

Over the centuries, artists have been fortune tellers, warning the state of play both socially and with the environment. There is a great deal of sensibility in today's art world which has its eye well and truly on the preservation and wellbeing of our shared world with nature.

This attitude is revealed most beautifully in the work of Camie Lyons. We are looking at bronze sculptures, sometimes mounted on concrete, but the genesis of Camie's work is nature itself. These hard surfaces begin with soft walks through the bush. In many cases each image is made up of carefully selected branches from saplings and fallen trees, each catching Camie's eye as she is immersing herself both in nature itself and the outcome. It is like nature has pre-drawn the work and Camie is adhering to that tune. Other works are made as bronze raindrops, splashing into their own form, again honed, and tuned by Camie.

There is a very strong relationship between all of Camie's mediums. Her symphony translates across works made in the foundry, to others drawn on large and small sheets of paper. It's as though the sculptures have jumped from the paper into bronze or the bronze has leapt into the drawing. There is a marvelous but sure marriage between all her mediums. It is Camie's intelligence, intuitions, integrity, and pure ability that bring her particular passion alive. She loves nature, bringing its beauty and importance as a snapshot in art pleading for the continuance that nature rules us all. Camie recognises our need to care for the environment and its great and crucial gift to mankind. Camie instinctively knows we humans are the guests not the landlord of our planet.

Not afraid of hard stuff, and messy beginnings she turns into remarkable beauty her nature gathered "stuff". The works she produces have a sense of sophistication as well as that lasting power of its timeless feeding of us. That is to say, we can glimpse its current beauty but never forget its sense of longevity and where it started. This is the culture Camie carries with her wherever she goes. Many of the images in this exhibition are from her 2024 residency in Tasmania where, despite logging and water issues, it is possibly one of the great paradises left on Earth.

– Stuart Purves