



ABLE
ART 2021

RAINBOW
CONNECTION



ABLE ART 2021



KATE MACRAE

I am delighted to introduce the 2021 Able Art Exhibition. This year we have been further challenged with the changing landscape of COVID-19. It is heartening during these times that our clients have embraced art and all the benefits that art provides.

Although we weren't together in person, I was delighted to be part of the online event, showcasing artwork from artists both in Victoria and Tasmania.

The theme for 2021 is **Rainbow Connection**. As you will see throughout the booklet the vast array of colours used by our artists is inspirational. Art is an avenue for our clients to connect in many ways including, but not limited to, their support, environment, feelings and loved ones.

This exhibition is led and curated by Art Therapist, Victoria Hayes. Our longstanding art therapy program encourages clients to be creative to improve mental well-being in a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment.

Please join me in celebrating our clients' artworks and thank them for sharing their pieces in this year's exhibition.



VICTORIA HAYES

This year's Able Art Exhibition titled 'Rainbow Connection' reflects the large amount of colour that has been shown in our clients' artwork. The theme of 'connection' emphasises the process that each artist partakes in when producing their artworks. Additionally, this exhibition has provided us with the opportunity to connect through the inclusion of artwork from Able Australia clients' based in Victoria and Tasmania.

We were delighted to be able to present this year's exhibition online. We took the learnings from past exhibitions and improved the accessibility of our 2021 showcase.

I would like to thank all of our amazing clients and artists at Able for the beautiful artwork they have produced. After another difficult year, it is wonderful to see our artists' work with such colour. Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Claire Fraser, another one of our art therapists, as well as Clare Stanfield-Smith, our placement student, for assisting in the creation and collection of this year's artwork.



WELCOME TO THE 2021 ABLE ART EXHIBITION | RAINBOW CONNECTION

This year our theme for the exhibition is Rainbow Connection. This collection of artworks is bold, bright and colourful. Along with the rainbow of hues throughout the exhibition our clients have connected in more ways than one through art. Some clients have connected with their peers to produce collaborative artworks, whilst some have connected with their Able supports and others through the art they have produced.

This year's artworks have been created during online art sessions, clients in their Able supported homes and at our day programs with the encouragement and support of Able staff.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

This exhibition would not be possible without the generosity of our supporters.



Herbert Smith Freehills continues to be a loyal community partner of Able Australia through much needed pro bono legal support, financial assistance and volunteer support on a number of key projects.

Since 2012, Herbert Smith Freehills has generously supported Able Australia's Able Art program, which assists people with a disability to express their emotions, explore their creativity and increase their self-esteem through visual art.

Thanks to their support, Able Australia provides all program participants with the opportunity to exhibit their artwork and share their creations with friends, family and the general public.



Bostik are also a great supporter of Able Australia. We thank them for their generous contribution of Blu Tack - widely used by clients who prefer tactile works of art and their ongoing support of our other programs.

SCULPTURE AND TACTILE



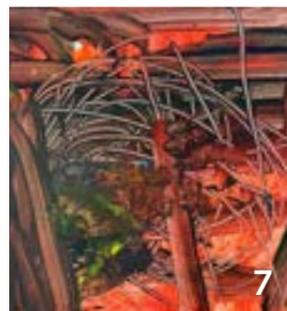
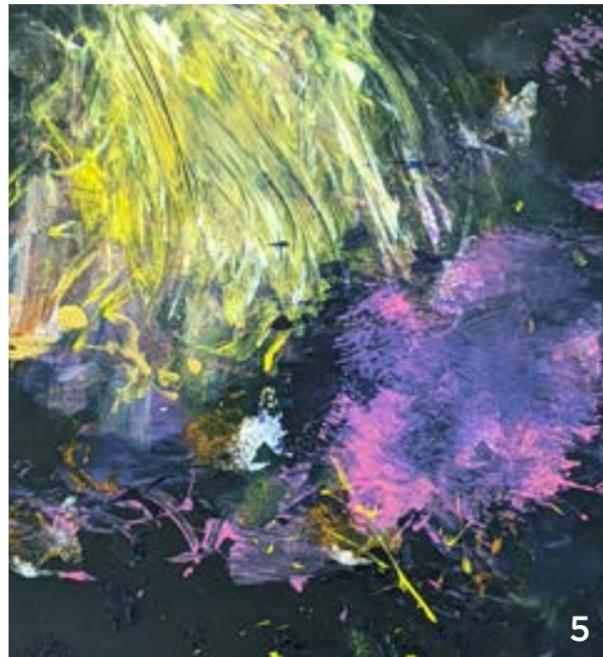
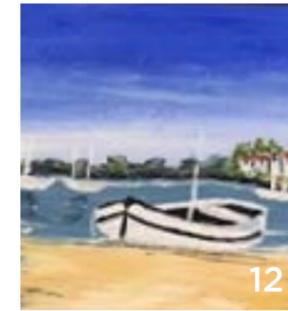
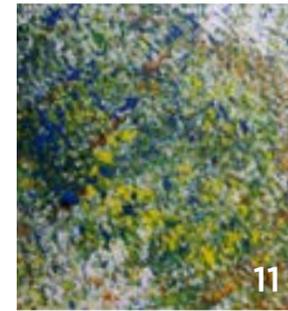
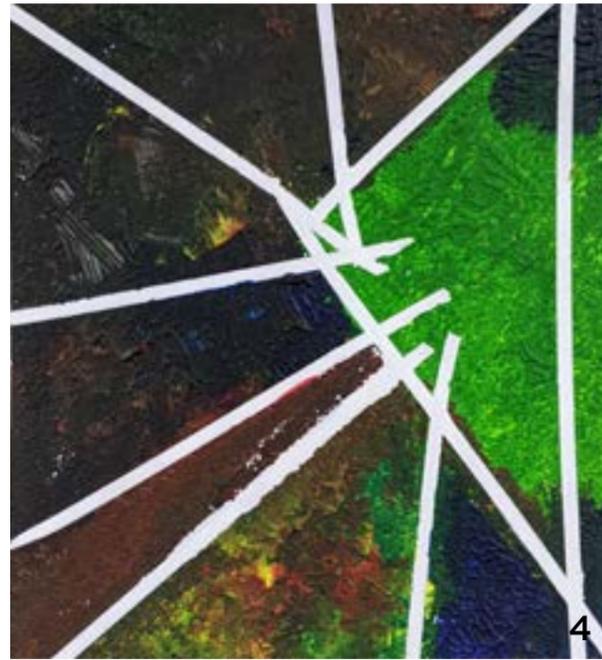
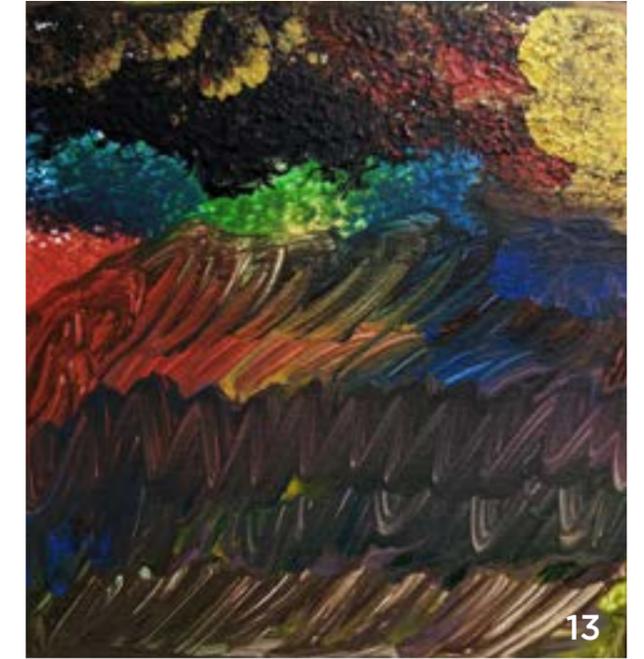
1. Retro Tetris - Alex Sar 2. Pot - Chloe H 3. Fish Collage - Joanne Gleeson 4. Clock - Erick Kwong 5. Table - Eric Kwong 6. Elephant - Noela Van Leeuwen 7. Fire Station - Danny Sparks 8. Pot - Joshua G 9. Bowl - Sally Clarke 10. Mirror - Aaron Pitcher 11. Owl - Daryl Harrison

TEXTILES AND WALL HANGINGS



1. Weaving - Maya M 2. Weaving - Coby A 3. Weaving - Shannon D 4. Weaving - Jasper Cleland 5. Frozen Pillow - Stephanie G 6. Hanging - Joel O 7. Antlers Tote Bag - Sharon H 8. Tapestry - Sandra 9. Hanging - Jack A 10. Hanging - Ricky L 11. Weaving - Katie V

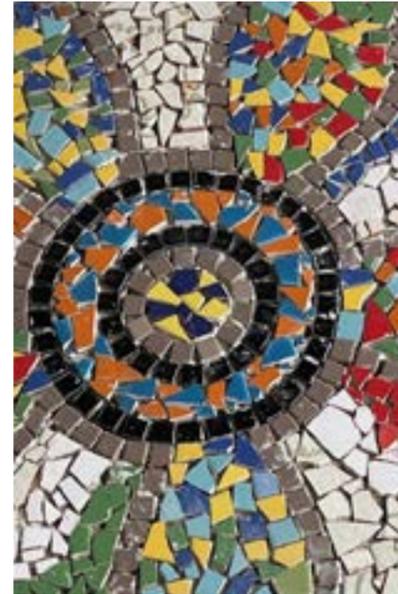
PAINTINGS



1. Drip - Craig Wilson 2. Painting - Angela D 3. Happy Day - Baruch R 4. Painting - Coby A 5. Fireworks - Tanya S 6. Beach Houses - Deb Pennuto 7. The Bushfire - Gianni R 8. Painting - Cathy Sellars

9. Painting - Graziella Amato 10. BFlowers - Nicole Sukkar 11. Painting - Joanne W 12. Boat - Joanne Porter 13. Painting - Ricky L 14. Painting - Maya 15. Painting - Theresa J 16. Painting - Kathy Wise 17. Painting - Maen M 18. Painting - Katie V 19. Painting - Richard Lim

INSIDE THE ARTWORK



MOSAIC TABLE

Able Australia Day Program Clients in Hobart

This mosaic table is the result of **teamwork**. Sixteen clients were involved in this masterpiece which took two months to produce.

Materials were sourced from Marketplace - an online place to buy items second hand, local shops and Bunnings. Trudi (pictured above), a Disability Support Worker at Able Australia, drew the design and led the project.

Able clients were involved in every aspect of the project from the design phase, through to the finished product. All clients involved are very proud of their contributions and have enjoyed showing everyone the beautiful end result they have achieved.



INSIDE THE ARTWORK



CRAIG WILSON

Wooden Train

Craig has attended the Moonah Men's Shed for the past three years working on different projects.

"I like to design my own projects and work out what materials and measurements I will need, I have used most of the tools at the Men's Shed. I am really good with fine details with my projects and it helps me maintain my fine motor skills" Craig says.

"The staff there are really good, they are always willing to lend a hand if needed. I also help out other people that attend sometimes if they need help with anything. It shows my abilities, I get to socialise with different people from within the community. I feel proud of what I have accomplished once I have finished my project."

LORETTA LYNCH

The Hawk & The Turtle

Loretta is passionate about art making which she discovered about four years ago.

Loretta is drawn to painting large size canvases and her inspiration comes from people, places and things she enjoys. Loretta's recent work titled, "Good Luck", was created with the countryside and native animals in mind.

Loretta enjoys collaborating with the art therapist as it is Loretta's time to reflect and be quiet, which helps her feel calm. In the future, Loretta would like to try woodworking.



CLAIRE FRASER

Creative Arts Therapist

In a year that has been challenging with people experiencing much isolation and lethargy, it has been a joy to sit in creative spaces with the people I work with connecting through relationship and materials. Creativity supports people to connect with themselves and others and coming understandings and ideas - it has been a pleasure in supporting the people I work with to have these experiences.

INSIDE THE ARTWORK



JOSHUA
Painting mobile



MOBILE HANGING

Young Adult Program - Launceston

This colourful 3D mobile is the result of a collaboration of nine artists in Tasmania as part of Able's Young Adult Program. The piece took three months to create using egg cartons that were donated by staff and friends of staff.

The artists enjoyed choosing their own colours to make this colourful mobile. The artists worked on their pieces when there were quiet times, sometimes individually or as a group.



SANDRA
Pom-pom making

CLARE STANFIELD-SMITH

Student placement Creative Arts Therapist

In my role as an art therapy student at Able Australia, my goal has been to collaboratively explore stimulating and enriching art making with clients that enable choice, self-agency and control in a safe, supported and empathetic way. By empowering clients to feel seen, heard and understood through creative self-expression, my ultimate aim has been to foster a sense of pride, achievement, independence and community connection, thereby enhancing wellbeing and quality of life.

The broad selection of art materials and tools provided by Able has helped facilitate a range of client-led, strengths-based art making approaches that are tailored to each individual's capabilities and interests. Such as painting, drawing, knitting, mosaics, 3D sculpture, collage and even make-up artistry.

Sandra, a client from our Northcote Day Centre in Victoria, enjoys drawing, completing complex jigsaws and is accomplished in knitting, cross-stitch and pom-pom making — all skills that require a lot of patience! After getting to know Sandra, I invited her to share her talent in pom-pom making with others within the Able community. We decided to make a short video to explain the pom-pom making process. We hope it will inspire you to have a go.

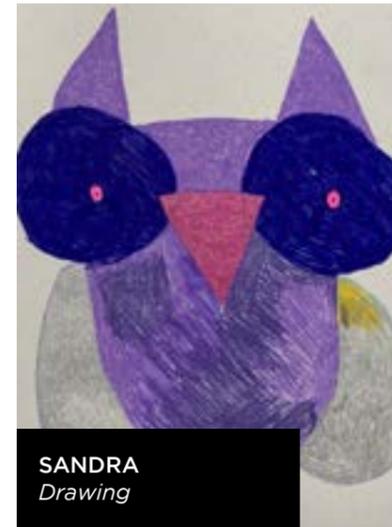


LORETTA LYNCH
3D Castle



REBECCA
Makeup

DRAWINGS & EXPERIMENTAL ART



SANDRA
Drawing



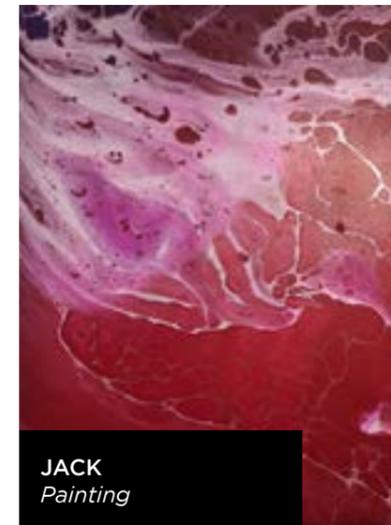
CATHY SELLARS
Bowl



BELINDA SLADE
Painting



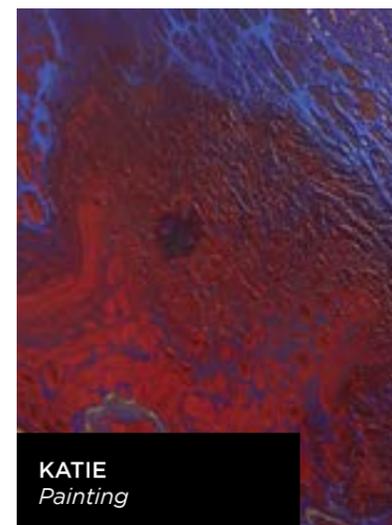
JOE MONTELEONE
Drawing



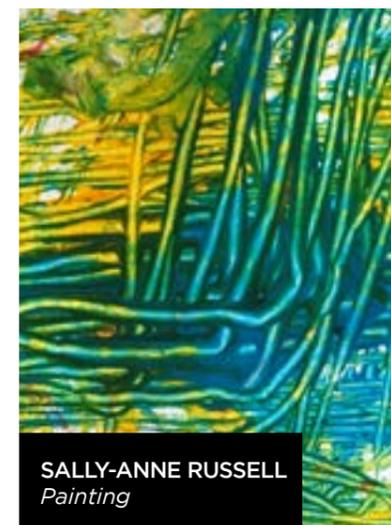
JACK
Painting



REBECCA
Mannequin Makeup



KATIE
Painting



SALLY-ANNE RUSSELL
Painting



SHANNON
Painting

National Office

413 Canterbury Road
Surrey Hills VIC 3127
T: 1300 225 369

Able Australia Services

ABN 83 024 339 234
ACN 005 783 175

info@ableaustralia.org.au
ableaustralia.org.au

