



“ART IS NOT A THING; IT IS A WAY”
~ *ELBERT HUBBARD*

Educational Spaces, Places and Cultures
Monday, November 19, 2012
School of Education, Flinders University

Art Exhibition: “Art is not a thing; it is a way”

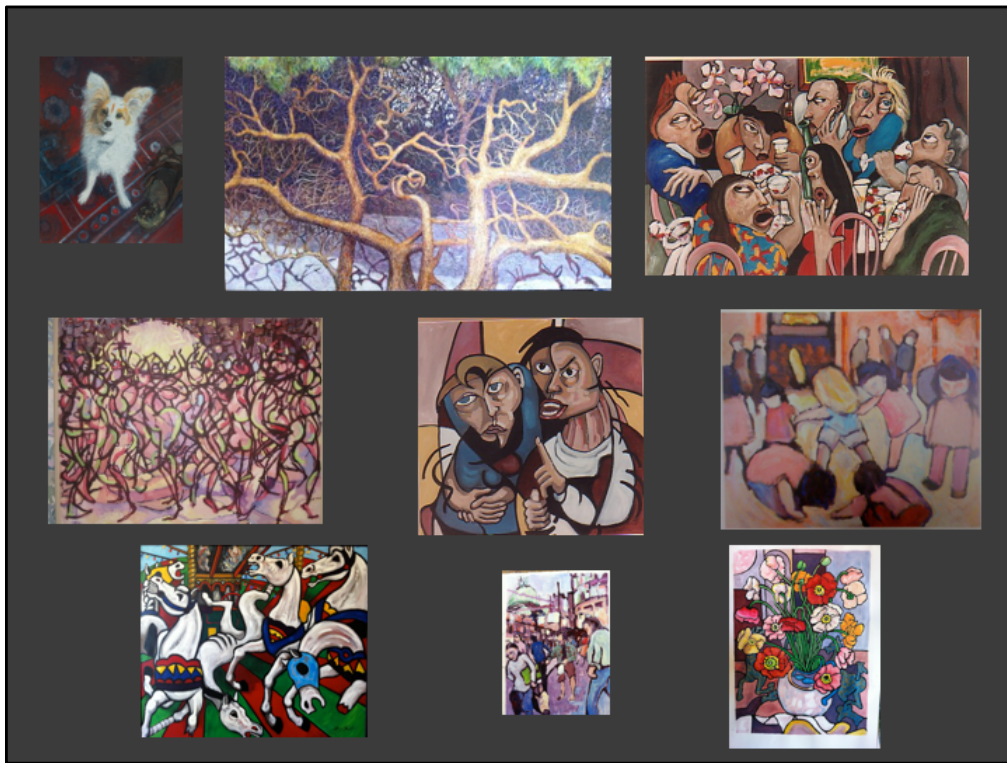
~ Elbert Hubbard american artist writer philosopher late 1800’s

At first glance the artwork looks like a group exhibition. There are several styles on offer from realism to varying degrees of abstraction. The content ranges from cute doggies to dead soldiers.

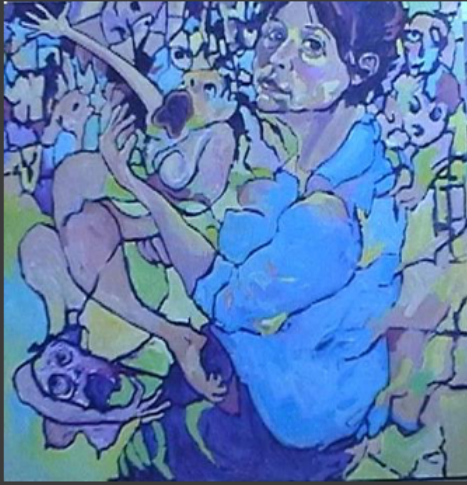


A theme?

When Helen asked me to have an exhibition..I first said no...because normally you need a bit of a theme happening
I'd been too busy doing other things...



When I went home I looked at all the stuff I had laying around and thought that if I did show all them together it would look like either I had multiple personalities or



*“Amy is a pleasant
child but does tend
to be a bit
scatterbrained”*

Teacher Falkirk HS Scotland

As my teacher said...



The exhibition represents the many possibilities that visual arts offers.

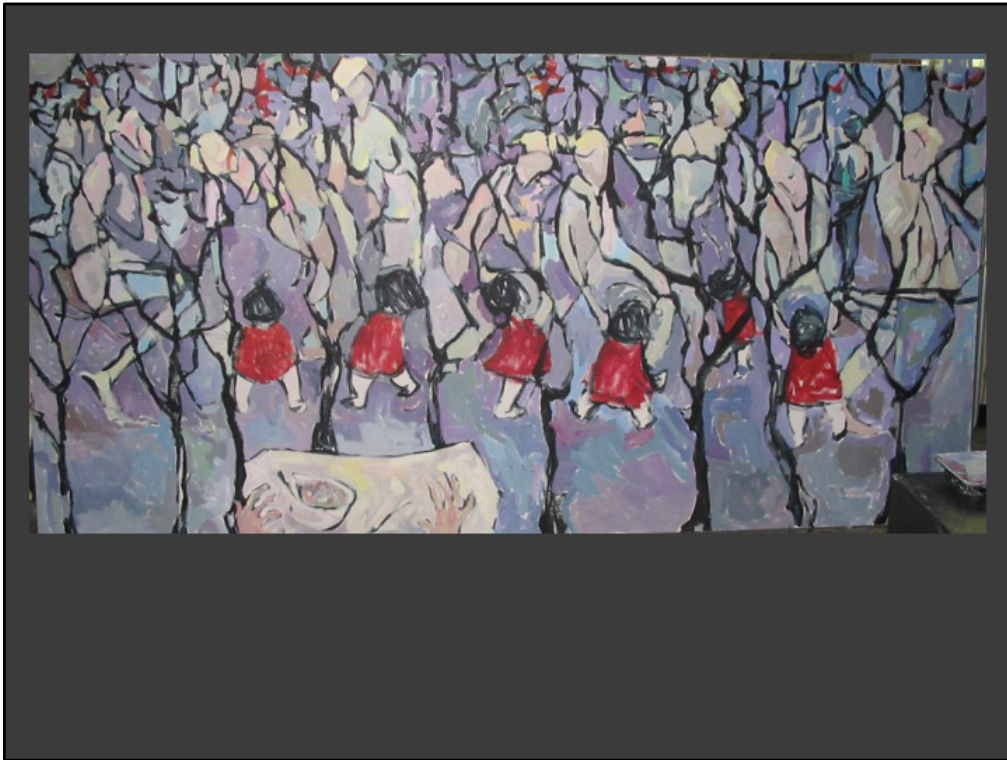
“Art is not a thing; it is a way”

~ Elbert Hubbard

Shows the many ways that I use artmaking...whether it be for pleasure or to research or whatever

Also is why I believe it should be taught effectively in schools

This reinforces the notion that school children should all have the opportunity to engage in meaningful experiences in all of the arts.



Some times it is about a particular theme that I use art making as a research tool....
Like Chinese adoption..something I didn't know much about but uncovered and
clarified my beliefs by making thinking visisble.



Looking at the idea of camouflage and the military...in this case trying to make visible Ben's ideas at the same time trying to understand

The idea of material thinking... It also shows how ideas get turned into artworks and how the material thinking that art embodies produces new understandings just as traditional research does in its many forms. The doing..the making visible through materials









Sometimes to influence people as well

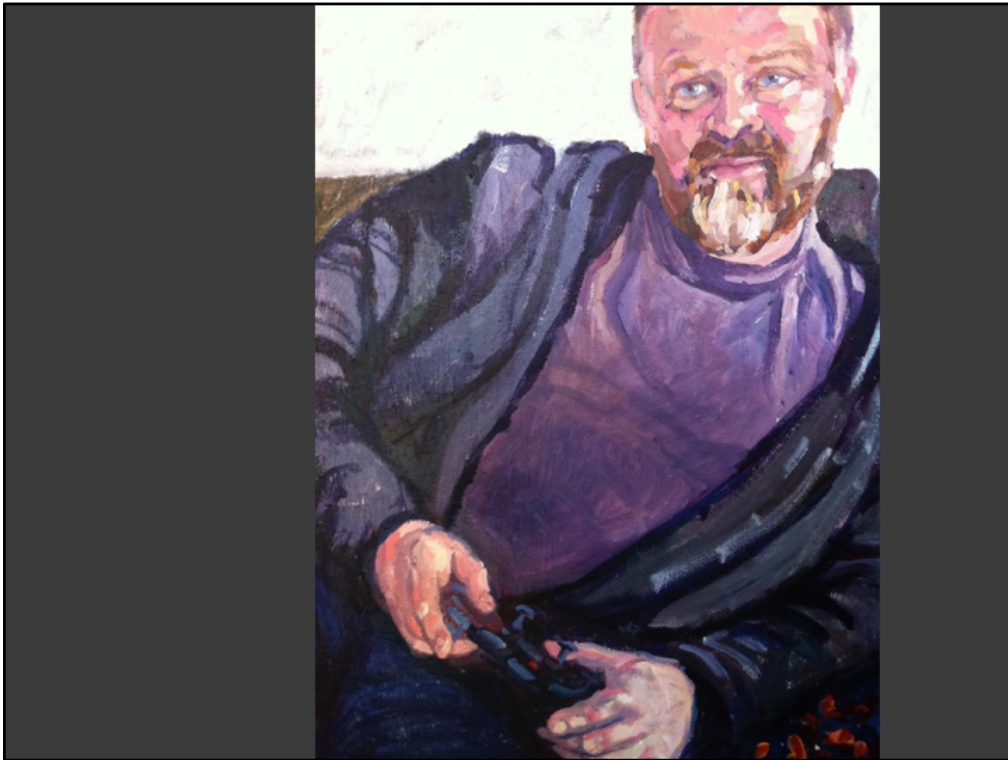
This was part of a series about steeplechasing...I used the metaphor of carousel horses...

They ride around on the racing carousel, making money for their owners...giving humans pleasure, excitement, fun and

They are thrown away when they are broken

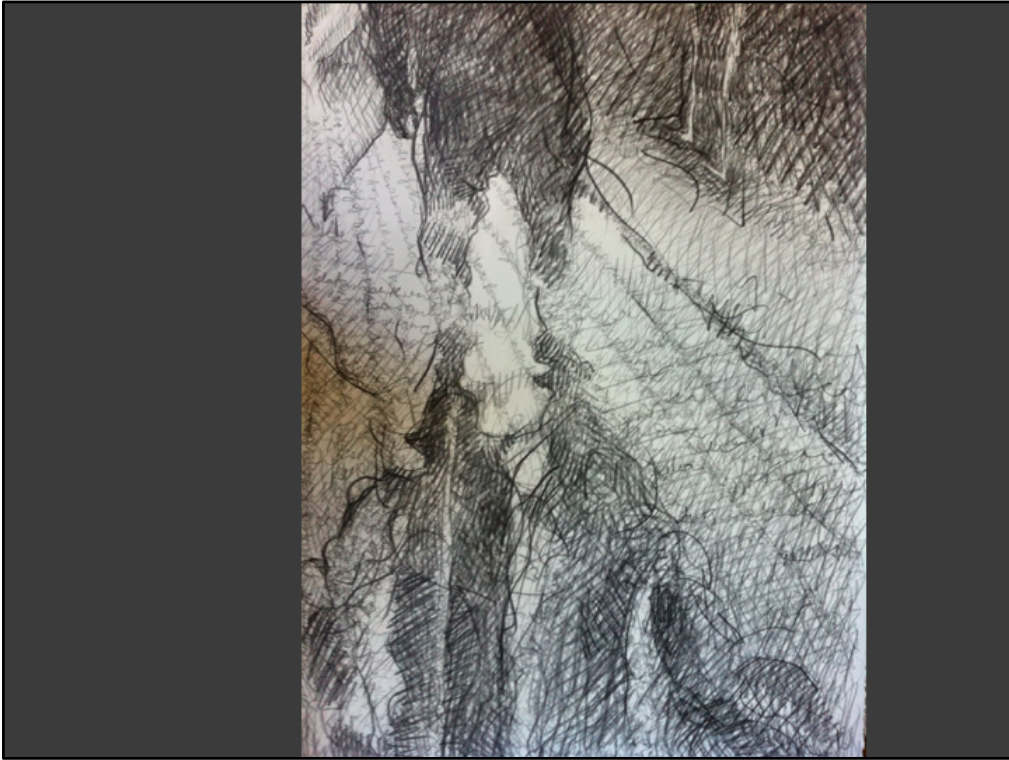


Sometimes about particular people or situations



Other times it is because you like the person....
I wanted to capture this kind, generous, intelligent, thoughtful and express my feelings for him

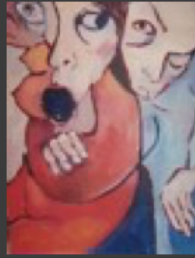
He was actually killing aliens or something on the x box

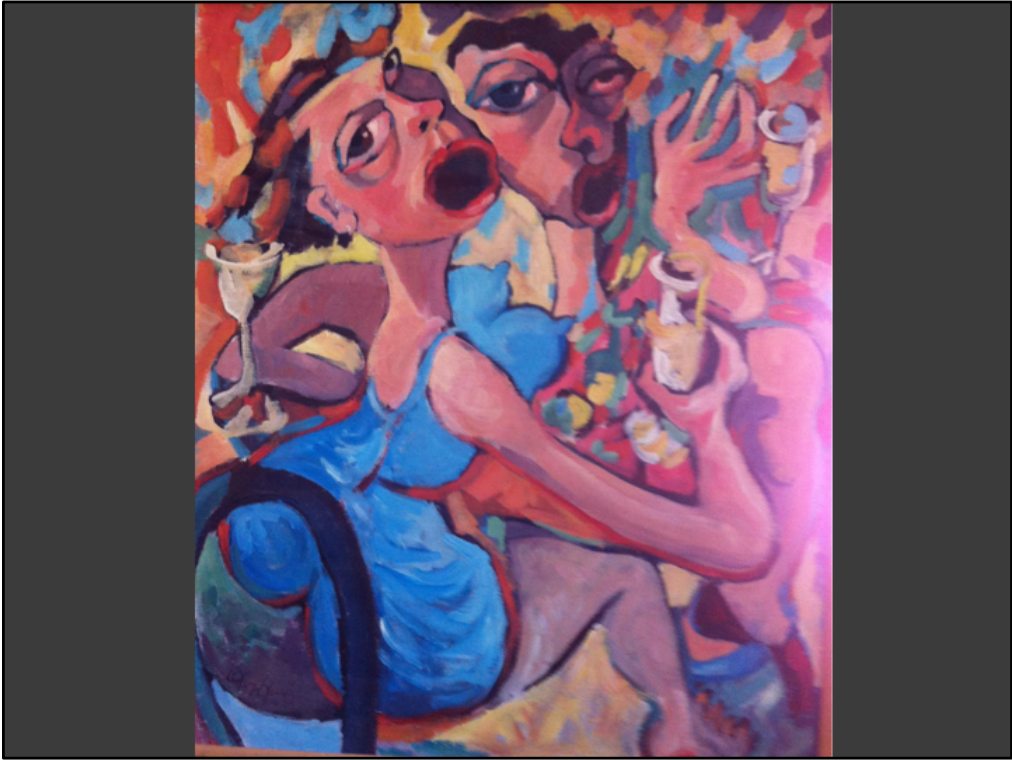


Another view of Ben



Sometimes it observations about human behaviour







Sometimes it is the form of a funny drawing to perhaps give a message I wouldn't say
Like "no I'm too busy to make a drawing for you"

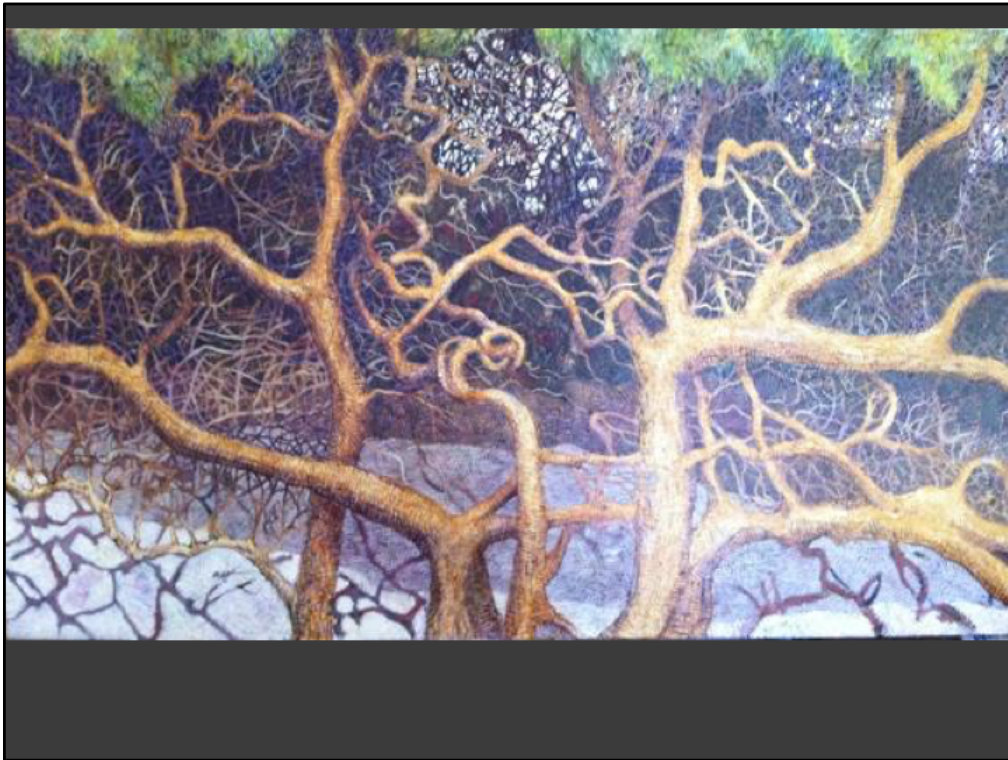


Investigating meaning..

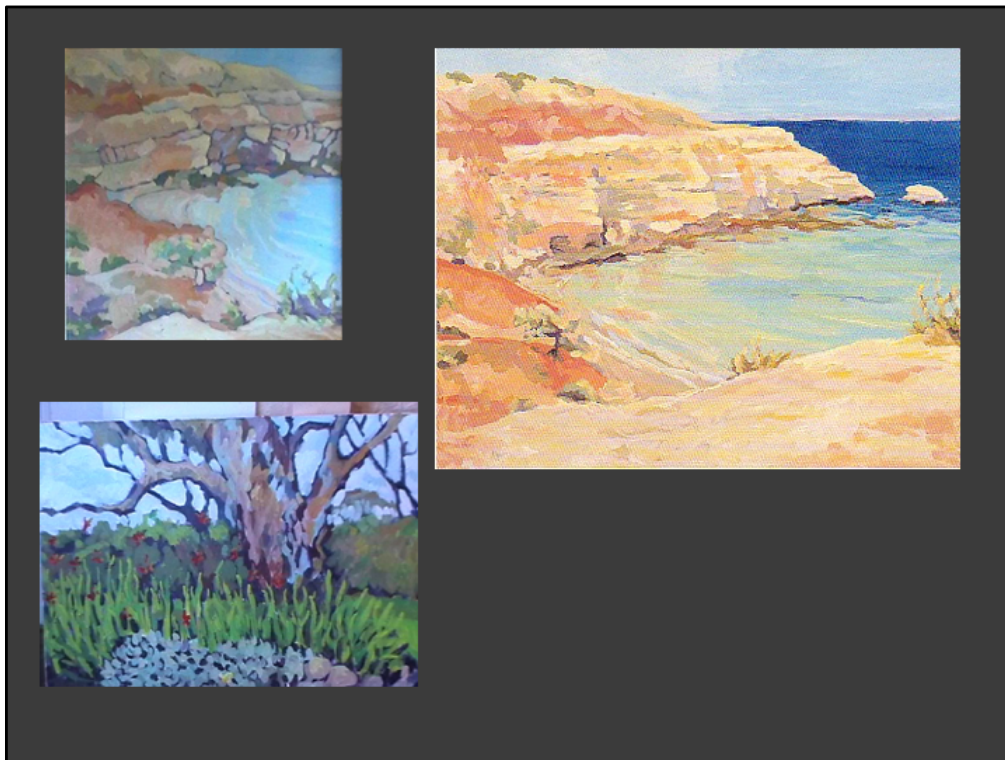
Made several images of scrub that I saw on Kangaroo island

Trying to understand why I found it interesting, appealing

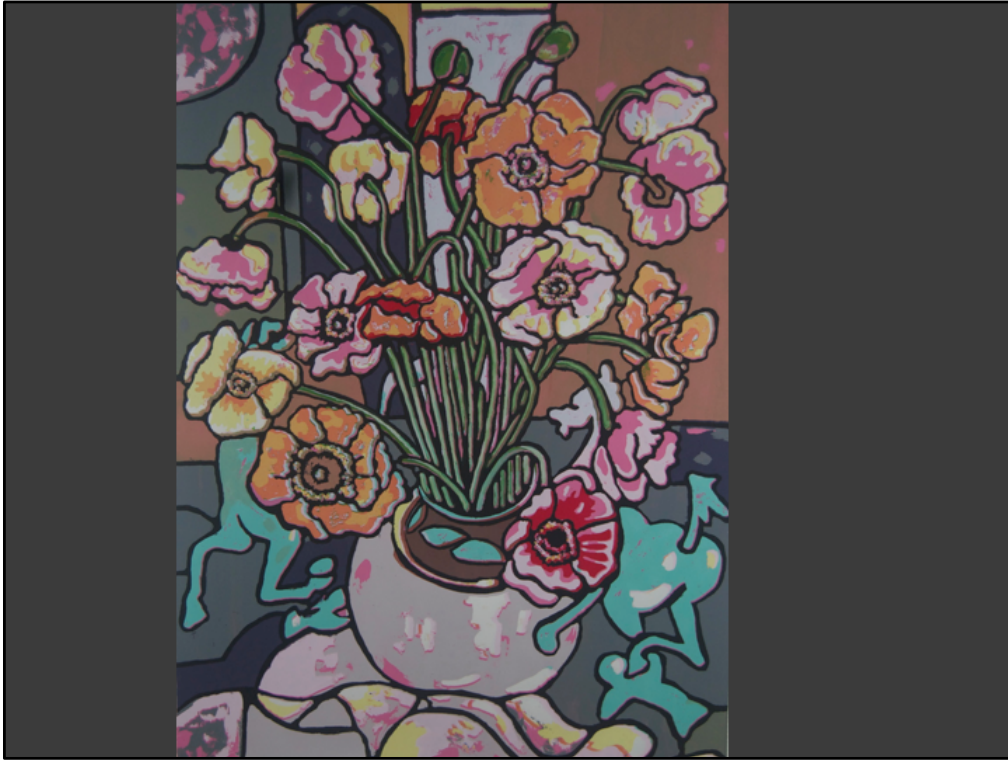
Realised it was the mysterious feel...the depth, the lovely lines of the trees and branches and the contrast...all those things are formal elements that some theorists would argue have no place in art education now...



Started painting it with broad brushstrokes..but realised that it didn't work like that...had more interest as a drawing....so reverted to oil paints and laid layers and layers of drawn marks so it is a painted drawing then used glazes to add colour, depth etc



Just as a pianist has to practice so do I
The challenge is to take your easel etc and make an image in a short time..especially
difficult when its water ...the light and colour keeps changing



Sometimes it is because I want to teach a particular technique or method and so have to have a go myself to remind me of the issues involved in that technique....
Silkscreen printmaking

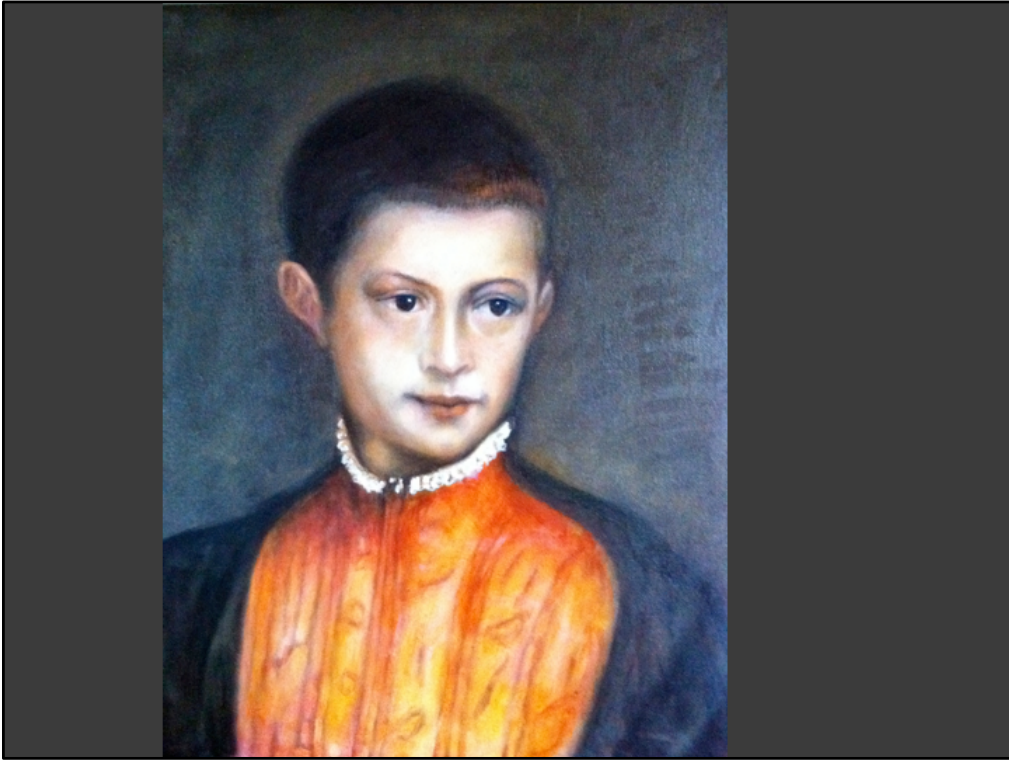


lino print





etching



Using methods of the old masters
Titian



Trying it on something real 'Mollie and chewed shoe'



Self help...a healing tool or to find out more about your self
'Sea of troubles', understanding myself by drawing the things troubling
me

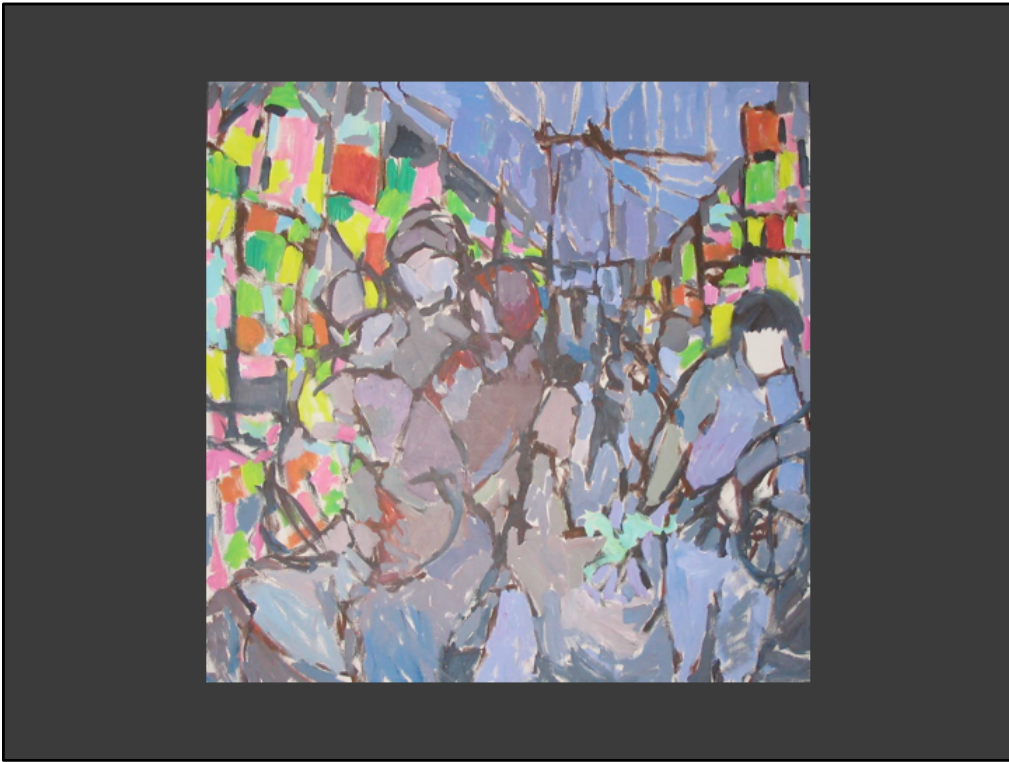


Sometimes not for public display..purely personal

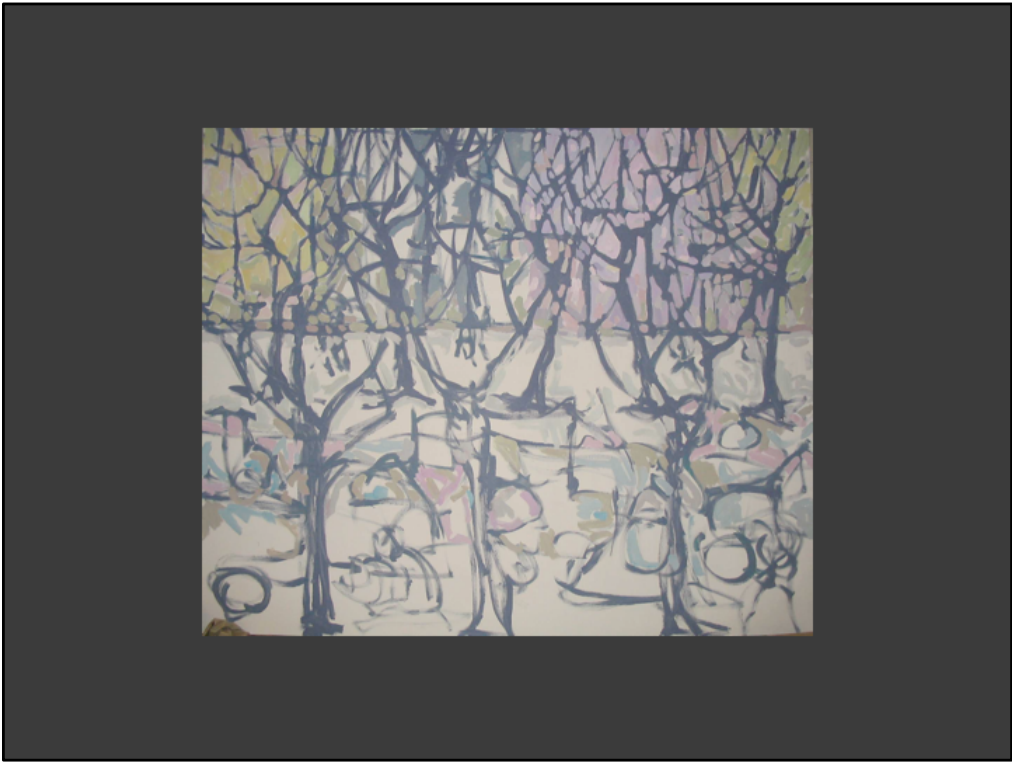
This is my sister's funeral ..with her little kids playing in the red dirt at Aldgate cemetery

I wrote this bit because I still have
trouble saying the words

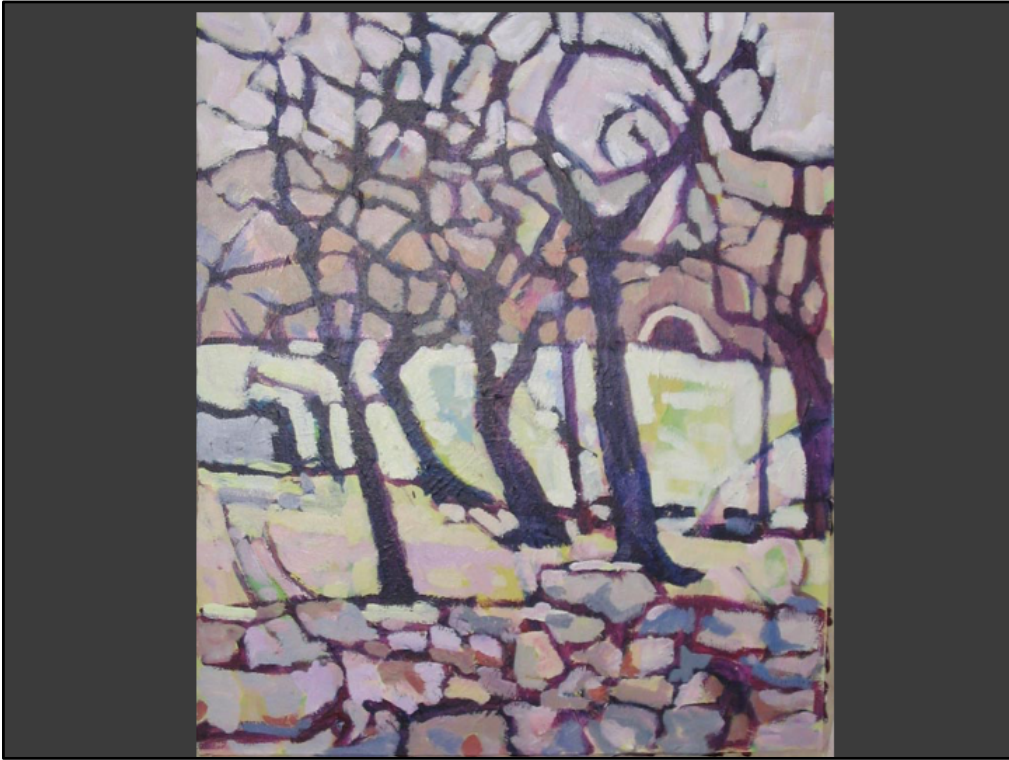
*when my sister died I didn't want to
leave her alone I found a notebook in
my bag and drew her*



Like a postcard a record of travels
China



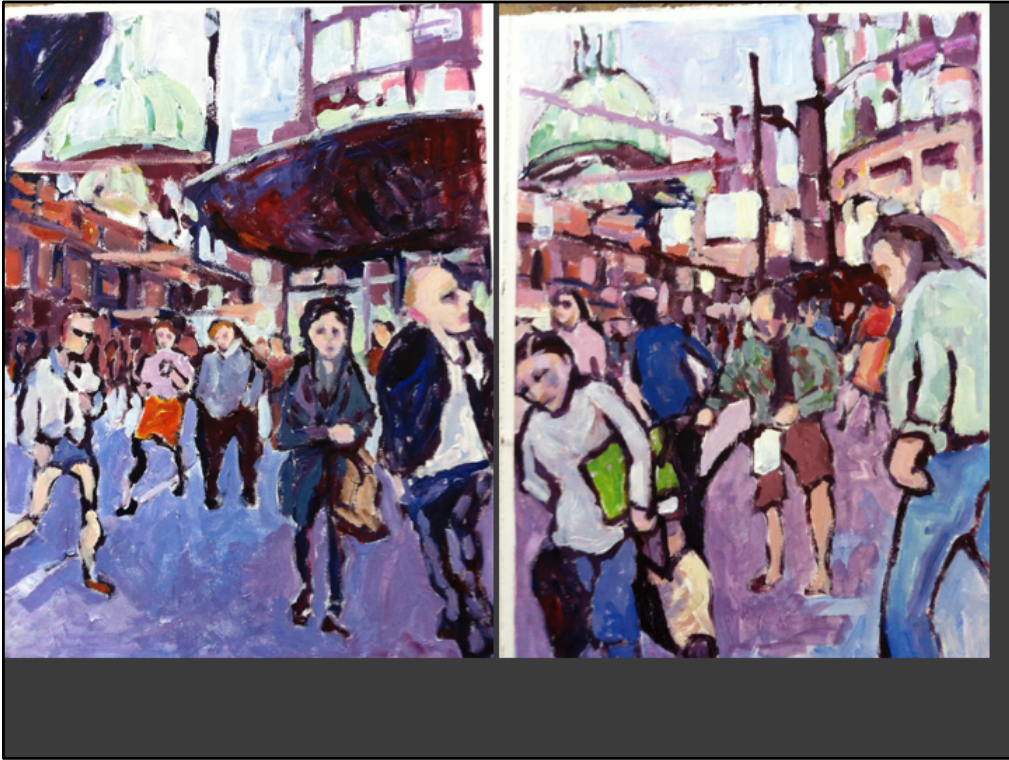
Beijing



Summer Palace in winter



Painting trip with John Olsen and David Dridan: Poltulloch Homestead, SA



Sometimes its just because...its fun it's a challenge

