

## **BIO**

### My Background

I have always had a passion for art and pursued this interest whenever work and family would allow. In New Zealand I was for some years a specialist art teacher for schoolchildren, and attended professional and personal development courses in art subjects at a tertiary level. After much travelling and several career changes I relocated from New Zealand to Melbourne and now focus on developing my art practice.

### My Inspiration

Inspiration comes from many sources: my surroundings, nature, my travels and from my background in horticulture. In the past I have been extensively involved with garden design and this influence has emerged as a theme in much of my work. I love the variety of shapes and colours the garden image can provide.

### My Art Practice

My process involves layering synthetic polymer paint with other mark-making mediums. Together with a selection of collage elements I am able to give complexity and depth to the surface of the work, always with an eye on colour and texture.

This intuitive process gives me the freedom to express my subjects creatively through memory and the imagination. One element will inspire the next, culminating in a harmonious work that captures the spirit of the subject, be it a landscape, a concept or a vase of flowers.

I also enjoy exploring analogue collage using images from vintage magazines, books and found street posters. These enable me to create disjointed compositions of the quirky and the beautiful. I love the surprises and the humour inherent in this art form, and its potential for social commentary. A collage composition will sometimes form the basis for my mixed media paintings.