

KENDAL MURRAY
Evergreen





Photographed by Phippe Flatt

KENDAL MURRAY

Evergreen

1 – 24 May 2025

Opening Celebration & Drinks, Thursday 1 May, 5 – 7 pm

The exhibition 'Evergreen' is inspired by the space between dream and memory, play and identity, and stories of creative imaginings inspired by places in the natural world that hold onto your heart and become intrinsic to your sense of well-being.

They are the places that awakened our senses to the pleasures of nature and promised adventure, with trees that reached into the sky and beckoned us to climb. In these places, we could jump into enormous piles of coloured leaves or the deepest of puddles, play hide-and-seek in lush textured ferns and build cubby houses with sticks and stones. Places where we could collect specimens, discover insects, investigate their intriguing habitats and let our imagination flow.

Complex natural environments full of mystery appealed to us as play spaces as they offered opportunities for discovery through exploration. Experiences of freedom and creativity through play afforded us the agency to be resourceful and develop connective and interactive relationships with the natural world. We could play with friends, explore, hide, imagine, and transform the environment to suit our games. While we played, we acquired knowledge of ecosystems and created powerful childhood memories of positive experiences in natural environments.

The sculptural artworks in the exhibition use child-sized tea set pieces assembled to mimic landscape forms for tiny people, animals, and birds. Edges of saucers act as roads or paths, and cups that hold vegetation, rocks, water pools, or forms that stand in for hills. Coin purses and mirrored compacts have been transformed into miniature reminders of family holidays and adventure, where discovery meets familiarity and ends in happiness. This transformative activity based on play, is a process of putting together ideas, feelings and expressions. The forms explore the concept that play in a natural environment encourages a relationship with place through knowledge and experience. It informs a sense of selfhood by being able to make choices and bring ideas into being that connect identity to nature and culture through imagination.

Sharing positive environmental experiences with important people and memories of pleasurable and fascinating interactions with nature shaped our environmental identity and had a lasting impact. These experiences can influence how we understand and value the environment into adulthood, prompting us to reflect on and appreciate the formative role of childhood play in natural landscapes. The sculptural assemblages represent childhood imaginings inspired by sensory wonder and delight, held in time capsules that ensure their care as environmental identity. Where positive and responsible relationships with the natural environment will ensure its protection and guarantee children natural places to play and experience their own wonder and delight.

Murray has had numerous solo and group exhibitions nationally and her work is held in public and private collections in Japan, Hong Kong, New Zealand, the UK, New York and Australia, including the Powerhouse Museum, Goulburn Regional Gallery, Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, University of Western Sydney, University of New South Wales and the Commonwealth Bank Collection. She has been the recipient of several awards including the Deakin Small Sculpture Prize (2015) and the Beowulf Award in the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize (2015). Her work has also been selected as finalist multiple times in the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize (2023, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2004, 2001). She holds an MA (Hons) in Visual Art.



Tried and True, Point of View
mixed media assemblage with purse
16 x 17 x 15 cm (artwork)
30 x 26 x 26 cm (wall hung display)
\$5,000



Free Space Mismatch

mixed media assemblage within metal compact

8.5 x 8.5 x 9 cm (artwork)

15 x 5 x 7 cm (wall hung display)

\$2,600



Free Space Misplace

mixed media assemblage within metal compact

8.5 x 8.5 x 9 cm (artwork)

15 x 5 x 7 cm (wall hung display)

\$2,600



Days Appraise, Gaze, Amaze
mixed media assemblage with tea set
28 x 19 x 19 cm (artwork)
45 x 29 x 29 cm (display)
\$8,990



Swim, Whim, Synonym

mixed media assemblage within metal compact

8 x 7.5 x 8 cm (artwork)

15 x 5 x 17 cm (wall hung display)

\$2,600



Summer Days, Colourways
mixed media assemblage with purse
13 x 14 x 14 cm (artwork)
28 x 23 x 25 cm (wall hung display)
\$5,000



Summer Days, Colourways
mixed media assemblage with purse
13 x 14 x 14 cm (artwork)
28 x 23 x 25 cm (wall hung display)
\$5,000



Hello! Hello! Hello!

mixed media assemblage with tea set

22 x 18 x 14 cm (artwork)

39 x 28 x 24 cm (display)

\$6,990



Off Guard, Scorecard

mixed media assemblage within metal compact

11 x 12 x 11.5 cm (artwork)

15 x 5 x 17 cm (wall hung display)

\$2,600



Scout Out, Shout Out, Hang About
mixed media assemblage with tea set
21.5 x 14 x 18 cm (artwork)
39 x 24 x 28 cm (display)
\$6,990



Scout Out, Shout Out, Hang About (detail)
mixed media assemblage with tea set
21.5 x 14 x 18 cm (artwork)
39 x 24 x 28 cm (display)
\$6,990



Trustees, Gentle Breeze
mixed media assemblage with tea set
33 x 16 x 10.5 cm (artwork)
53 x 26 x 21 cm (display)
\$6,990



All Around, Unbound, Jumping Up and Down

mixed media assemblage with tea set

31 x 19 x 17 cm (artwork)

48.5 x 29 x 27 cm (display)

\$8,990



Eye on Sky, By The Bye
mixed media assemblage with purse
11 x 13 x 16 cm (artwork)
28 x 23 x 26 cm (display)
\$4,500



Climb Through, Window View
mixed media assemblage with purse
16.5 x 13.5 x 8 cm (artwork)
34 x 23 x 23 cm (wall hung display)
\$4,500



Climb Through, Window View
mixed media assemblage with purse
16.5 x 13.5 x 8 cm (artwork)
34 x 23 x 23 cm (wall hung display)
\$4,500



Inflow, Show, Out Go, Row
mixed media assemblage within metal compact
8.5 x 8 x 9 cm (artwork)
15 x 5 x 17 cm (wall hung display)
\$2,600



Faster, Faster, Sticking Plaster
mixed media assemblage with tea set
22 x 25 x 16 cm (artwork)
42 x 33 x 26 cm (display)
\$7,990



Field Day, Replay

mixed media assemblage within metal compact

9 x 12 x 9 cm (artwork)

15 x 15 x 17 cm (wall hung display)

\$2,600



High Time, Summertime

mixed media assemblage with tea set

34 x 15 x 15 cm (artwork)

51.5 x 24 x 23 cm (display)

\$7,990



High Time, Summertime (detail)
mixed media assemblage with tea set
34 x 15 x 15 cm (artwork)
51.5 x 24 x 23 cm (display)
\$7,990



Wide-Eyed Ride, Waterslide Glide

mixed media assemblage within metal compact

10.5 x 8.5 x 10 cm (artwork)

15 x 15 x 17 cm (wall hung display)

\$2,600



Side Dish Wish

mixed media assemblage within metal compact

10.5 x 10 x 10 cm (artwork)

15 x 5 x 17 cm (wall hung display)

\$2,600



Keen Eyed Applied, Hillside Confide
mixed media assemblage with tea set
31.5 x 20.5 x 19 cm (artwork)
49 x 30.5 x 29 cm (display)
\$8,990



Open Air, Fan Fare

mixed media assemblage with tea set

38 x 17 x 12 cm (artwork)

55 x 27 x 22 cm (display)

\$7,990



Heyday, Child's Play

mixed media assemblage with purse

16 x 19 x 18 cm (artwork)

33 x 29 x 28 cm (display)

\$5,500



Go, Slow, With Gusto

mixed media assemblage with tea set

34 x 20 x 20 cm (artwork)

51 x 30 x 30 cm (display)

\$8,990





KENDAL MURRAY

EDUCATION

1995	MA (Hons) (Vis Art), University of Western Sydney, Nepean, NSW
1991	Creative Jewellery Design, Randwick Technical College
1986	Post Certificate in Etching, East Sydney Technical College
1985	Graduate Diploma in Professional Art Studies, City Art Institute
1983	Conversion of Diploma in Art to BA (Vis Art), City Art Institute
1982	Screen Printing course, Sydney Technical College
1979	Diploma in Art, Alexander Mackie CAE

AWARDS, GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

2023	Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney, NSW, Finalist
2019	Small Works 2019, Brunswick Street Gallery, VIC, Winner of the People's Choice Award
2018	Deakin University Contemporary Small Sculpture Award, VIC, Finalist Pin8, ANCA, Canberra, ACT, Finalist
2017	Pin7, ANCA, Canberra, ACT, Finalist
2015	Deakin University Contemporary Small Sculpture Award, VIC, Winner Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney, NSW, Winner of the Beowulf Prize
2014	Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney, NSW, Finalist
2013	Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney, NSW, Finalist
2012	Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney, NSW, Winner of the Special Commendation Award
2010	Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney, NSW, Finalist
2006	She Who Belongs, Walker Street Gallery, VIC, Winner
2004	The Hutchins Art Prize, The Long Gallery, Salamanca Place, Hobart, TAS, Finalist Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney, NSW, Finalist Walking Sideways and Smiling, Gallery SP Sydney, as part of 'Sculpture 2004'
2002	The Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney, NSW, Finalist
2001	Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney, NSW, Finalist
2000	Ceramics - The Australian Context, Campbelltown Art Gallery, Winning prize for 'Excellence and Innovation'
1992	Images Congress Project, Pisa, Italy, Finalist
1991	The Sixth Annual International Exhibition of Miniature Art, Dell Bello Gallery, Toronto, Canada, Finalist
1990	The Space Group of Korea 'Sixth International Miniature Print Exhibition', Finalist
1984	International Independence Exhibition of Prints, Kanagawa, Japan, Finalist City of Fremantle Art Award Exhibition, WA, Finalist

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SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022	'In the Smile of a Tree', Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2016	'Show and Tell', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2015	'Between Rhyme and Reason', Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW
2014	'The Collector', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2012	'Flights of Fancy', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2011	'Stage Whispers', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2010	'Imagining The Self', Coffs Harbour Regional Art Gallery, Coffs Harbour, NSW
2009	'Short Stories and Tall Tales', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2007	'An Enchanted Life', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2006	'Girlhood Memories', Monash Gallery of Art, VIC
2004	'Walking Sideways and Smiling', Gallery SP Sydney, NSW
2003	'Walking Sideways and Smiling', New England Regional Art Museum, NSW
2001	'In Search Of Childish Pleasures', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2000	'Night Fictions', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW
1999	'Everyday Dreams', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW
1998	'Secret Histories', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW
1997	'She Starts by Removing Her Face', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW
1996	'Circulatory Pleasures', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Compulsive Beauty', The Maling Gallery, Casula Powerhouse, Sydney, NSW
1995	'Compulsive Beauty', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024	'30 Years of Arthouse Gallery', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'My Mother', Chrissie Cotter Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'1001 Remarkable Objects', Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, NSW
2023	Arthouse Gallery at Sydney Contemporary, Sydney, NSW
	'Bits + Pieces', Bedford Gallery, California, USA.
	'Imagined Worlds', Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2022	'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2021	'Coming Home', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Speaking to Trees', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Small and Wall', Flinders Street Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
	'Summer Salon', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW

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2020	'9X5', Walker Street Gallery, Dandenong, VIC
	'Renewal', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Animalia', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2019	'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Goulburn Bustle', Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW
	'Reflections of a Fading Sky', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'A World in a Looking Glass', Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW
	'Love', Tweed River Regional Gallery, NSW
	'Vital Push', Regard Studio Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2018	'Selected Works', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'9 x 5', Walker Street Gallery, Dandenong, VIC
	Arthouse Gallery at Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Sydney, NSW
	'Under the Sun', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2017	'9 x 5', Walker Street Gallery, Dandenong, VIC
	Arthouse Gallery at Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Sydney, NSW
2016	'Feel Big Live Small', The Mini Time Machine Museum Of Miniatures, Tucson, USA
	'Hot Rod', Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW
	'Lorne Biennale', Lorne, VIC
	'In The Still', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Feel Big Live Small', Apexart, New York, USA
	'Unfolding Splendour', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Spin', ANCA Gallery, ACT
2014	'Storm In A Teacup', Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, VIC
	'Pin-a 4', ANCA Gallery, ACT
	'Under the Sun', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'So Much More Than A Big Sheep', Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW
	'Minumental', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	2013 'Pin Up' ANCA Gallery, Canberra, ACT
	'Story', Penrith Regional Gallery and The Lewers Bequest, Sydney, NSW
	'It's A Small World', Glasshouse Regional Gallery, Port Macquarie, NSW
	'Holiday and Memory', Penrith Regional Gallery, Penrith, NSW
	'Imaginings', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2012	'Maximus Minimus', Defiance Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	Arthouse Gallery, Melbourne Art Fair, Melbourne, VIC
	'Tiny Titans and Miniliths', Defiance Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Under the Sun', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW

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2011	'30 to Collect', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'The New Arcadia', Lismore Regional Gallery, NSW
	'A Cabinet of Curiosities', NG Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Mini Majors', Defiance Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2010	'Defiant Little Devils', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2009	'A Fairy's Tail', Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'You Little Beauty', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Wax On", Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2008	'It's The Small Things That Count', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Flesh', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'She Who Explores', Walker Street Gallery, VIC
2007	'One Small Step for Mankind', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Float: Watercraft in Art', Lake Macquarie Art Gallery, NSW
	'She Who Dreams', Walker Street Gallery, VIC
2006	'How Much Art Thou Shrunk', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'She Who Belongs', Walker St Gallery, VIC
	'9 x 5 Exhibition', Walker Street Gallery, VIC
	'Linden Postcard Show', Linden, VIC
2005	'Collections', UWS Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'It all Started 10 Years Ago', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2004	'Sister Sister', Lake Macquarie Art Gallery, NSW
	'The Heart of Art', Jendela Gallery, Singapore
	'Celebrate Australia 2004', Sagesse, Raffles City, Singapore
	'The March of the Miniatures', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2003	'Where the Small Walk Tall', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Sample, Female Orphan School', University of Western Sydney, NSW
2002	'Lady Ethel Knox Sculpture Collection', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Bag That!', Lake Macquarie Art Gallery, NSW
2001	'Small Wonders', Defiance Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'HAKO + niwa', The Japan Foundation, Sydney, NSW
2000	'I Wish I Could Fly', The Little Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Ceramics - The Australian Context', Campbelltown Art Gallery, NSW
1999	'Delicious', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Elegance', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW

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1998	'Wardrobe', The Performance Space, Sydney, NSW, The Institute of Modern Art, QLD, Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts, Perth, WA
1998	The Maling Gallery, Casula Powerhouse, Sydney, NSW
1997	'Showcase', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW 'Wardrobe', Mad Love Gallery, Adelaide, SA 'Thin Skin', Performance Space, Sydney, NSW
1996	'Reliable, Goth', Spells, Encounter, Scissors, Encounter, Scissors, Veil, 'Narrative, Sign, Gargoyle, Homage, Fecund, Tantrum', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney 'Dissonants', College of Fine Arts Gallery, Sydney, NSW 'Visibility', The Beatty Gallery, Sydney, NSW 'Handbag', Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA
1993	'Current States', Tin Sheds Gallery, University of Sydney, NSW
1992	'Images Congress Project', Pisa, Italy 'The Mental Zoo', Washington, USA 'Shadow Images', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
1991	'The Sixth Annual International Exhibition of Miniature Art', Dell Bello Gallery, Toronto, Canada (juried show)
1990	'Sixth International Miniature Print Exhibition', The Space Group, Korea
1989	'Cuts, Scratches and Bites', Australian Print Council
1988	'Sydney Printmakers Exhibition', Blaxland Gallery
1986	'Sydney Printmakers Exhibition' (in conjunction with the Biennale), Blaxland Gallery 'New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art', Indiana Fine Arts Gallery, Indiana University
1985	'Male Formy Grafiki', Polska Lodz, Poland 'Royal Art College Printmakers Exhibition', London 'Photo-screen exhibition', Roundhouse Gallery, University of NSW 'International Independence Exhibition of Prints', Kanagawa, Japan
1984-6	'Mini Print Travelling Exhibition', Print Council of Australia

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, NSW
- Deakin University
- Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW
- Coffs Harbour Regional Art Gallery, NSW
- Lady Ethel Knox Sculpture Collection, Sydney, NSW
- University of Western Sydney, NSW
- University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW
- Male Formy Grafiki, Polska Lodz, Poland (Permanent Collection)
- Collection of C.E. Heath
- Commonwealth Bank Collection

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SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- '6 × 6 × 6" Miniature Sculpture Show', Artist Profile, Dec 2022
- 'Kendal Murray's playful miniature worlds', Art Guide Australia, September 2022
- '6 × 6 × 6" Miniature Sculpture Show', Artist Profile, Dec 2022
- 'Kendal Murray: In the Smile of a Tree', Art Almanac, September 2022
- Tyler Nesler, 'Kendal Murray', Interlocutor, 16 Jun 2019
- Kate Sierzputowski, 'Miniature Figures Top Coin Purses, Makeup Compacts, and Teapots in Lush Narrative Scenes
Kendal Murray, This is Colossal, 13 Mar 2019
- Benjamin Sutton, 'In an Exhibition of Miniatures, The Good, the Bad, and the Lego', Hyperallergic, 6 Apr 2015
- Sasha Grishin, 'The Peculiar Library' review, SMH, 23 Nov 2015
- 'Eco Glass,' Homify, Jan 2015
- 'Kendal Murray's Miniature Worlds,' IGNANT, Nov 2014
- 'Miniature Scenes Sculptures with Everyday Objects,' Fubiz, Nov 2014
- 'Breakfast Time, Just In Time,' Australian Art Collector, Iss.62, Oct–Dec 2012
- 'Everyday, Heyday, Display,' The Big Issue, No.413, Aug 2012
- 'Kendal Murray,' Art Nation, ABC, May 2011
- 'Mothers Parade, Serenade Played,' Australian Art Collector, Iss.55, Jan–Mar 2011
- 'Dinnertime Climb', Art Month Sydney 2011 Program, Mar 2011
- 'Summertime Pastime,' Art Almanac, July 2010
- 'Holiday Heyday,' Australian Art Collector, Iss.49, Jul-Sept 2009
- 'Race, Chase, Displace Space,' Vogue Living: Art & Events, Nov-Dec 2008
- 'No Small Feat,' Vogue Living, Sept 2008
- 'The Future Forecast Report,' Vogue Living, Nov-Dec 2007
- 'Kendal Murray, A Retrospective', University of Western Sydney, 2003
- Laura Murray Cree, 'Awesome! Australian Art For Contemporary Kids', Sydney Craftsman House, 2002
- 'I Wish,' Belle Magazine, Feb 2002
- 'Femme Fatale,' Craft Arts International, No 34, 1995
- 'The Secret,' Art and Australia, Vol.30, no.1, Spring 1992
- Maud Page, 'Who's That Hanging off Your Arm', Art and Australia, Vol.39, No.1

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