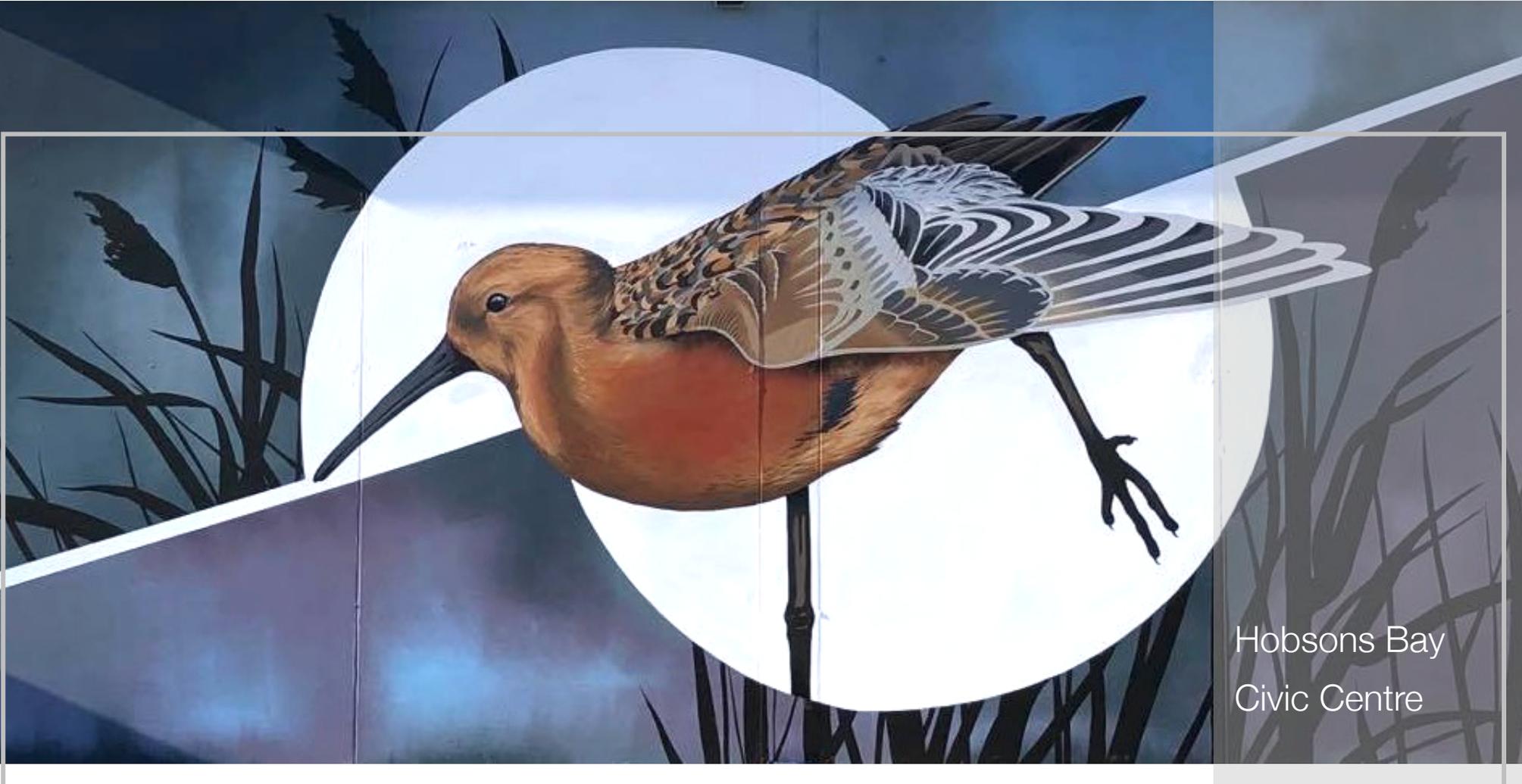


Expression of interest

Ness Flett



Hobsons Bay
Civic Centre

Creative Zone 1 - The River

The approach

By investigating the colours, shapes and species naturally found in the unique Hobson's Bay area, blocks of vibrant colour will compliment the neutral tones of the new build. An exploration of the life cycle of the unique Altona Skipper Butterfly and the different environments, predators, and sites it would see over it's lifetime will be captured in realistic renderings and responsive compositions.

Designs demonstrate the compositional nature and play with positive and negative space however once the location has been inspected, more responsive and creative plays on light / shapes / colour and detail will be utilised.

The connection to this unique environment will be explored in greater depth, as the artist has a lifetime relationship with the area, having spend many hours as a child birdwatching with grandparents, enjoying the Altona beach and falling in love with a resident pelican that later snatched a sandwich from the awe-struck 10yo.

Delivering meaningful artworks in a collaborative, corporate or community space is a delicate balance of interest, detail and clever composition. The idea would be to use colour theory, gradients and illustrative detail to tell the story of the Altona Skipper Butterfly, and inspire some interest in these amazing creatures.



The method

Works will be primarily painted murals using indoor Dulux paints, however, with the use of specialised spotlighting in appropriate areas, more ambient shadow play will continue the shapes and pattern found in the grasslands and even the detailing on the wings, cocoon, and caterpillar. Continuing the lighting theme, if appropriate, light boxes may also be constructed in Perspex and timber, to provide a dynamic, yet soft light source for visitors and providing the area with internal windows into the environment.



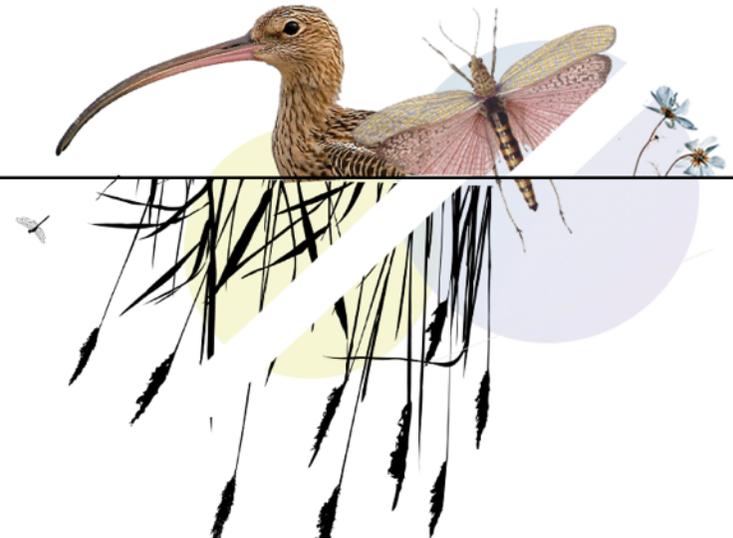
The River Concepts



The River Concepts



The River Concepts



The River Concepts



The River Concepts



Mural Experience

I have been painting murals professionally for over 20 years. Having worked in areas that boast enormous diversity in cultural backgrounds, there has been an interesting trend in how people respond to various images. Particularly working on animal or botanical illustrations, people will often stop to tell me their history or association with that animal. It is easy to project a meaning onto universally celebrated themes.

I was thrilled in 2019 to have been awarded a 2009 commemorative bushfire grant by Regional Arts Victoria. This enabled me to develop a large scale mural in Mitchell Shire Council after insightful workshops and consultation with community we were able to workshop a creative response to the fires of Black Saturday.

During my time in Coburg painting the swallows, an old Irish retired fisherman told me - why you see so many old seamen with swallow tattoos. And the owner of the Lebanese bakery I was painting on, explained the deep cultural significance of birds in flight, particularly for immigrants.

Painting the Mitchell Street wall in Northcote (2009), I was working on the “Stack of long dogs” when a woman spent her afternoon cooing about her Daschound, she later returned to bring the dog for a photo (and some welcome life-modelling). When repainting the wall again in 2017, she returned with a new puppy and told me of the original artist she’d spoken with. I showed her our photo. People want to be near to the work, to share it on social and celebrate it.

Creating a vibrant collaborative space for individuals to enjoy organic, interesting and exciting artwork is an exciting opportunity to bring my artwork indoors and into the hub that is Council.



Artist's CV

Awards / Experience:

2019 Vic Arts Grant recipient: 2009 Bushfires Commemorative Grant

2015 Metro Gallery 12 month Mentorship Award

2013 Award Finalist for Darebin Annual Art Award [Victoria]

2010 Award Recipient of AGIdeas "Rising Star" Award [Exhibition at Melbourne Museum]

2009

Volunteer curator at Murray Darling Palimpsest [Regional arts festival]

Award Finalist for BSG Gallery, Works on paper 2009 prize 2008

Award Finalist for Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery [Victoria] – Drawing

Award Finalist for Churchie National Emerging Artist Award [Brisbane] – Painting

Award Finalist for Darebin Annual Art Award [Victoria]

• Resident Artist at Workshop Gallery [City] and Black Cat [Fitzroy]

• Guest Tutor at National Gallery of Victoria for the "Sketching in the Gallery" series

• Guest Tutor and host of Giotto Life Drawing [Fitzroy]

Exhibition history:

2016

Metro Gallery – Group show [Armadale]

Seventh Gallery – Solo show [Fitzroy]

Howler Gallery – Solo show [Brunswick]

2015

Metro Gallery "Hot to Watch 2015" [Armadale]

Melbourne Arts Club "Paint v2" [Northcote]

Northern Exposure Festival [High St Northcote]

West Space "Annual Fundraiser" [Melbourne]

2014

No Vacancy Gallery "Undercoat Seasonal Collection"

Winner of the Metro Gallery 12 Month mentorship

Chambers Gallery "Mitchell Makers" [Broadford]

Mitchell Makers talk: Regional council event, mentoring remote artists [Broadford]

Herr Blick "Ness Flett Pelting The North on High – Herr Blick Opening"

[Northcote]

Northern Exposure Festival [High St Northcote]

2013

Howler Commission [Brunswick]

Active Spaces "Sentimental dogs" Solo Show [Northcote]

Darebin City Council Commission: Mitchell st [Northcote]

Artback Gallery "Pelting the North" Solo Show [Wentworth NSW]

Tinning Gallery "Your old self" Group Show [Brunswick]

2012

Subject Matter Art Space "New Drawing" Group Show [Hawthorn]

Platform Gallery "Museum of Accidents" Curated/Group Show [City]

The Napier Gallery "1980" Group Show [Fitzroy]

The Library Art Space "Google Me This" Group Show [Fitzroy]

Northern Exposure "High Views Festival" Group Show [Northcote]

Commercial/Mural work

2020

- Moreland City Council RenuWall project, Barkly St Park mural \$20K

- Hobsons Bay City Council, Aviation Road precinct 8 x mural series \$25K

2019

- Ivanhoe Grammar & La Trobe University 3 story educational hub refresh (\$30K)

- City of Darebin, High street roller door activation mural (\$4K)

- Altona Gate Vicinity Centres Entrance mural 6mt x 7 mt (\$10K)

- Hobsons Bay City Council, Curlew Park Feature mural and ping pong table (\$15K)

- Mitchell Shire Council, Skate Park Mural (\$3K)

- Greenhills Park (Banyule City Council) Australian Native Birds Stage #2 (\$18K)

- City of Darebin, Epsom St Reserve play tunnels (\$2K)

- Vic Arts Grant, "10 Years On" Mural project with Mitchell Shire Council \$10K

- Darebin City Council, Crispe Park Playground, Entomology Wall \$5K

- Commercial illustration work including Epworth HealthCare & Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

2018

- Mitchell Shire Council, Seymour aqueduct underpass, 100mt x 3mt (\$10K)

- Banyule City Council: Greenhills Park Australian Native Birds Stage #1 (\$25K)

- Coburg Traders Association: Colours of Coburg Stage #2 (\$8K)

- Private mural: Outdoor Tuscan scene (Requested no social media on this piece) (\$20K)

- Private illustration commissions

2017

- Banyule City Council: Briar Hill New Holland Honey Eater (\$12K)

- Northcote Town Hall Ticket Booth (\$3K)

- Epworth HealthCare Maternity ward mural (\$3K)

- Mitchell Street Northcote (Northcote Traders Association) botanical refresh (\$10K)

- Private commission: Zebra Roller Door

2016

- Banyule City Council: Exclusive artist selected for Colours of Coburg 2016 Mural projects (4 x \$20K murals, some measuring over 10x40m)

- Mitchell Street Northcote (Northcote Traders Association) Scissor Tail birds (\$2K)

2015

- City of Moreland: Bell Street Mall zebra mural (\$8K)

- Darebin City Council: Graffiti – repellent design consulting for the Northcote

Trader's Association

- Darebin Active spaces consultant

2014

- Howler Bar's outdoor Mural (\$6K)

- Isyka Japanese Restaurant (Darlinghurst SYD) Commercial indoor mural (3 stories interior) (\$20K)

- City of Monash: Street Scape project with landscaping consult and mural (\$12K)

- Mitchell x High Street Mural Project 5 x 25mt Graffiti deterrent design and

execution (\$8K)

2013 – 2009 upon request

Education:

2019

University of Newcastle Aus
Natural History Illustration
101

2007

Swinburne TAFE
Diploma of Multimedia

2001-2005 RMIT

Fine Art Degree Painting

1999 NSC, Certificate 1

Design, Drawing and
Painting

Artist's Recent Works

City of Banyule - Briar Hill Bus stop
New Holland Honey Eater and Kangaroo Paw



Artist's Recent Works

City of Darebin – Crispe Park Playspace
Entomology discovery playground



Artist's Recent Works

Greenhills Reserve, Banyule City Council
150 Square Meters, Australian Native birds series



Safety

While each site is unique, I will undertake a risk-assessment of the location and provide detail on how I will be producing work. If I have any concerns I will raise these with relevant contacts and negotiate a solution.

As a basis, there are several work methods that can be engaged to ensure both mine and public safety: Working above 2 meters on any wall, I utilise an industrial (not domestic) ladder. This ladder would be placed at a slope of 4 (vertical) to 1 (horizontal) and appropriately tied-off and secured where appropriate. I would also be engaging in the work during business hours and over the weekend during the day so there is no risk of low-light accident, and high-visibility and “wet paint” barriers will be used to redirect both automotive and pedestrian traffic where required.

Where I am operating over 2.5 meters, I am happy to use a scissor lift and am fully certified to operate this machinery.

Materials

Materials will include (but are not limited to) Dulux and Watty High Gloss, Water based enamel aerosol paint, stencils, tape and drop sheets. These ensure the fastest drying time, as well as the best quality colour stability in a UV environment.

Always utilizing safe material handling and off-site cleaning and brush maintenance procedures.

Safe work practice to be negotiated with council, full safety gas-mask to be utilized by the artist and restricted pedestrian access where appropriate.

The artist will be on site while paint is wet at all times.

Insurance

I have comprehensive PLI insurance up to 20M through NAVA and will be happy to provide documentation of insurance should my application be successful.

Cost

Every site is different, so pricing a piece depends on several factors:

- Terrain and access to the wall/site
- Maximum height (spaces over 4mt require scissor lift access, which will incur a machine hire fee)
- Surface (deep brick or rendered walls pose different challenges, which can be accommodated in the design)
- Design complexity (detailed realistic artworks vs.. large block coloured abstract designs demand varying skill and time)

I will be happy to work up a more specific proposal once we have an understanding of the appetite for painted mural work, light shadow installation and / or light box artwork.

However I foresee the budget of this project operating well under the scoped \$20K.

For more examples of my work, please visit my website.

Ness Flett

0415531377

inbox@nessflett.com

www.nessflett.com/murals

Examples of collage design in situ (locations TBC)

 The picture can't be displayed.

Mural experience

I have been professionally painting murals for over 20 years. Having worked in areas that boast enormous diversity in cultural backgrounds, there has been an interesting trend in how people respond to various images. Particularly working on animal or botanical illustrations, people will often stop to tell me their history or association with that animal. It is easy to project a meaning onto universally celebrated themes.

I am thrilled to have just been awarded a 2009 commemorative bushfire grant by ArtsVic. This enables me to develop a large scale mural in Mitchell Shire Council in consultation with community, in response to the significant fires of Black Saturday.

During my time in Coburg painting the swallows, an old Irish retired fisherman told me why you see so many seamen with swallow tattoos. The owner of the building was Lebanese and also explained the deep cultural significance of birds in flight, particularly for immigrants.

Painting the Mitchell Street wall in Northcote (2009), I was working on the “Stack of long dogs” when a woman spent her afternoon cooing about her Daschund, she later returned to bring the dog for a photo (and some welcome life-modelling). When repainting the wall again in 2017, she returned with a new puppy and told me of the original artist she’d spoken with. I showed her our photo. People want to be near to the work, to share it on social and celebrate it.

Finding a balance that satisfies an aesthetically pleasing artwork, and something that will anchor it’s self in the psyche of so many diverse backgrounds is another consideration for the subject matter in this proposal.

I consider the passer-by, the business operator and the resident all the owners of this work, and talking to people as I paint is part of the role.

During the Colours of Coburg project in 2017, I worked with the trader’s association as well as with key stakeholders within Moreland City Council to develop the final artworks. I’m comfortable running online or live consultation sessions to ensure everyone has an opportunity to provide input.