



Kelly Speaking
Anthony Joy
The Macnaughton Focus Gallery

Friday 7 June - Sunday 4 August

“This exhibition explores the perplexing subject of intellectual disability. It is based on the premise that a free and honest mind like Kelly’s (a woman with a diagnosis of Down syndrome and moderate intellectual disability) may have a unique interpretation of our world.

The main vehicle for this series of work is Kelly’s hand written text, which provides some insight into her thoughts, enabling us a better understanding of her perception of the world and of her disability. I found her ways of coping with life (and particularly death), profoundly beautiful and poetic, whimsical yet tragic, often all at the same time.

As an artist, I’m drawn to subjects with some substance or social content, as I believe it’s a powerful way to explore communication through the visual arts. As an ‘abstract’ narrative exists within Kelly’s text, the challenge for me was to create additional aesthetic elements, which are often emotive, to assist the viewer to understand and appreciate her thoughts and feelings.”

Anthony Joy, March 2013

The artist gratefully acknowledges the assistance and support of Coastal Framing and Tweed Valley Early Childhood Intervention Service Inc. (TVECIS)



Anthony Joy
Just a thought 2012
synthetic polymer paint on paper
104 x 90cm