



Animal Self
The Friends Gallery

Wednesday 16 December 2015 - Sunday 27 March 2016

This exhibition focuses on a small number of paintings, leaving room for the visitor to interact and participate. Seeking an image from the collection with appeal to children, Joanna Braithwaite's *Chook, Chook, Chook (Self Portrait)* was an obvious choice. The artist's comfort with putting herself in silly situations creates a joyful outcome in her self portraits with animals.

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The playful exhibition *Animal Self*, explores the relationship between animals and humans as the artist juxtaposes herself and chooks, dogs and a kookaburra in intriguing and imaginative ways. Joanna says, "In these paintings where I cover myself in animals, humour is evident but there is a strong underlying curiosity in regards to human relationships with animals and a respect for them and the things we share in common."

Visitors will have the opportunity to interact with the paintings in a variety of ways and to create their own pieces to leave in the display or take home.

Joanna Braithwaite is represented by Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney; Bowen Galleries, Wellington, NZ and Brooke Gifford Gallery, Christchurch, NZ.

Joanna Braithwaite

Chook, Chook, Chook (Self portrait) 2007

oil on canvas

205cm diameter

Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by the artist, 2010

Tweed Regional Gallery collection