

ANITA TRAVERSO GALLERY

TRACY POTTS

Tracy Potts is a Melbourne-based artist, whose strong craft skills and wild imagination has given life to a number of works that contemplate female roles within society. Much like the many female artists before her, such as Tracy Emin or Louise Bourgeois, Potts's work explores the ideas of the 'female space' and identity.

"Potts is actively engaged in representation. Totems, figures and quasi-structural forms proliferate across the series; narratives are created and coded and, within a woven framework of memory and personal histories, the interwoven materials act as mnemonics.

The artist herself has described the series as a thinking-through – and a contestation – of the notion of "feminine space". (It is certainly worth reflecting here on traditional – yet never neutral – theoretical alignments between natural/feminine/crafted and cultural/masculine/artistic spaces.)" - Dylan Rainforth (Art Guide, 2012)



Fetish Animal for the Sistahood (wear your crazy beautiful skin, mana)

[2014] mixed media 36 x 15 x 4cm

"It is a very noisy world. A lot of racket coming from our devices - Pling ting pling ting! All day, all night, our need to chitter-chatter does not stop. But from within all that messy, tangled, boisterous noise a resounding theme has come to shape - that of all the women I have known throughout my life. Women in all shapes and sizes and ages and experiences, all so beautiful in their own individual ways. Mana is my acknowledgement to those women - regardless of how life may have shaped them, they still sparkle from within and therefore, without. And they are all the more beautiful, wonky and delightfully crazy because of it."



My Beautiful Wife

[2012] mixed media on canvas 148 x 128 cm

"Life can be rough, eh? It eats us up, chews us up, then spits us out again. But we keep going. Keep showing up, doing our best, working through our worst. Eventually our wounds will heal; sometimes it does take a god-awful time and the scars never entirely disappear.

This piece is for all the women who have experienced domestic violence and have survived.

We love you!"



I want to be your everything

[2012] mixed media on canvas 94 x 64 cm

"Try as we may to be to be self-sufficient, self-supporting, aloof and apart, we shall ultimately fail. Apparently, us humans are made to hang out in tribes; we keep together, safety in numbers. We grow and learn; haphazardly, randomly constructed from a conglomeration of building materials sourced from experience and our interpretations of them. We are precarious constructions; personal histories stitched and sewn and glued together into the flawed (and therefore beautiful) shapes we become, both internally and externally. And regardless of how acceptable we may or may not be (as determined by the whims of fancy, opinion, fashion and Facebook 'likes') we still reach out to our tribe for a little touch, a hug, and ultimately acceptance. Through that contact we can be some things to some people, as they can be some things to us. But to expect to be everything to one person...well, that's a completely misaligned and burdensome expectation; it creates an unreliable, unsteady structure that cannot possibly hope to withstand the test of time. Be as much as you can for yourself. Then share yourself out amongst your tribe."

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- Items that best illustrate the physical, artistic, cultural, social, historical and political identity of the municipality of Yarra:

Tracy Potts is represented by Anita Traverso Gallery operating in the City of Yarra.

- Items that do not require immediate and considerable additional resources related to conservation and storage:

All the works are either freestanding, or framed and equipped with hanging mechanism for easy storage.

- Artworks that represent emerging innovative art forms:

Potts works with a variety of mediums transcending the historical associations with a work on canvas by adding dimension, depth and a variety of materials.

- Items that have the potential for display and exhibition:

The three chosen items are particularly excellent in consideration for display or exhibition within a number of council contexts.

- Artworks which are of high quality, by respected emerging and mid career artists:

Tracy Potts is a well-respected mid-career artist with a prolific and unique practice. She shows great promise of 'break through' to greater national status.

ANITA TRAVERSO GALLERY
ABN 62 327 059 301
7 Albert Street Richmond
Victoria Australia 3121
T 61 (0)3 9428 7557
art@anitatraversogallery.com.au
www.anitatraversogallery.com.au