

# JESSICA WATSON-THORP

*Fine Artist*

## UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

June 2025 Joint Show: Echos of the East, The WINDOW, Sandringham, Melbourne

## EXHIBITIONS SOLO

Jan 2025 Matriarchal Leaders: Power & Grace, EAGLES NEST GALLERY, Airey's Inlet VIC  
Nov 2022 Links, EAGLES NEST GALLERY, Airey's Inlet VIC  
Feb 2019: Tafawut, SHOWCASE GALLERY, Al Serkal Avenue, Dubai  
March 2018: Masjid, SIKKA, Dubai  
March 2017: Dubaiscapes, SIKKA, Dubai  
March 2016: Jessica Watson-Thorp, SIKKA, Dubai  
Dec 2015: Artists Initiative, LA SERRE, Downtown Dubai  
April 2014: Kaleidoscope, GALERY CREATE, Al Quoz, Dubai

## EXHIBITIONS GROUP

May 2025 Small Group Show: OCEANS INTERRUPTED, The WINDOW, Sandringham, Melbourne  
April 2025 Symphony, Joint Show, The WINDOW, Sandringham, Melbourne  
Feb 2025 Heart Focus, Joint Show, The WINDOW, Sandringham, Melbourne  
Oct 2023 Limitless, 26 ADVANTAGE Art Gallery, Highett, Melbourne  
Nov 2021 Unlocked, MULBURY GALLERY, Highett, Melbourne  
Jan 2021 Released, MULBURY GALLERY, Highett, Melbourne  
Mar 2020 International Womens' Day Exhibition - WHO GALLERY, Malvern East, Melbourne  
July 2018: Wealth of a Nation, NOVUS GALLERY, Abu Dhabi  
May 2018: The Diving Bell and The Butterfly, SHOWCASE GALLERY, Al Serkal Avenue, Dubai  
May 2017: Group, MODERN ARTISTS GALLERY, Reading, United Kingdom  
Mar 2017 AGORA GALLERY, New York City, New York  
May 2016: Group, Arabesque Gallery, Um Al Hassam, Bahrain

## ART FAIRS

2018 Hong Kong  
2018 World Art Dubai  
2017 World Art Dubai  
2016 World Art Dubai

## RESIDENCIES

2022 Large Scale Mural, Sandringham Primary School, Melbourne  
2016 Large Scale Mural, Horizon British School, Dubai

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# JESSICA WATSON-THORP

## *Fine Artist*

### EDUCATION

- 1995 Bachelor Degree in Visual Art, major – painting, Flinders University of South Australia
  - 1997 Post Graduate Diploma in Museum Studies/ Curatorship, Sydney University
  - 1999 Post Graduate Diploma in Education, Massey University, New Zealand
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Jessica Watson-Thorp is a formally trained Fine Artist with over 20 years' experience in creating bespoke pieces for her dedicated global collector base.

Through her work Watson-Thorp examines our collective human experience, exploring themes of feelings of belonging, humanity, the 'other', tolerance and acceptance, external and internal landscape, homecoming and centrality.

Watson-Thorp has lived over half her life amongst a range of diverse cultural groups around the globe. Alongside Melbourne, she has many 'homes', from the desert sands of the Middle East, to the cool tones of London, and the raw energy of Southern Africa.

*"Art is entwined in every facet of my life. I knew I was creative from the moment I could walk – my grandmother taught me to paint and whisked me away on art-inspired holidays. I was formally trained in Australia in all aspects of fine art including sculpture, painting, drawing, print making and additionally curatorship.*

*I am a country girl at heart and grew up amongst the farms in rural South Australia. My existence was very sheltered until age 17 when I first went abroad to study. From there, life has been a continual adventure.*

*My return to Australia in 2019 brought up feelings around displacement and belonging. Becoming centred in a familiar yet foreign landscape is no easy feat. In a way, I feel like an alien in my own country. It's an oddly familiar setting, where everything seems skewed.*

*I continuously come back to centre in amongst my internal landscape before setting myself in amongst the external landscape of this new cultural plane. I am viewing the world from an international and intercultural perspective, my works having references to my life abroad and assimilation into foreign cultures. You may see symbols and code found across the Middle East, and other 'foreign' reference points whilst bringing in the 'new' bright bold light and colours of Australia.*

*I invite the viewer to spend time in stillness. Prompting and promoting calmer moments as they get to know themselves, and therefore all of humanity."*

Watson-Thorp has recently shown at 26 ADVANTAGE GALLERY and EAGLES NEST FINE ART GALLERY on the Great Ocean Road, SIKKA Dubai, MESTARIA GALLERY Dubai, and NOVUS GALLERY Abu Dhabi. She has hung alongside Zhuang Hong Yi, Richard Orlinski, Wissam Shakut, El Saeed, Noora Al Mazrouie, and master calligraphers Ahmad Moualla, Khaled Al Saai, and Majid Al Youssef.

Watson-Thorp's work has been featured on MTV, and in Women in Business, Gulf Daily News (Dubai), The National Newspaper (Abu Dhabi), Time Out Dubai, Arabian Woman and Magpie Magazine. She has donated work and time to numerous charities related to Southern Africa, and believes in the power of philanthropic art.