

**Judy Watson** Illustrator / Mixed Media Artist / Author

Judy Watson is an award-winning book illustrator who has received national and international recognition and worked with several major Australian publishing houses. Her solo show of mixed media pieces in 2022 coincided with the publication of her picture book with Sofie Laguna, *When You're Older*. She won Best in Show at DACE 2023 with her acrylic painting *Descent from the Mountain*.

Having inherited an experimental spirit from her father, her approach to art is curious and ever changing. Judy often takes a mixed-media approach to both illustration and fine art, including elements of wet and dry media, collage and printmaking, sometimes combining different elements digitally. But she enjoys the tactile quality and freedom of acrylic paint when using a large canvas. When working this way she uses brushes, palette knives, house painting tools, sponges, rollers and her fingers, to build up thick layers of paint that explore texture and colour.

Judy's work features a strong sense of place and is often set amidst rampant vegetation that suggests an elusive narrative.