



Melissa Johns

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Professional Profile

I create my pieces using Recycled T E A B A G S and other recyclables. I chose these mediums as I wanted to work with sustainable materials that would lend my work a certain whimsical feel. In 2015 I began my journey of creating pieces using the teabag fabric on canvases as part of a collage, along with other recyclables; coffee cups, serviettes, gift bags, coffee filters etc. My process involves painting and drawing on each individual piece of teabag fabric (i.e. every colour represents a different collaged piece of fabric), which I then collage onto a canvas. My process is a lengthy one, with pieces taking anywhere from 1 to 5 weeks to complete. Other mediums I use in this process are charcoal, pastels & watercolours, with acrylic base on occasion.

Artist Statement

I have always enjoyed creating & believe I have a keen imagination and a vast pool of passion for my art. 2015 saw me begin to create on canvas where I discovered my love of using recyclable materials; this led to me experimenting with different mediums. I discovered a biased & unconditional love of tea bag fabric, painted & collaged onto canvas to create scenic pieces. My work has been described as Naïve and Whimsical, to Contemporary, to Abstract. My wish is for my pieces to find loving homes that will cherish them, to raise intrigue for the viewer and awe for the buyer, and for my work to remain my passion for years to come.

Solo Exhibition

Wangaratta Art Space, 'A Tribute to Tea', September 2017
Wangaratta Jazz Festival, Milawa Art Show, October 2017
Art Gallery on Ovens, 'Tea, Huts & Hills', September 2020

Awards

Viewer's Choice Award	St. Bernard's Art Show 2016
Viewer's Choice Award	A Feast Of Art, Oxley art show 2016
Viewer's Choice Award	St. Bernard's Art Show 2017
Emerging Artist Award	King Valley Art Show 2017
Commendation	St Augustine's Art Show 2016, 2017, 2018
Commendation	King Valley Art Show 2016
Commendation	Camberwell Art Show 2017
Commendation	St Bernard's Art Show 2017
Commendation	Bright Art Show 2018
Commendation	St. Bernard's Art Show 2018
Viewer's Choice Award	St. Bernard's Art Show 2018
Commendation	St Augustine's Art Show 2018
Grand Prize Winner	St Augustine's Art Show 2019

<p>Books and Publications</p>	<p>2018 Autumn edition of Go Local Magazine – 4 page spread March 2020 – ‘Tabitha and the Raincloud’, published/released AUS, NZ, UK, US, Canada January 2021 – ‘Growing Pains’ published/released AUS, NZ, UK, US, Canada</p>
<p>Commissioned Artwork</p>	<p>May 2016 – current Commissioned: 27 Recycle pieces</p>
<p>Sold Artwork</p>	<p>May 2016 – Current Sold 71 recycle art work pieces Sold 32 Illustrations</p>
<p>Illustration</p>	<p>January 2018 - Signed first Illustration contract for a children’s book for EK Publishing April 2019 – Signed with EK publishing for second children’s book illustrations March 2020 – ‘Tabitha and the Raincloud’, published/released AUS, NZ, UK, US, Canada January 2021 – ‘Growing Pains’ published/released AUS, NZ, UK, US, Canada</p>