



Joshua Yeldham

Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence Studio
The Friends Gallery

Friday 4 August – Sunday 10 December 2017

In February 2017 Sydney-based artist Joshua Yeldham was the Gallery's artist-in-residence. Working across painting, photography, drawing and sculpture, Yeldham is well-known for his majestic yet spiritually intimate observations of the Hawksbury River. We invited Joshua to explore the waterways and land environments of the Northern Rivers.

A friend lent me a canoe and for ten days. I explored a creek near Brunswick Heads with a large rolled up sheet of linen paper, indigo ink and a portable belt sander. The paper is so thick that when the ink dries I carve, with the sander, deep lines resembling tides, vines and bark. Knee-high in mud I painted grey mangrove trees beneath an ocean dune. By mid-week I was lured to an overgrown waterhole in Nashua – back of Byron. A muddy creek poking with orange fizz carp and the wispy shadows of tall strangler fig, the great survivalist! The vitality of this great land centres me and making these paintings sustains my well-being. Creating with my hands is a meditation to be quiet and alone – a blessing.

Joshua Yeldham, 2017

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