

Media Release

Date: Thursday 8 May, 2013

RHYTHM & RUST *Train Spotting – Minutiae to Panorama*

Take a trip! From oil to ink, thread to sound – four artists present a sensory experience of the Riverina railways through an artistic visual and audio tour, on display in the E3 art space at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery. In the new exhibition ***Rhythm & Rust***, two generations of artists from one family rekindle nostalgic rail travel in the Riverina region.

Rhythm & Rust is the creation of local printmaker Felicity Hibble, Adelaide painter and ceramicist Rod Kirk, Adelaide textile artist Josie Kirk and Melbourne sound artist Jeremy Kirk. Together, they have created works inspired by the Junee Roundhouse Museum, an organisation run by volunteers who preserve and restore old rolling stock.

Rod has highlighted the surface textures and colours of the old, unrestored timbers of the carriages and the reflections and views through the windows. He has used a photo-realistic approach, building up layers of thin paint to create the illusion of the surfaces; while Josie has designed motifs inspired by wheels, dials, gauges and other obscure, round shapes of the rail yard. She set herself the challenge of using an ostensibly square stitch to create a round shape by using cross stitch on Aida cloth.

Felicity has mimicked the rhythm and rust in the landscape of the rail yard by carving intricate and detailed, textured areas into the relief block. Through experimentation with printmaking processes, she has created a series of spontaneous monotypes that contrast with the more detailed panoramas. Intuitively she chose to represent her family, celebrating this unique coming together across three states.

Jeremy brings an aural element to the ***Rhythm & Rust*** theme. The repetitive nature of rail mechanics is the primary inspiration for his sound design. Focusing on interwoven, yet distinct rhythmic elements, he has produced multiple works intended to be experienced as one large evolving soundscape throughout the exhibition space.

The artists emphasise the historical context, highlighting the forms, textures, shapes and sounds of past Riverina railways. They focus on the essence of time – rust – and sound – rhythm – of rail, presenting intriguing and creative works in each discipline. ***Rhythm & Rust*** invites the community to re-kindle a spark in the earlier modes of travel, and appeal to a new generation to keep history alive.

Rhythm & Rust will be officially launched on Thursday 20 June, and will be on public display in the E3 art space at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery until Sunday 30 June, 2013.

Exhibition Dates:

When: Thursday 20 June – Sunday 30 June, 2013

Where: E3 art space, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery

Exhibition Launch:

When: Thursday 20 June, 6:00 – 8:00pm

Where: E3 art space, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery

Cost: Free