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## Welcome to the Wombat Post by Emu Creek Art Co

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### 🌸 Welcome to the Spring Edition of the Wombat Post by Emu Creek Art Co 🌸

Emu Creek Art Co was born five years ago in Spring 2018 as *Shitty Australiana* as a way to combat the deep loneliness I was feeling at the time. My kit was some A5 paper and oil pastels that were gifted to me.

It's been a 🔥 WILD 🔥 five years for us all collectively. As with many of you, I've continued to grow and change. For me, a lot of the change has taken place behind the scenes. It's taken a big leap, out of steady employment and all the way up to the tropics, painful personal growth, a

spiritual reawakening, and much much more hard work, to be able to confidently, and consistently, promote my art, ideas and creations to the world online and IRL.

I honestly hated feeling like I had to dance to the algorithm (I avoided it, and Instagram made me feel like shit about myself, all the time), now I dance to my own beat. Which is seasonal and heart led. Best of all, it feels right.

Being able to take space to breathe, to come home to myself, and realise dreams with confidence and safety, is a divine blessing for which I am grateful ✨ I want to share the evolution of the colourful world that is Emu Creek Art Co. Basically, my brain works overtime, and you're welcome to follow along the ride of me nerding out on nature. And making art about it. And repeat. But in a way that is uniquely me and true to myself. I'm sorry if it gets weird at times! You've been warned.

I will be dropping the WOMBAT POST A nugget of a newsletter straight to your inbox 📧 It's a seasonal newsletter as I work in season with my hormonal rhythms as well as other of natures' cycles. Expect me to start out with four seasons, and then as I find my voice in this new format, I plan to build it into my monthly routine through 24 and into 25. Thanks for sharing this exciting Journey with me Thoughts? Questions? I'm here Also find me here and here and here.

Big love & gratitude for your support and interest in my adventures.

Stephanie 🍷💙💚💛🧡❤️❤️



**Mural Wrap up: A dive into the bluewater river, Bluewater Quay, Mackay**

If you've been following along with social media, you'll know that I've been painting some huge murals that take weeks of work for one. As I am writing this Mural Wrap on a Sunday morning because I am painting on site all next week, I thought it would be nice to tell you more about my process in creating public art.

I am new to the public art game, kind of. I worked in admin 10 years ago for an architectural firm and was first exposed to public art and how one might go about coordinating this. Between 2016 and 2023 (I became self employed at the start of this year) much of my work included collecting many peoples input and ideas, loads of data collection and cleaning and being involved in community consultation processes. I've been able to take this community consultation experience and apply it as an artist to create meaningful input and ownership into the murals that I'm making.

### **Community Consultation**

*A dive into the bluewater* which is a two part mural series was created in consultation with over 40 local voices around their relationship with the bluewater and the plants and animals of the Mackay region, being the lands of the Yuibera people. Community consultation for a dive in the bluewater included conversations with the local fishing clinic, birdwatching group and. Kutta Mulla Gorinna Special Assistance School students and teachers. I exchanged a one hour mural concept development and collaging workshop with students from years 7-12 for input into the mural which included me learning local knowledge of how to not become croc food! So much gratitude to everyone involved.

### **Story and concept**



# RIVER STREET PRECINCT MURALS

By Emu Creek Art Co

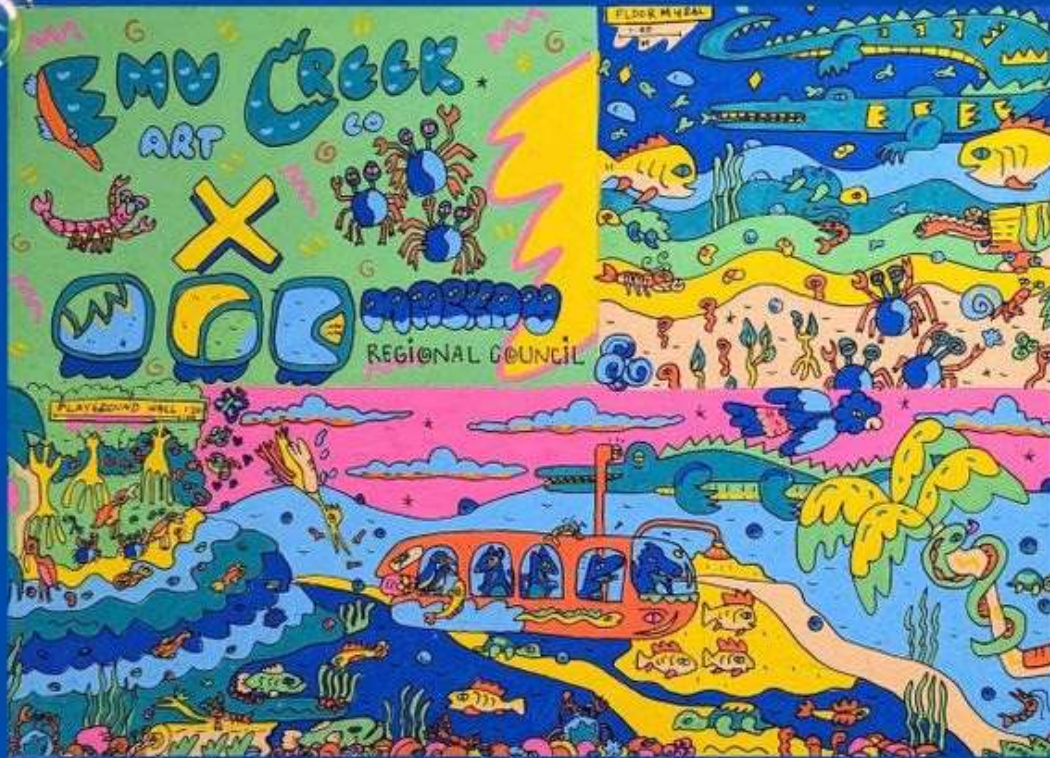
## A dive into the bluewater river.

Curlews were talking to kangaroos on a grassy hill overlooking the banks of the bluewater river. A crocodile basks lazily in the sun and a plover chases away a magpie.

The curlews and kangaroos were waiting on the trusted K.T. Paddle, owner and operator of Bluewater Submersibles, who was taking them on a deepwater dive into the river on her trusty sub, the Dragonfly.

The bright orange Dragonfly slowly surfaces from the sparkling blue. A hatch pops open and best mate Puggie waves to the curlews and kangaroos. All aboard. Adventure is just around the river bend and down a few meters...

Mural Floor 7x6 meters



Mural Playground wall 6x5 meters

Community consultation is being conducted with groups including: Mudskippa Fishing, Friends of the Botanic Gardens Mackay, Birdlife Mackay, Kutta Mulla Gorinna School and residents of Mackay.

Artists note: These concept illustrations are property of Emu Creek Art Co and Stephanie Grace. Concepts are indicative for Mackay Regional Council and are not to be shared outside of the Council. Concepts are to scale (1:20 / 1:40) and all care will be taken to reproduce. The artist reserves the right to change the illustration and community consultation process has not yet been completed.

### Painting process

After months of behind the scenes work I finally got to start painting in late September, finishing 3 weeks later in mid October. The floor was a mammoth 49 square meters and my hand drawn concept was 1:40 of the size. If you are painting a concrete floor or wall, expect it may be thirsty. There's 10 liters of undercoat under this painting! The wall was slightly less hard on my back at only 30 square meters and went up nicely in just under a week. Animals featured include saltwater crocodile, mangrove jack, flathead, soldier crab, hermit crab, platypus, beach curlew and wallabies



You can find completed murals on the Mackay Public Art Walk via Artspace Mackay.

Big thank you to Jennifer, Lara, Caron and everyone else at Mackay Regional Council in making these murals happen.

### **What's coming up next**

I am busy painting 30 minutes south of Mackay a huge wraparound project on Sarina Neighbourhood Centre, here's the concept illustrations below. Over 50 folks from Sarina had input into this mural! I'll be unveiling that mural on 1 December at a community event.

My website [emucreekart.com](http://emucreekart.com) is also getting a makeover and the online store will be live soon. I've been busy painting and also in product development for some new items.

Until the summer edition, thank you for reading the first edition of the Wombat Post. Love and sunshine to you and yours x



Emu Creek Art Co, South Mackay, Yuwi Land, QLD 4740 [unsubscribe](#)