

SUE DENNIS WINS AWARD AT SOUTH WEST SURVEY

Sue Dennis', award winning work entitled 'Contemplation Series II' was inspired by her passion for nature and our interface with the landscape.

The piece created for the **South Western Times Survey 2012** expands upon a personal exploration of the notion of the accessibility of a universal language of symbols as perceived from the natural world.

Explaining her work Sue said, "The symbols were originally drawn from the shapes of moss growing on rocks, which themselves were formed by the echoes and resonance of natural forces. These drawings were then further expanded to create a vocabulary of ideas that can be interpreted, or not, depending on the viewer. Through observation and contemplation of these natural symbols, it may be possible to move to a timeless space, which is before or beyond words and knowledge, an experiential space of understanding, compassion and wisdom."

Currently a casual lecturer in Printmaking at the Bunbury Campus, Sue has also worked at the Institute's Busselton Campus teaching Art History and Theory as well as Printmaking.

"I really value my interaction with the students which is the impetus to continue experimenting with various print-making techniques and materials, keeping my work relevant and fresh," she said.

Commenting on her award Sue said, "I was surprised and very happy to win this award. For me it verifies that it's important to have faith in your own judgement and follow your ideas through however odd or unusual your resulting work may appear to be. It means that there is a resonance out there somewhere between other people and your ideas. It can be hard sometimes to stay on track when you're working on your own, so exhibiting is a great way of getting some feedback, and this is the most positive feedback I could have had."

Students interested in pursuing training in art at the South West Institute of Technology can access courses information by going to the quicklinks menu on this page and searching for the certificate and diploma courses in visual art and contemporary craft. Alternately, contact our Course Information Service on (08) 9780 7070.



Sue Dennis used kangaroo spinal bones; handmade cord from natural fibres: flax & Guildford grass; zinc etching plate and ink; various papers and natural tree resin .

"By pushing the boundaries of what may be considered an artist's book and by using various textured papers, traditional and non-traditional printmaking and bookbinding techniques, natural objects, resin and fibres, my intention has been to create a meditative sculptural piece which is both abstract and thought-provoking."