

For the love of Sculpture...



ABOVE: Angophora 1 (detail), 2007 Galvanized steel wire, paper, gouache Approx. 1.5m high x 50cm wide x 50cm deep.
To view a selection of available mobile sculptures by Jade Oakley [CLICK HERE](#).

Townsend Art Consulting
APRIL 08 E-NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to the April edition of **For the love of Sculpture**.

The first quarter of 2008 has been a busy one - two recent commissions are featured in this month's newsletter, one for a Sydney client's private residence and another for a commercial office space in Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

Young Australian sculptor, **Jade Oakley** is the artist profiled this month. Her work was introduced to me by Sculptor Michael Snape and I was instantly drawn to it's jewellery-like qualities and colour palette.

Jade's sculptures (she also paints) have proved to be a great success - her show at Mori Gallery in Sydney last year was a near sell out and a number of her works were commissioned including a work for the **Sydney Children's Hospital**.

If you are interested in Jade's sculpture and would like to receive a disc featuring work from her last exhibition please let me know.

Rebecca Townsend



STEPHEN NEWTON
Lake Burley Griffin Foreshore Commission

Queensland sculptor Stephen Newton is currently working on a large scale commission for the Clare Holland House Foreshore Gardens in Canberra. Titled *Rain Pools*, the **nine sculptures in Australian granite** will integrate with landscaping on the foreshore of Lake Burley Griffin. The commission is due to be installed by mid 2008.

Stephen was also an exhibitor in the recent **Palmer Sculpture Biennial**, part of the fringe festival in South Australia. His work *Delegation* is pictured above and below is a group of five hardwood sculptures, each component is 2.8 meters high x 40 cm square at the base. These works are currently available at \$4,000 each.

To print artwork images and details [CLICK HERE](#)



ABOVE: Understorey I, 2007 Galvanized steel wire, sugar cane fibres, gouache, stone (from Mallacoota) Approx. 40cm high x 30cm wide x 30cm deep



Artist Profile

Jade Oakley

My family are and always have been a great source of strength and inspiration for me. My mother is an artist, my father has a background in engineering and is an inventor – between them they have fostered my love of art and my obsession with making sculptures that move.



Vibrant New Sculpture by Virginia Reid

The Jewelled Net by Virginia Reid. Glass & Wire 4m x 1.2m. Commissioned to form part of an emerging artist collection for a Flinders Lane office in Melbourne's CBD. Installed March 08.

To view more images [CLICK HERE](#)



EXHIBITIONS...

Worlds in Worlds

Collage & Drawing by Andrew Townsend
fYRE Gallery, Braidwood NSW
14 March - 27 April 08

Acclaimed Australian artist Andrew Townsend is

My twin sister, who works in corporate finance, grounds me and provides me with balance, whilst my husband is an environmental scientist and a loving supporter of all my artistic pursuits.

When I was a child I wanted to climb trees and play in the bush all day. If I couldn't do that forever I wanted to be an artist.

My earliest memory of art is hard to define. Mum had us painting when we were still in nappies. Our house was filled with artworks, mum and her friends painted murals on the walls and she had a pottery shed with a kiln. Art was always a part of the way we lived our lives.

At art school I worked very hard and probably shouldn't have taken everything so seriously.

Australian sculptors I am inspired by; Jennifer Turpin and Michaelie Crawford, whom I worked with for 4 years. They inspired me with their ability to create public sculptures that contained a sense of whimsy and playfulness, with an eye for beauty and good design.

As an artist I am challenged by the need to make durable objects, when what I am really exploring is the delicate, transient and ethereal. The recent challenge of creating a sense of levitation and gentle movement in an artwork that can survive a cyclone is quite a design brief!

My favourite commission so far wasn't sculpture, but painting. I was commissioned to paint a large series of paintings for the Woolworths head office. They had four buildings, North, South, East and West, and I painted scenes from these regions of the Australian coast, inspired by my circumnavigation of Australia in a yacht in 2002 - 2003. It was a revelation to be paid to do what I loved doing, whilst reliving the greatest adventure of my life.

Other art forms I work in include gouache and installation. I love the immediacy of gouache, the jewel-like colours and the unpredictability of water media. I really enjoy drawing cartoons and playing with language – I love to make people laugh. I have also created installations, such as the series of commissions for the Historic Houses Trust, however, my great love is making mobiles from wire.

I see my work developing into large scale mobiles for public spaces. Whilst I love working on small, intimate pieces I am constantly

the master of three dimensional works. His body of work stretching back almost three decades has always been grounded in the sense and feel of made objects rediscovered. Be they sculptures or works on paper, his intention is always to get beneath the surface of things to explore their intrinsic strangeness and ambiguities.

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IMAGE ABOVE: *19 Deities* by Andrew Townsend, Collage and drawing, 2008



New Australian Sculpture for Andy Scott

Bambino Dell'Aqua by Andy Scott (Scotland). Galvanised Steel 1.7m H. Private commission for client in Sydney's Hunters Hill. The figure of a boy playing on the rooftop with a plane in one hand a boat in the other, can be viewed from a number of areas within the house and garden. This work commemorates the families immigration history, the birth of their son and marks their 20th anniversary in Australia. Installed Jan 08.

visualizing them as really large structures.

I'd like to be remembered for making beautiful things that help to transport people to another place or that invite contemplation of nature.

Where do you collect the natural materials that are found in some of your work? I am always collecting, be it drifts of fallen flying ants wings in Kenthurst or scatterings of bright feathers in Perth. The stones and feathers in my recent exhibition, *Tipping Point*, are from Mallacoota, in Victoria. That series of mobiles was about engaging with the wild, Southern coastline, and it seemed natural to include a little piece of the landscape in some of the works.

How do you see your work translating into an outdoor environment? I think that visually my works would translate beautifully to an outdoor environment, and it would be lovely to watch them respond to the weather. On a practical level I would work with designers and engineers to help me to translate my delicate mobiles into robust structures. Materials such as galvanized wire and paper would be substituted for stainless steel rods and fiberglass or polyurethane resin.

Describe the process of creating one of your mobile sculptures: I start with a picture in my mind of what I want to create, and often a sketch too, however I find that once I have started to work the sculpture has a mind of its own, and the results are much more interesting if I listen to what the wire wants to tell me, rather than fighting it and attempting to make it do something that is not in its nature. It is as though the sculpture itself has its own wisdom.

Jade Oakley is available to make site specific interior and exterior mobile sculptures, please contact *Townsend Art Consulting* for further information.



ABOVE: *Angophora 4*, 2007 Galvanized steel wire, paper, gouache, red ochre stone (from Mallacoota) Approx. 40cm high x 30cm wide x 30cm deep



Townsend Art Consulting provides a specialist consultancy service to private and commercial clients on the integration of sculpture into their exterior and interior environments. Services include artist research and selection through to total project management.

To receive a PDF portfolio of recently completed projects, contact Rebecca Townsend on 0404 087 443 or email rtconsulting@optusnet.com.au

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NEWSLETTER HEADER IMAGE: Detail of Commission for Stockland by Andy Scott, 2007 (Scotland)



ABOVE: *Angel Tree (detail)*, 2008 Painted galvanized steel wire, paper, gouache. 4 mobiles each approx. 40cm high x 50cm wide x 50cm deep. Commissioned for Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick