

# Amanda Western Artist CV



*2023 Ballarat Arts Foundation Visual Arts Award Recipient, Amanda Western. Photo credit: Kathy Mexted*

Amanda Western's journey as a linocut printmaker is rooted in her diverse experiences and her passion for art as a form of healing and expression. She creates her large scale, impactful, and detailed linocut prints from her studio on the outskirts of Ballarat in Central Victoria. The influence of her recent studies with renowned printmaker David Frazer in Greece adds another layer of expertise to her work.

One notable aspect of Amanda's work is based on her decade-long experience as an Emergency Recovery professional. This unique perspective has given her a profound connection to communities and environments that have faced natural disasters. Her firsthand witness to the positive impact of art therapy on individuals recovering from traumatic events inspired her to turn to art as a means of personal healing. The discovery of linocut printmaking has not only become a medium for artistic expression but has also transformed her outlook on life, evident in the sensitivity with which she depicts the Australian environment.

The influence of the Australian bush and natural history on Amanda's work reflects her connection to the environment and her appreciation for the beauty of her surroundings. She has lived in eight regional and remote Australian communities, including

the Torres Strait's Badu Island and the Victorian Pyrenees Ranges where she developed a vineyard alongside her husband and children.

Her interest in conservation has led her to join the global charity, Conservation Without Borders, as grant writer. Amanda has since started to produce artworks depicting vulnerable species from across the globe. She has recently been admitted as an Associate into the international arts organisation Artists for Conservation.

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 "Fragile Fight", Ross Creek Gallery, Ballarat
- 2024 Restore Gallery, Ballarat
- 2023: "I see you; do you see me?" Old Butcher Shop Gallery, Ballarat

## Group Exhibitions

- 2024 Shearers Arms Gallery, Geelong
- 2024 Bacchus Marsh Public Hall
- 2024 Castlemaine Market Building Gallery
- 2024 Lake Wendouree Museum Gallery
- 2023 Fairbanks Eye Gallery, Ballarat (invitational)
- 2023 Brunswick St Art Gallery, Fitzroy (invitational)
- 2023 The Space Gallery, Geelong
- 2023 Ballarat Society of Artists - various exhibitions & monthly art competition winner
- 2023 Mercure Hotel & Convention Centre, Ballarat

### **Grants/ Awards:**

- 2024 First Prize, Lineworks Art Show, Geelong Arts Society
- 2024 Second place Ballarat Easter Art Show
- 2024 Best "Other" Class for the Warrnambool & District Easter Arts Festival
- 2023 Visual and Performing Arts Award, Ballarat Arts Foundation
- 2023 Ballarat Art Foundation, Mentoring Program
- 2023 Four "Artist of the Month" Awards- Ballarat Society of Artists.
- 2023 Highly Commended Ballarat Show

### **Collections:**

The Market Hotel, Ballarat.

The Mallow Hotel, Ballarat.

Wall of Wings permanent installation, Altona Library.

### **Corporate Commissions:**

- 2024 Road Nationals Coffee Cup artwork, City of Ballarat
- 2024 Mural, Haymes Paints, Ballarat
- 2023 Mural, The Mallow Hotel, Ballarat

### **Memberships:**

- Artists for Conservation (international group)
- National Association of Visual Artists (NAVA)
- Goldfields Printmakers Group
- Print Council of Australia.

### **Education/coaching:**

- Bachelor Economics (UWA)
- Cert III Visual Arts (Oxygen College)
- Mentoring Program, Ballarat Art Foundation.

