

Paper artist Heather Matthew uses papermaking as a vehicle to express complex concepts. Matthew's art and community projects reflect themes of interconnection, inclusion and resilience. She uses her handmade papers in collages, artist books and sculptural installations.

Matthew's style is intuitive, fluid and interpretive. She responds to place and research through an immersive, experimental process to absorb the colours, sounds and textures of a place through sensory experiences. She uses a variety of paper based techniques such as paper pulp painting, collage, printmaking and ink drawing to interpret her research and has recently added acrylic painting as a new medium of expression.

During 2020 she stitched circles of handmade paper made on embroidery hoops as an inner meditative exercise to explore both the outer and inner worlds. It was during this time that she began experiential community projects using a paper pouring technique to create large paper worlds of the world created anew. Some of these works have been exhibited in regional NSW and in Burnie, Tasmania.

Matthew graduated with a BVA (Honours) from Southern Cross University in 2016 and has been selected for numerous regional and international exhibitions. She has been selected as a feature artist for the International Biennial Paper Fibre Art in Taiwan and for artist residencies in Australia and Iceland. Her residency at La Filature du Pont de Fer, Lasalle, France was supported by Create NSW, NSW Artists' Grant administered by NAVA., NSW. She started her creative career as a journalist, writer and poet and continues to write to accompany her artworks as well as writing a weekly blog on her website.