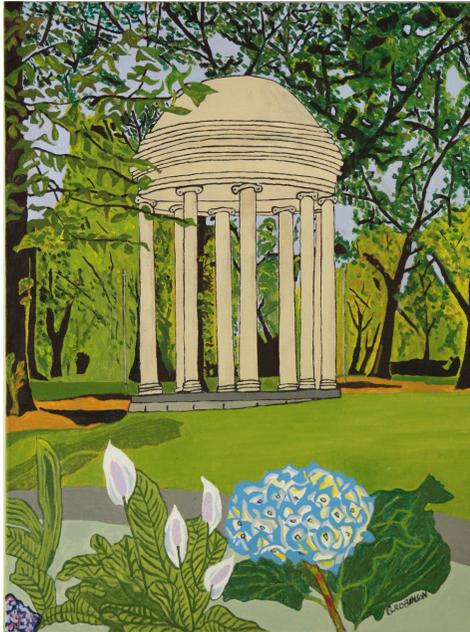


# Inner Urban +

Recent work by

*Barbara Robinson*



21st March - 25th April 2018

[Tuesday - Friday, 9.00am-5.00pm]

## Darebin Arts Centre

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The theme of my most recent artwork is *INNER URBAN +*  
a collection of paintings and photography.

This is art inspired by inner Melbourne, and the Victorian coastline. My artwork is DOCUMENTARY in approach; I'm stating what exists in my part of Melbourne, and I want people to go out and see for themselves what is unique and powerful about inner Melbourne and the Victorian coast.

I'm partly highlighting and inspired by other artists work, for example in my painting of a building in Footscray honouring famous furniture seller Franco Cozzo. I'm placing the entire building with its mural in Footscray complete with passersby and traffic. The mural was painted by street artist collective HEESCO. Franco Cozzo came to Australia in 1956, and is now in his late 70's. Franco is a larger than life character, who had T.V. ads in Italian and Greek, and has been the patron of local arts festivals.

My documentary approach continues in my gouache paintings inspired by Invasion/Survival Day 2016 in Fitzroy Gardens, Melbourne. One painting depicts unsigned cut-out murals of Aboriginal sports heroines and heroes, that were displayed that day.

The inner suburb of Thornbury is one of the places where the Aboriginal presence and history in Victoria is proudly evident. This is depicted in my painting of a mural of AFL football players at the Aboriginal Advancement Centre in Thornbury. To quote TOM MOSBY, chief executive of the Koorie Heritage Trust, "Indigenous culture should be seen as very much central to society, not sitting on the fringes where Indigenous issues have traditionally been".

"The Koorie Heritage Trust has a new home in Federation Square, which was a gathering place for the Kulin Nation." (The Age Newspaper, Sat. August 27, 2016)

Uncle JACK CHARLES, actor, musician and Indigenous elder, wants to see a future Melbourne pay more respect to its Indigenous heritage, starting with teaching new immigrants about the Indigenous heritage of Victoria, something that has been successfully organized in the past. "We need to be standing at the gate as they come in", he has stated.

Another gouache painting is of a spotted gum, CORYMBIA MACULATA, which grows directly adjacent to the area where Invasion/Survival/Australia Day took place in 2016. This tree is as unique as the first Australians themselves. To quote WALEED ALY, Fairfax columnist and university lecturer, "We are all Aussies in this multi-cultural society. Some still suffer, but we are all moving in a great direction."

*Photographs and paintings were produced on Wurundjeri land, part of the Kulin nation, and I would like to take this opportunity to pay my respects to elders, past and present.*

BARBARA ROBINSON, Artist, January, 2018.

**1) Furniture Store** - *Gouache on watercolour paper.*

Furniture store with mural of local identity, retired furniture seller FRANCO COZZO, near Footscray railway station, Melbourne.

61 x 45.5cm, [24" x 16"]      \$250

**2) Sport Cut-outs** - *Gouache on watercolour paper.*

Unsigned Aboriginal sport heroine/hero cut-outs, Invasion/Survival/Australia Day, Fitzroy Gardens, Melbourne 2016.

61 x 45.5cm, [24"x 16"]      \$250

**3) Aboriginal Australian Rules Football Heroes Mural** - *Gouache on watercolour paper.*

Unsigned Aboriginal Australian Rules football heroes mural, Aboriginal Advancement Centre, Thornbury.

61 x 45.5cm, [24"x 16"]      \$250

**4) Spotted Gum** - *Gouache on watercolour paper.*

Spotted gum, CORYMBIA MACULATA, adjacent to area where Invasion/Survival/Australia Day was held, Fitzroy Gardens, Melbourne.

61 x 45.5cm, [24" x 16"]      \$250

**5) Street Graffiti** - *Gouache on watercolour paper.*

Street graffiti and ornamental pear tree, Harold street Thornbury, Melbourne.

61x45.5cm, [24" x 16"]      \$250

**6) Seaside Sculpture** - *Gouache on watercolour paper.*

One of a series of seaside sculptures, Ocean Grove beach, Bellarine Peninsula, Victoria.

61x45.5cm, [24" x 16"]      \$250

**7) Surfboard Festival** - *Acrylic on canvas.*

Girl at single fin surfboard festival.

61x45.5cm, [24" x 16"]      \$150

**8) Kirra Beach** - *Acrylic on canvas.*

View of Kirra beach, Queensland, from underwater.

40.5x30.5cm, [16" x 12"]      \$150

**9)Black Swan** - *Acrylic on canvas.*

Black Swan, Edwardes Lake Park, Reservoir, Melbourne.

23 x 18cm, [9" x 7"]      \$85

**10) Summer and Winter Surfing** - *Colour photographs.*

Summer surfing, winter surfing, Ocean Grove beach Bellarine Peninsula, Victoria.

50x35cm, [19"x 13"]      \$130

**11) South Melbourne Pier and Middle Park Beach** - *Colour photographs.*

South Melbourne pier, Middle Park beach, Melbourne.

50x35cm, [19" x 13"]      \$130

**12) Pippi Clam Shells and Ocean Grove Beach** - *Colour photographs.*

Pippi clam shells on Middle Park beach and Ocean Grove beach, Bellarine Peninsula.

50x35cm, [19" x 13"]      \$130

**13) Seaside Sculpture and Mural** - *Colour photographs.*

Seaside sculpture at Ocean Grove beach and mural, Merri railway station, Melbourne.

50x35cm, [19" x 13"]      \$130

**14) Conservatory** - *Acrylic on canvas*

People leaving the plant conservatory, Fitzroy Gardens, 2017

40.5cm X 51cm [16" x 20"]      \$300

**15) Fitzroy Gardens** - *Acrylic on canvas*

Fitzroy Gardens, 2018. Plants in foreground, (Hydrangeas and Lilies), are from the adjacent plant conservatory.

40.5cm X 51cm [16" x 20"]      \$300

**16) Weather Beaten Tree and Sculpture** - *Colour Photographs*

Ocean Grove beach, Bellarine Peninsula.

50x35cm, [19" x 13"]      \$130