

## Nicola Moss

Nicola conducted her residency from 15 October to 12 November 2014.

Nicola was born in Melbourne, Australia in 1968 and lives and works on the Gold Coast hinterland.

Nicola focused on the history of the Clarence Valley from the early architecture through to finding the oldest Jacaranda tree in town. She worked in the gallery studio to experiment with her findings and turning them into delicate paper cut outs. Her works were on paper and reflected her bower bird findings from natural and manmade objects.



Timing her residency to coincide with the Jacaranda Festival enabled Nicola to see many of the community events in Grafton and how the Jacaranda is celebrated as the town's identity. Activities included tree planting, Culture on the Clarence festival, Jacaranda Queen Crowning, Jacaranda Thursday performances, Youth Banner march, Open Gardens, Float Parade, Grafton Art Club Show, Grafton Embroidery Club needlework show, Light Up the Valley, river and antique shows.

Meeting local artists was a good opportunity for exchange, with art practice discussions and an invitation to attend a local fauna survey with ecologists and ranger.

The Clarence River Historical Society and Grafton Local History Library provided much knowledge and information for Nicola's research of Grafton's heritage and ecology; she walked many streets in Grafton, photo documenting the ecology of both natural and built environment.

During her residency Nicola also made 'sense of place' frottage rubbings, from a gathered collection of fallen flora; prepared a palette of papers inspired by Grafton for future paper cut work, began plein-air work, and worked on a large paper cut installation work and recorded selected experiences and activities on her blog.

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