

Tweed Regional Gallery continues its regional programs at Gallery DownTown *Artists Haley Calderon and Robyn Elizabeth exhibiting in 2020*

Tuesday, 7 January 2020

Gallery DownTown, the annexe of the Tweed Regional Gallery, will present two new solo exhibitions by regional artists from Friday 17 January.

Murwillumbah-based artist Robyn Elizabeth will exhibit *Inhale, Exhale, Release* alongside *map of experience* by Lismore-based artist Haley Calderon.

Robyn Elizabeth has recently returned to her art practice after a period of illness when she merely existed by inhaling and exhaling. For this exhibition, Elizabeth has created a body of work in oil and acrylic using elements of line form and colour to release her stored creative energy.

“These works represent my responses from visual and emotional stimulation, whether it be from the natural or built environment during that release period. Sometimes it might be just a glimpse, a shadow or reflection that inspires me. I then let my inner self direct me and allow my brushstrokes to be guided by my feelings; never thinking this is right or wrong, just letting it happen,” Elizabeth said.

Haley Calderon is an emerging artist whose printmaking, works on paper, hand-moulded clay and installation trace “a map of experience” through an introspective studio-based arts practice.

Her work investigates non-representational imagery and art-making as a meditative practice, creating a visual language of the unseeable signs of life. The architectural elements of paper and clay allow a conversation between materiality and mark making to emerge; a contemplative space to experience Calderon’s poetic meandering between consciousness and memory.

Tweed Regional Gallery Director Susi Muddiman OAM said: “I’m thrilled that the Gallery will continue the Community Access Exhibitions Program in the popular Gallery DownTown in 2020. This initiative has allowed the Gallery to expand its footprint dedicated to artists of the region. Haley and Robyn are fantastic artists to launch the 2020 program. Both artists have very distinct practices and contribute to the region’s robust visual identity.”

All are welcome to attend the opening celebrations of *Inhale, Exhale, Release* and *map of experience* on Thursday 23 January from 5-7pm (DST) at Gallery DownTown. Then, on Saturday 15 February from 11am-12pm, artist Haley Calderon will be hosting an artist talk where she will be providing insight into her exhibition and practice.

The two exhibitions run from 17 January to 7 March 2020.

Gallery DownTown is an annexe of the Tweed Regional Gallery located in the creative hub of M|Arts Precinct, in the heart of Murwillumbah - upstairs at 1 Brisbane Street.

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Contact: Art Gallery Director, Susi Muddiman (02) 6670 2792 or Communications Officer – Media, Fran Silk on (02) 6670 2575

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The Gallery and Café is open from Wednesday to Sunday 10am – 5pm.