Escape!

The day my husband came out of home isolation during lockdown. Family back garden picnic.

PAUL HOLMES

Book of Signatures

A book of gummed and perforated stamps, each containing the artist's original signature - in various colours and sizes. Visitors are encouraged to take a stamp and affix it where required, in a symbolic surrendering by the artist of his treasured identity.

CENTRAL CABINETS:

LUCILLA SIM

W write:flight

A little box of treasures to view which include a flight wing from a Jay. The viewer can make connections with the various items and speculate on their significance.

FENNEKE WOLTERS-SINKE

This Precious Earth, Vol.1-6

Reclaimed wooden box containing 6 unique artists' books, each with a different collagraph print folded in an accordion depicting the land from a bird's eye view. All books are hardbacked, covered with Japanese Chiyogami paper and tied up with Hamanaka eco-andaria raffia yarn.

JUDITH DAVIES

Intense Blue Ovoid Form & Pale Ovoid Form

Tiny egg-like form inspired by natural history and the beauty of small discovered treasures gifted from nature.

JANET MELROSE

Wrapped

This piece was made to acknowledge the need to be present. In the process of wrapping materials from my course work I had the time to reflect and consolidate ideas. Wrapping gave the pieces a value beyond their materiality.

VALERIE O'REGAN

Coastal Relics - The Nest, The Seed , The Leaf.

Three hollow, tubular, abstracted porcelain forms resembling bone and fossils, weathered, blackened, and etched. Hand formed, carved, cut, and brushed with several tones of black porcelain slip reminiscent with patterns of scrimshaw and weathered rock.

UPSTAIRS GALLERY CLOCKWISE FROM ENTRANCE:

LISA DENYER

Crystal Abstract

My practice explores the polarities of a slow, considered painting process against the speed and sensory perceptions of daily life.

JOANNA KESSEL

Field of Vision: Green (group of 5)

Field of Vision forms a new series of glass and concrete wall sculptures. Organic forms cluster and disperse suggestive of lichens and cellular worlds minutely observed. Colour palettes derived from nature inform hand-pulled glass filati set within pigmented, concrete.

GEMMA PETRIE

Can you see what I can see? (2)

The treasure in this work is the unnoticed in our environment, the beings we share our spaces with. Drawing attention to the importance of our interwoven relationship with nature and the nonhuman.

MORAG THOMSON MERRIMAN

Salvaged, Landscape Pot series 2024

My work examines how memory is overlaid with personal experiences of loss, absence and change. I experiment with ways to convey 'presence', or the sense of something being revealed or concealed, weaving in familial connections to cherished pottery ware and remembered land-scapes.

CHRIS BROOK

Token

The symbiosis of fragility offering permanence draws on the practice of "make do and mend" in that nothing is broken, it simply requires repair. Additional evidence of repair as in the Japanese art of Kintsugi and Boro is to be valued through extending the life and purpose of something.

BECS BOYD

Goldfinch Waiting

Atlantic salmon, goldfinch, movement, continuous reassembly and return.

SUSAN MAINS

Everyday Family Treasures

I took this photograph at my parents' house. It holds many special memories for my sister and I. Since my Mum recently passed away, my Dad has been sorting through some of the household items with us, and many objects belonging to our Mum have become poignant everyday treasures.

RUTH NICOL

Wally Dugs, Warmth and a Welcome Hearth, Valda's Room Brownsbank Cottage

Hugh MacDiarmid & Valda Grieve lived rent free at Brownsbank due to the generosity of a local farmer. This security allowed MacDiarmid to connect with the world and shape our understanding of Scotland as a nation. Valda, with slender mean's made the two room cottage a home.

UPSTAIRS GALLERY CONTINUED:

MARY MORRISON

Ascent - Feather

'Hope is the thing with feathers // That perches in the soul.' Emily Dickinson This image symbolises hope, represented by a feather. A feather kept for decades, a precious thing, a treasure from a pivotal time in my life, speaking now to my present, on 'the strangest sea'.

CATHERINE SARGEANT

Along The Horizon For a Moment

Treasured memories of West Coast sunsets when glimpses of orange are seen on the horizon.

PEN REID

Empty Nest

This piece is part of a body of work that addresses spaces of nurture and security and what appear to be insignificant domestic events. However underlying there is a sense of tension and with Empty Nest the occupant is grieving loss. It has the subtitle of Menopause. The loss of fertility and the loss of children who have left home.

RONNIE CRUWYS

Bathed in Pearls

Twisted limbs appear bathed in luminous plum blossom – the arrival of Spring in the Clyde Valley.

LOUISE MCLAREN

pòcaidean làn beairteas

A papercut image of well loved small shoes overlaying objects that my sons found and carried in their pockets, as small boys. Each item is worthless in monetary terms, but to them at the time and to me now, as a memory, they are priceless. They are time travelling treasure.

DEBORAH WICKHAM

Curiouser and curiouser #1

Inspired by the 17th century 'cabinets of curiosity' paintings by Johan Georg Hainz, I sought to create my own reflecting the narrative that runs through my work and utilising my own personal lexicon of objects.

OLANA LIGHT Searching for a Place to Belong

Explores women's profound bond with nature portraying it as a cherished treasure through photography. Emphasizes nature's significant influence on women's identity and belonging, highlighting their inherent unity and its importance to their sense of place.

SANDOR NAGY

Past

The work is part of a larger project called 'The Blurriness of Space.' This project delves into urban and natural landscapes enveloped in fog, mist, snow, and darkness. I traverse physical spaces within this project, blurring the lines between the tangible and the imaginary.

RHONA FLEMING

Lost Libraries

Books and manuscripts have been hidden, buried, lost and miraculously rediscovered for centuries. So many natural and man made actions threaten their existence. I have interpreted this subject within a box of military origin that itself closes and conceals the contents.

EVA SMYTH

Discovery

A mixed media cut paper and pen and ink drawing of a bear looking at a beehive in a tree.

ELVEY ANNA STEDMAN

Table Nest

An asymmetric hand carved table with a dipped top, housing a needle felted wool nest. Inside the nest are various miniature sculptures made with porcelain, pearls and foraged natural materials.

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We're the largest artist-led organisation in Scotland. We lead a diverse and ambitious programme and invite artists based anywhere in the world to join us.

More information about these artists and all our members can be found through the QR code.

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