

Rona Green

Biography

Rona Green was born in Geelong, Australia. Her practice involves making drawings, prints, poppets and paintings. She studied art at La Trobe University in Bendigo and Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne. In 2012 she completed a Master of Fine Art degree at Monash University.

Known for creating striking pictures of peculiar creatures, Rona has received many accolades such as the Geelong Print Prize, Swan Hill Print Acquisitive Award and Silk Cut Award Grand Prize. Her work is represented in over fifty Australian and international public collections including National Gallery of Australia.

Rona is a fancier of Egyptian art, historical figures, science fiction, B-grade movies, secret societies, tattooing traditions, subcultures, and the animal kingdom. She lives in Melbourne, and works out of a studio at the extraordinary Abbotsford Convent.

Artist statement

The artworks I make are fantastical figurative prints, poppets, paintings and drawings through which I explore ideas about identity.

Especially I'm interested in how identity is expressed via the body; physical appearance and the ways it can be altered; the skin and its potential to be the stem point for transformation. The devices I utilise in particular are anthropomorphism and body decoration.

Use of tattoo as a motif is fired by its capacity to tell a story – it can convey information about origin, affiliation, status and proclivities. As a form of communication tattooing has the ability to transcend language barriers. Tattoos can speak to (or be read by) everyone on some level which makes them an exciting tool for transmitting ideas.

The hybrid characters I create are loners, misfits and outcasts who bear the marks and scars of past experience. Through them I celebrate idiosyncrasy and individuality.