



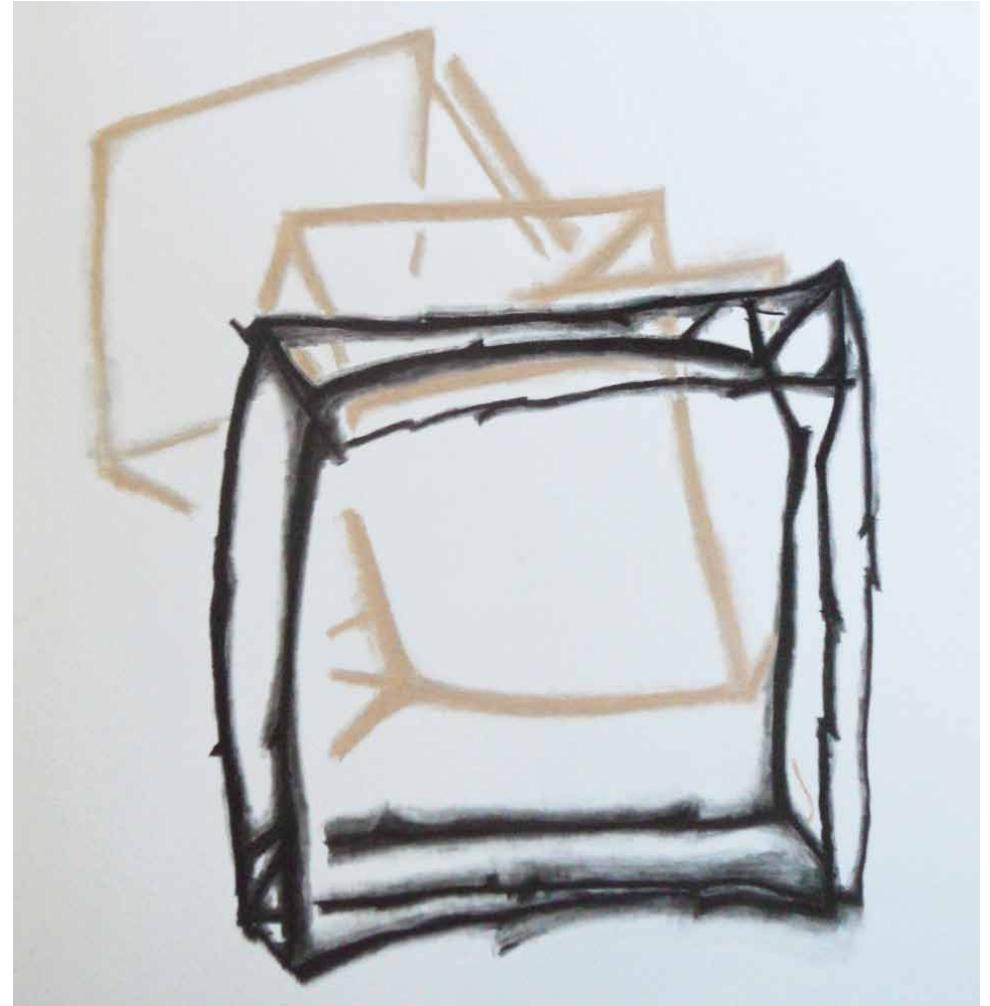
CATE McCARTHY

Dig a bit deeper: connection and contemporary landscape art

EXHIBITION DATES 5 -16 December 2012



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA



THE UNIVERSITY
GALLERY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE CALLAGHAN 2308

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OPEN Wednesday – Sunday 12 noon – 6pm or by appointment

sponsor



IronBark Hill
VINEYARD

THE UNIVERSITY
GALLERY



TOP
Cate McCarthy 24 Maps of Life 2009 ochre, tree resin, graphite, watercolour, charcoal on canvas, 15cm x 15cm each

ABOVE
Cate McCarthy installation view

The work in this exhibition is about the process of becoming. It examines how memory, knowledge and connection are imbued in place and how one can closely relate one's paintings and drawings to a sense of place and country by the use of materials such as ochres and the use of strong simple abstract forms.

Discovering the graves of my mother's ancestors at Goolagong cemetery during this research, was a pivotal point in my work and thinking. The ziggurat, a motif of the self, and also representing the link between heaven and earth, has been a recurring theme in my artwork since that time, linking my ancestry and myself to a sense of connection to this country.

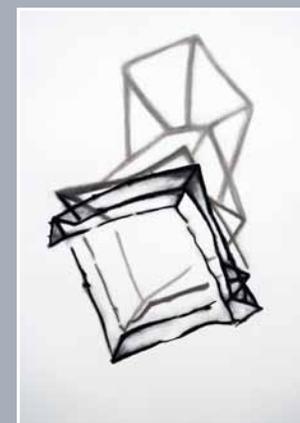
Feelings of rootlessness were made manifest by painting maps with the soils and ochres I found in the many areas I visited and where I now reside. Using this soil and charcoal allowed me to connect to the colours and minerals and country in a very tangible sense.

My artwork reflects this journey into the depths; this at times has not been an easy journey. It has taken me to very dark places. Reflecting about 'belonging' in this country in which it seems I have always felt an 'outsider' has been a struggle but has led to a glimpse of understanding about my place in this country.

Examining what it means to feel 'inside' and 'outside' a place and how some places are rich and thick, I have come to the conclusion that the land indigenises us relative to how long we live in an area, be it 5 years or 50,000.

I feel comfortable now with the understanding that we do not 'belong' to a place, but that we are a part of all of it. This includes all of the places we have been and all of these places are a part of us, deep in our cells and our psyche—digging a bit deeper.

- Cate McCarthy, October 2012



ABOVE
Cate McCarthy
One foot in the dark series #3
 2012
 charcoal, pastel on Arches paper
 760mm x 560mm

FRONT COVER
Cate McCarthy
One foot in the dark series #2
 2012
 charcoal, pastel on Arches paper
 760mm x 560mm

BACK COVER
Cate McCarthy
 installation view

**CATE
 MCCARTHY**

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