

5 0 P I N S F O R 5 0 Y E A R S

2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of JMGQ (Jewellers and Metalsmiths Queensland). JMGQ was formed as a sub group of the Crafts Association of QLD, now artisan, and, in acknowledgement of the close, historical association of the two organisations, we are delighted to celebrate this milestone together.

This year's annual Pin Swap was a commemorative event. Participating members were allocated a year between 1971 to 2020, as inspiration to create their pin. The pin could reference a specific event in that year or a design aesthetic. To mark this truly unique occasion, this event was a live exhibition, where the pins were 'swapped' and worn by maker recipients on the night. The exhibiting items were shown by the recipients, who mingled and spoke about the references and year that inspired the pin.

Special acknowledgement to Megan MacKenzie, Minqi Gu and Michelle Stemm of the Exhibitions Committee for this event.



1971 - 2021

Lucille Atkins

What a year: student anti war protests, anti-apartheid rallies, the Springbok tour in Australia that sparked radical action in Melbourne and Sydney and resulted in a state of emergency being declared in Queensland. It was an exciting time to be a university student and I was in the thick of it as a young 20 year old student activist.

I have used the closed fist that was a symbol of the anti-apartheid protest movement in the 1970s with a tinge of sadness as racism and disadvantage confront people of colour on a daily basis as the recent 'Black Lives Matter'



1971

1972

My brooch reflects on equality, a strive for individuals for equal opportunity to make the most of their lives. I have focused on gender equality, particularly the right to equal pay in the workplace and opportunities.

In 1948, equal pay was recognised by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and for decades afterwards unions have been campaigning for equal pay.

The year 1972 marked a milestone for equal pay for women in Australia. The Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) presented the second case in Australia, supported by the government, which succeeded to recognise the legal right to equal pay for work of equal value. This was an achievement that led the way to ease the pay gap and recognise equality in the workplace, however, even today the fight still continues.



Vivien
Bedwell

Sharka
Bosakova

'The Whale Scale Pin'

'The Whale Scale Pin' begins with a story a friend shared with me, that comes from the centre of the universe. We need to return to the 70's (1973) to a time of stars and wonder when the Gold Coast was still a place to play before the forest of high rises and fluorescent lights grew:

On the beach, a boy saw whale scales on the shoulders of people passing by. He gently made them aware by greeting each of the passers by uttering: 'you have whale scales here' pointing to their shoulders.

'The Whale Scale Pin' emerged. I feel, the piece asked for itself to be born and myself, merely the experiential witness, assisting the process, with a gathering of terrain; a return to simplicity, a naked form, imbued with meaning, function and balance.

Eucalyptus tree bark, hammered and polished steel, aluminium, resin, silver pigment.



1973

1974



'GALACTIC NOSTALGIA'

In 1974 Sir Martin Ryle and Antony Hewish, won the Nobel peace prize for their pioneering research in astrophysics, resulting in the discovery of the radio pulsar. Jocelyn Bell Burnell was the original graduate student, who was robbed of this award by her supervisors

at Cambridge. Bell Burnell was acknowledged for her work, 44 years later.

This brooch is the artist Katie Bouchier's interpretation of a radio pulsar in outer space. Made with sterling silver and bronze, the loop at the top end makes a fantastic bubble blower.

Katie
Bouchier

Carolyn Butler-White

Inspirational Event:
The independence of Papua New
Guinea on September 16th, 1975.

My Vision: Imagining the joy and
sense of pride this event must
have triggered among the people
of Papua New Guinea, I decided to
create a bird-of-paradise brooch.

The bird-of-paradise is a symbol of
Papua New Guinea and is present
on the PNG flag and also on the
PNG coat of arms.

Difficulties and Solutions: After
experimenting with patina solutions
and enamel paint, I settled on
adding colour with light strokes
of acrylic paint and then attaching
loosely flowing embroidery threads
to give the idea of feathers, flight
and freedom.



1975

1976



'CRAY1976'

My design was based off of the Cray - 1, a supercomputer that was first installed in 1976. The Cray 1 was the first computer to successfully incorporate vector processors, an important stepping stone for our high tech world today.

Brass, silver

Christina
de Rooy

Jen Eales

For many weeks I struggled to find anything that resonated with me about the year 1977.

Nothing that happened in the world that year spoke to me.

Then I remembered.....

It was the year I turned 18.

I could vote, I got my licence, bought my first car, and hung out at many surf beaches with my friends. The world was my oyster....

Recycled aluminium and acrylic with printed paper.



1977

1978



'Double Eagle'

Wow 1978, I found it very hard to be inspired by any of the historical events of that time. It wasn't until I came across August 11th 1978, when three adventurers become the first group to cross the Atlantic Ocean in a Helium Balloon. It took 137 hrs. The name of the balloon was Double Eagle 2.

Recycled Silver and Brass
Patina - L.O.S

Deborah
Ensor

Penny Gillespie

'1979 - A tribute to Judy Chicago's
The Dinner Party'

1979 saw the completion of installation of Judy Chicago's feminist work at Brooklyn Museum. The principal component of The Dinner Party is a massive ceremonial; banquet arranged in the shape of a triangle - a symbol of equality- measuring 48 feet on each side with a total of 39 place

settings. 13 settings for named women appear on each of the three sides. The guests of honour commemorated on the table are designated by means of intricately embroidered runners, each executed in a historically specific manner. Upon these are placed, for each setting, a gold ceramic chalice and utensils, a napkin with an embroidered edge and a 14-inch china plate with a central motif based on butterfly and vulva forms. The white floor upon which the table sits features the names of a further 999 women.



My small tribute features an enamel and silver triangle on an enamelled copper back. 39 holes are drilled in the enamel triangle (13 on each side) and the enamelled is uniquely coloured at the site of each drill hole. A free form silver wire vulva hangs in the centre of the triangle. Nine hundred and ninety-nine is painted onto the white enamelled copper back piece.

1979

1980



This pin is one of a series done in response to the notion of renovating an 1890's workers cottage.

A series designed to give a tiny snapshot of the years that the house has travelled through and to remain linked to the house in its future form.

More than a hundred years have passed since the house was built and several additions have been made to it. It retains large amounts of its original character, so to preserve its story the pin series is evolving to represent some tiny snippet of a decade.

1980 marked the beginning of a time of many extremes but the fashions are what evokes the strongest reaction and so the iconic "power dressing" suit with its huge shoulder pads are featured set within a version of the building that existed during the Eighties.

Kristina
Gittins

Katherine Grocott

1981 was an eventful year with the first DeLorean to roll off the production line; the first manned reusable spacecraft, Columbia, returning from orbit; both Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II experiencing assassination attempts against them; AIDS being recognised; Raiders of the Lost Ark and Donkey Kong being released; The Church of England voting to allow women to take holy orders; and Prince Charles marrying Diana Spencer.

But arguably the event that has had the most impact on the world was the invention of the Post-It note. These ubiquitous little pieces of sticky, repositionable paper, in bright colours, have changed office spaces, schools, universities, bedrooms and businesses around the globe. They are used to write to do lists, prompt reminders, give encouragement and motivation and create pixelated pictures when staff are really bored.

Katherine decided to honour this useful and ever-present stationary item with its own wearable dispenser. Made from sterling silver, it uses classic claw settings to hold a Post-It note in place, just like a little gemstone. It also comes with a selection of replacements for when you inevitably run out. Now you will always have handy notepaper on your person.



1981

1982



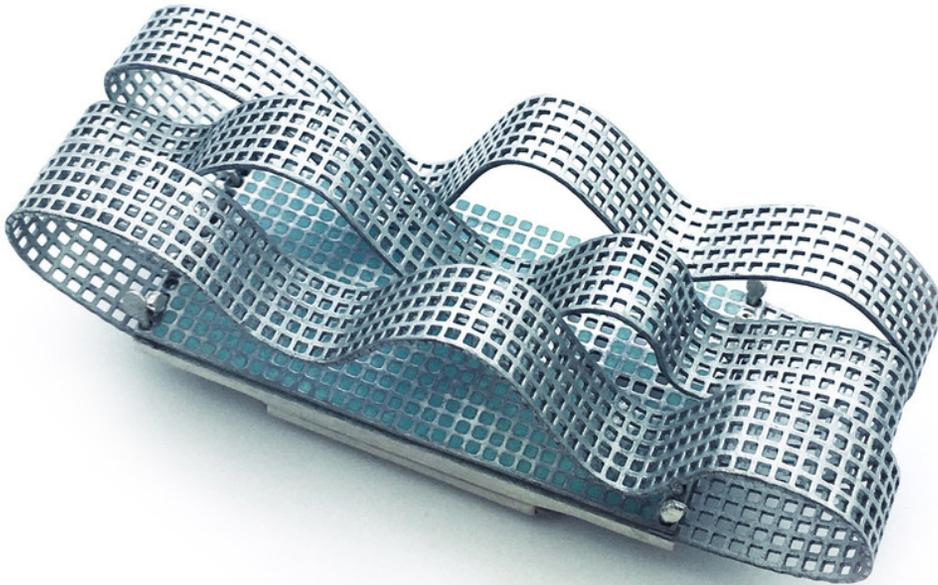
1982 was the year Diet Coke was invented. My pin is titled Real Real, here I take a humorous poke at the realness of the entire industry.

Minqi
Gu

Lyn
Haddon

1983 was the year of Star Wars - Return of the Jedi, Flashdance, Michael Jackson's Thriller, the final episode of MASH and the introduction of chicken McNuggets. Prince Charles and Princess Diana brought their new baby, Prince William, along for their Royal tour of Australia. The crowds were wild and Di's image was plastered over every newspaper and magazine. I was ten years old and a tragic Lady Di fan, with the scrap books to prove it.

Though I was tempted by my initial visions of a furry Ewok inspired brooch, I instead decided to channel Princess Di, circa March 1983, at the Sheraton Wentworth Hotel Ball for this pin. Di wowed onlookers as she danced the night away in a shimmery aqua blue floor length gown with oversized silver belt, silvery lattice thread detail and glorious ruffled silhouette. Surprisingly, not everyone embraces 80's glittery ruffles these days. So I thought the sensible route would be to use Di's outfit to inspire a modern take on silvery lattice and ruffles.



1983

1984



George Orwell's 1984 was written in 1948 about potential future horrors.

This is an updated version to remind you that especially today Big Brother is still watching us. Albeit disguised as a bright shiny or glamorous eye projected from an elongated wide screen TV, tablet or phone. Are there sinister things hiding behind the gloss?

Have we had too much to think yet?

Copper, Sterling silver, Patina, Stainless steel.

Catherine
Henley

Mari Hirata

魔女の宅急便 'Majo no Takkyūbin'

Born and bred in Japan, I have always had a great love for Japanese animation, especially the work of director Hayao Miyazaki of the renowned animation film studio, Studio Ghibli.

The original children's fantasy novel *Majo no Takkyūbin*, or 'Witch's Express Home Delivery' was written by Eiko Kadono and illustrated by Akiko Hayashi in 1985. Soon after it was made into the now well known animated film 'Kiki's Delivery Service' by Studio Ghibli, which was also founded in 1985.

I absolutely adore this story. And I love and have great respect for the studio that brought it to life, along with all of the masterpieces of storytelling Studio Ghibli have produced over the past few decades. As with many other Ghibli films, its strong female protagonist Kiki (director Miyazaki being a staunch feminist) and her adorable and funny talking cat Jiji shine as they navigate through the triumphs and tribulations of discovering what it means to find one's self out in the big wide world.

For me, these are the stories that shaped my childhood and still hold great relevance to the present, and will no doubt continue to touch my heart for years to come.



1985

1986



This piece is about effort and disaster. Fuck ups and fruition.

I had a hard time conceptualising a piece for this project. It was really difficult to focus on the past when the present is so heady. But looking back at the events of 1986 I realised that it's all just a reflection of our efforts to do more, do better and do different. Human effort is a blessing and a curse. We have great wins, and we fail immeasurably. And so we keep trying.

Sterling silver

Beth von Brae
(Hodges)

1988

Dame Quentin Bryce Appointed
Federal Sex Discrimination Minister

Inspired by the work and persona of
Queenslander Dame Quentin Bryce
- an enduring, courageous and
effective advocate for Women's
Rights - the pin is designed as
jewellery that this most stylish of
women might wear.

Seeking a fine, reclaimed metal for
the lightweight fabrics worn in the
sub-tropics, the gleaned cache of
aluminium coffee pods appealed,
presenting an opportunity for
exploration of a contemporary
material. The rims of the industrially
produced forms have a consistency
of finish unattainable by hand in
this thin aluminium. The gorgeous
green and purple reference the
colours of the Suffragettes.

Engaging with the material, sinuous
shapes emerged, suggestive of a
posy of flowers, something often
seen with Dame Quentin Bryce.

To encourage tactile engagement
with the pin, sound and movement
are added by threading some pods
to hang loosely on softer stems.
Now the pin can also function
as a fiddle toy - a COVID-time
distraction.



Kathleen
Hunt

Kate Hunter

I was 26 and political protest weary, with a taste for adventure from my participation in the Tall Ship's Race in '88.

Against all unsolicited advise I volunteered to join the Sail Training Ship 'One And All'.

I worked hard learning square-rig sailing and how to navigate the globe by sea and stars. Living freely in the moment helped shift my focus away from my global concerns.

Late in '89 I fell in love with the world again as the Berlin Wall began to come down. I couldn't believe it, I'd been to so many protest marches fervent with Cold War instability it felt surreal, 'change' was really happening.

1989 was about never giving up for me!

My pin has a little sprout of 'hope' breaking through the hole in the wall. Made from copper, brass, sterling silver with a stainless steel pin.



1989

1990



The pin representing this year is a reflection of the beginning of the world wide web. Invented by Tim Berners-Lee the first web server and browser were setup bringing forth the first website "online". The pin contains shapes and symbols reminiscent of how we access the web, with sliding components representing packets of data being sent from one place to the next.

1990 was a year of a notable achievement and while it was not paid much attention at the time, it has paved the way for our modern world today.

Minna
Jun

Kylie Keates

Thirty years on from the allocated year of 1991, the first image I recalled was that of the burning oil fields that were across the news from Operation Desert Storm. Thick, black plumes of smoke, spewing upwards, and dotted across the landscape. My copper pin captures Kuwait as its primary shape, but I want the recipient to

wear it in whatever orientation they choose. The front of the pin is finished to a high polish which reflects and expands the eruptions of smoky quartz held in place by torch fired enamelled copper pins. The protective coating was applied to create desert lines and swirls on the surface. The back of the pin is a satin finish, and the “pin” mechanism is a copper bar with two rare earth (neodymium) magnets. “Plus de couer” or “have more heart” is stamped on the front in French, one of the historical international languages of diplomacy.



1991

1992



'your two cents worth'

1c and 2c pieces were withdrawn from circulation in 1992. Announced in 1990 by Treasurer Paul Keating because of a 'loss of real purchasing power through inflation and the cost of minting the coins.'

I reflected on the loss of value for our smallest unit of currency, the humble one cent.

What does this mean for us?

We are told that the world's economy will crash due to the impact of COVID-19 on business.

What things do we purchase that are not essential?

Will the humble one cent have 'purchasing power' in the future?

I would not have thought of this subject or the design solution if not for the curatorial opportunity offered by this project! Reflecting on economic value - from the 1950's to the 1990's to the present -has brought up parallels and vast divides.

Sterling silver, 2 x 1c coins
Stainless steel, copper

Kath
Kerswell

Renee
Kire

In 1993 there were only 623 websites. It was the year Sydney won the bid to host the 2000 Olympic Games. It was also the year the first Jurassic Park movie was released in theaters. Fast forward to 2021, there is now 1.88 billion websites, Brisbane won the bid to host the 2023 Olympic games, and the sixth instalment of Jurassic Park movie franchise is due to hit cinemas in 2022.

Since being released, Jurassic Park has undoubtedly become one of the most profitable franchises in the world, being turned into toys, video games and even a theme park attraction at universal studios in America.

This pin is a homage to the first Jurassic Park movie. The 1993 film is an American science fiction action directed by Steven Spielberg, centered around a wildlife park of cloned dinosaurs created by a billionaire philanthropist and a small team of genetic scientists.

The pin has a simplistic design, merging natural with artificial through powder coating and patina processes. The shape has been inspired by the scientific Petrie dish, and its contents are of a prehistoric scene, influenced by a scene in Jurassic Park.



1993

1994

1994 was a big year for me - a lot happened, so it was hard to choose any particular personal or historical event that encapsulated the essence of what that time period meant. In the end I chose something personal - 1994 was the first time that I returned to Australia after travelling overseas. I'd had a lot of amazing adventures in the 18 months that I had been away, but also some tough times living in the UK. I had experienced the harsh realities of living without much money in a depressed economy that didn't offer many options for getting ahead, and a crushing class system that reinforced these boundaries and obstacles. I recognised being able to return to Australia as the country of my birth as a great privilege, and gratefully soaked up the sunshine.



This pin is a sterling silver cast-from-life red cedar pod collected from a tree that grows in a special place in the mountains of Northern-New South Wales. It symbolises the connection I feel to the rainforest regions, both as an area where I grew up in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland, and where I would settle for a time in the mountain valleys of Northern NSW, arriving at the end of 1994.

Alicia
Lane

Catherine Large



In 1995, I attended the JMGA Biennial conference in Melbourne. I have made this pin in response to visiting the city of my birth for this event.

I wanted to capture the iconic grid lines of the Melbourne CBD streets, and have kept the brooch relatively 2-dimensional to reflect the idea that Greater Melbourne is considered a flat city (despite the hilly CBD).

The copper sheet has been folded, then oxidised. Melbourne is synonymous with black, which came to the fore in the early 1990's during the nationwide recession, partly as a response to the excesses of the 1980's.

1995

1996



'Ack Ack' - 1996

As a youngster in the 90s, movies were huge in my life. The iconic movie 'Mars Attacks' was released in 1996. This movie started my love of Tim Burton's style and quirky films.

Copper, enamel, brass

Leisha
Lawrence

Saskia Levy

In 1997 it was announced to the world that scientists had successfully cloned a sheep from a single cell. The sheep was given the name Dolly because the cell used to clone her came from a mammary gland and they “couldn’t think of a more impressive pair of mammary glands than Dolly Parton’s” (not my words). There was a great deal of controversy around the event, ethical considerations were debated and what it might mean for the future, but amidst all this discussion Dolly still only knew herself as a sheep.



As an artist I am very interested in the intimacy generated when holding, wearing or interacting with very small handmade objects and sculptures. My work looks at the act of passing on stories and narratives via objects both wearable and sculptural and investigates the role and significance of traditions, rituals, old and new within the everyday. My Anglo Australian and Jewish backgrounds are significant in the making of my artwork as it frames the way I experience the world, as does the convergence of these cultures within contemporary life. Local environment and the animals that inhabit it are aspects of my personal everyday experiences that become important details within the telling of my stories which are part real and part fiction. Imagining devices and components of movement is also an element that I like to incorporate into my work to aid in creating character specific to a sculpture or object and its story.

Vintage tweed, embroidery thread, fleece from the Isle of Skye Scotland, hand-formed silver kilt pin.

1997

1998

1998 is recorded as the hottest year of the 20th Century. Storms, floods, drought and fires took over 30,000 lives and displaced over 300 million people. At the time, researchers, environmental organisations and some governments were acknowledging and highlighting the correlation between human activity, global warming and catastrophic natural disasters. There was a call for climate action.

I was 19 at the time and studying Visual Art at QUT. I remember the awareness of global warming and environmental issues growing within the public consciousness. I was young and concerned about the future of the planet. 1998 was 23 years ago... Temperatures have continued to climb and little government action has been taken since to seriously address human impact on the planet.

1998 is represented in this pin through heat and fire. The dominant triangle form of the pin references the old alchemical symbol for fire and heat, the triangle. The triangle continues to represent heat in current day chemical equations.



The pin is designed to constantly move and change, reflecting the wearer's movements and environment.

This pin is reminiscent of the kind of artwork that I was making in 1998 which heavily featured resin and mirrors, red and white. The pin can function as a kaleidoscope if held to the light.

Found plastic car plastic, found mirror back plastic, resin, stainless steel.

Megan
MacKenzie

Alison
McDonald



'1999 Y2K'

Just as 1999 was about to finish I was freaking out as I was overseeing all the finances and computers in a small office. We were about to finish a century and start a new one. We were told by those in 'authority' that like Cinderella, at the stroke of midnight all our computers would crash if we didn't load the saviour software to stop the dreaded Y2K bug entering our systems. Dutifully we all purchased at great expense the Y2K software. Then come 1 Jan 2000, it all ended up being a huge hoax, utter bullshit and a giant fund raiser for someone.

I hope my little pin captures that moment with some humour from that time.

Sterling silver, recycled titanium, Perspex, 5 cent coin and stainless steel.

1999

2000

The year 2000 is represented in my brooch using a flash drive. Many memorable things happened in this year but in my opinion one of the most significant was the invention of the flash drive. This enabled the transfer and storage of data to take on a whole new meaning in technological advances.

My pin is assembled using a sterling silver back, copper strip and the inside of a flash drive displaying the beauty and intricacies of the internal workings. It is attached using silver and brass rivets.



Penny
McIntyre

Fiona Meller

What a year!

Beginning with the election of Bush in the US, followed by the 9/11 attacks and

finally, the war on Afghanistan.

All catastrophic events which are still reverberating around the world today.

As much as I tried to focus on other events that happened that year, I kept being pulled back

As much as I didn't want to bring more negativity into the present day, I found myself creating

a piece that embodies that horrific year

2001

What a year!



2001

2002



In February 2002, hundreds of Afghani refugees held at Woomera Detention Centre went on a hunger strike . Seventy of them sewed their lips together in protest at the appalling conditions at this remote detention centre in the South Australian desert. Hundreds of children were held there in the mid-summer heat of this desert region. These refugees had fled the persecution and violence of the Taliban regime in their homeland, Afghanistan.

This drew attention to their plight and many Australians went to their aid. These protests led to the transfer of detainees and the closure of this facility the following year..

Helen
Moriarty

Jandy Pannell

On July the 10th, 2003, scientists confirmed the existence of "Methuselah" - the oldest exoplanet found in the universe - approximately 13 billion years old - nearly 3 times as old as earth.

It is a constellation in Scorpius, the Milky Way galaxy - 5,600 light years from earth and is a Jovian planet (a gas giant).

PSR B12620-26b (as it is formally known) is in a circumbinary orbit around 2 stars - a pulsar (a dense, rapidly spinning remnant of a supernova explosion) and a white dwarf star - the first circumbinary planet ever confirmed.

It cannot support life as we know it, as it is permanently bathed in the pulsar's high energy radiation.

I have used my artistic licence to interpret the scale of the planet and stars in relation to each other.

Recycled and reused plastic market bags, recycled and patinated argenticum silver, sterling silver.



2003

2004



Mars Rover 2004

“My battery is low and it’s getting dark.” was the final message received from the Mars Rover Opportunity. It’s three-month mission started in 2004 when it landed on Mars. To everyone’s surprise it ended up surviving for over 14 years and traveling just over 52 kilometres. Before it finally said goodnight for the last time as its solar array was covered with the copper colour dust and went to sleep.

Recycled copper, sterling silver and Brass

Matthew
Pell

Robyn
Pell



Holocaust Memorial 2005,

Located in Berlin, the Holocaust Memorial was opened to the public in 2005. This lasting but controversial memorial was designed by architect Peter Eisenman and constructed of 2,711 concrete slabs or "stelae", that are arranged in a grid pattern on a sloping field. To walk among these structures is an emotional and thought-provoking experience that will remain with me all my life.

Recycled copper, sterling silver

2005

2006

Looking back on the year that was 2006, it was describe through the worsening drought and raging bushfires that scorched Australia. Immediately Dorothea Mackellar's poem 'My Country' came to mind. One line in particular resonated with me: "...I love a sunburnt country...". This became the inspiration for my pin. I used a copper as a canvas for an Australian landscape. Due to the nature of the copper, the colour will deepen over time giving it an even more earthy quality.

"I love a sunburnt country,
A land of sweeping plains,
Of ragged mountain ranges,
Of droughts and flooding rains.
I love her far horizons,
I love her jewel-sea,
Her beauty and her terror
The wide brown land for me!"

A snippet from Dorothea
Mackellar's poem 'My Country'



Nellie
Peoples

Clare
Poppi

2007 immediately brings to mind for me the rise of the Labour Party in the 2007 election, overthrowing the conservative government of the previous 11 years and Prime Minister John Howard. The catchy "Kevin 07" slogan remains etched in my memory. Love him or loathe him, Kevin Rudd changed the political scene in that year. This pin is based on one of his more cringe-worthy attempts to connect with the average Aussie by using the jingo-istic phrase "fair shake of the sauce bottle".



2007

2008



'2008, SORRY'

In 2008 Prime Minister Kevin Rudd issued a historic apology for the past actions of the Australian Federal government against First Nations Australians. It was massive, and a conversation starter, however in the end may have held little weight. Only 3 of the 7 "Close the Gap" targets recommended by the government report on the Stolen Generations are on track to be met.

Repurposed steel wire, aluminium siding recovered from abandoned building site, aluminium tubing

Kierra-Jay
Power

Paola Raggo

'Black Saturday Bushfires'

The 2009 bushfires were the worst in Australian history since colonisation.

This event called my attention because of the urgency that global warming is imposing on us. We now have a deadline.

Forgetting the past erases important knowledge. Fire, managed well, has been a crucial element in aboriginal seasonal land management that maintained the soil healthy and reduced the hazard of the fires for longer.

For the pin, I painted a bushfire scene with people observing baffled by the devastation in front of them, with a silver frame and melted metal symbolising the melting of houses. What now? How many times can a community rebuild? If they can...

Sterling silver, oil painted on canvas, stainless steel needle.



2009

2010

'HATPIN - JG4PM2010'

Misogyny and hatpins....about a hundred years ago, hatpins were sometimes used by women to defend themselves against assault by men. In 1910s Laws were passed in America that limited hatpins as there was a concern they might be used by suffragettes as weapons.

2010 Julia Gillard became Australia's first female Prime Minister and only 3 years later to be cast aside by her party amidst the swirl of misogyny, back stabbing and power struggles.

Julia continues to conduct herself with dignity, advancing causes she is passionate about in education, women's rights and mental health. As she continues to judiciously weigh in on select issues Julia Gillard stands alone and is outstanding in her own right by not becoming 'the story' like other attention-seeking former PMs.

Hammered brass & Sterling Silver



Jo
Rees-Jones

Lynda
Shale



'Kanagawa Fragment, 2011'

I spent four years living in Japan, travelling many times between Tokyo and Brisbane. I flew out of Tokyo 6 days prior to the Japanese Tsunami which struck on the 11th March 2011. I returned in May to a country in mourning. Prior to March, I had walked the beaches of Kanagawa with a dear friend many times. I found this aluminium fragment on a familiar beach in October 2011; however it was a very different walk. The sight of many broken pieces washed up on the beach from the Tsunami was overwhelming. I made many attempts to bring a positive aspect to a 2011 pin, however, water and loss (Japan Tsunami, Queensland floods, Cyclone Yasi) dominated. The Fold-forming technique was applied to the found aluminium fragment to indicate the waves of a sometimes relentless Nature. The pin and the aluminium piece remain unconnected. Only the curved pin is worn to suggest a sense of separation and loss from the aluminium fragment ... lying silently apart.

Fold-formed aluminium fragment collected from Kanagawa beach area, October 2011,

2011

2012

JMGQ was supposed to host the national biennial conference for the third time in 2012. In 2011 various parts of Queensland were flooded. Large parts of Brisbane were damaged including the areas around the main venue we had booked for the conference. We had to postpone the conference to 2013.

There was a shortage of tradies in Brisbane and lots of work to do. Damaged houses were being raised to new heights and riverside parks were being cleaned and replanted. The riverside walkways were languishing.

For a 2012 JMGQ exhibition In the Now held in the Pickle Gallery at Contemporary Artisans Collective I exhibited a series of works that I had made using a mix of components from things in my studio. The shapes and forms of the existing elements informed my making and thinking at the time. This hammer pin was made in a similar way to my works for In the Now. I used mix of preexisting elements, complete with the marks of prior use to make this hammer. It seems appropriate, as unless they are new in a shop carpenters hammers are suspicious if there are no marks of use.



Elizabeth
Shaw

M. Veronica
Silva



I chose to focus on something that was completely out of human control, a celestial event that was a stark reminder of how small and fragile we actually are in the universe and to treasure this rare planet we exist on;

the 2013 Chelyabinsk meteorite event.

To paraphrase an onlooker's statement, "for a moment, the sky lit up like it was daytime ", the light from the meteorites' entry over Russia being visible up to 100km away, essentially brighter than the sun.

Exploding in an air burst over Chelyabinsk Oblast, Russia, at a height of around 30km and early in the night, the blast generated intense heat, a bright flash and a shock wave that equalled that of a thermonuclear blast.

Incredibly, it went undetected as it entered the atmosphere due to its source direction close to the sun.

In a way, remembering this event becomes a reminder to take a step back and realise that we are all on this unique, singular boat together, sailing through the universe, and that we should be looking out for each other and our world rather than helping it along on its potential demise.

Sterling silver, stainless steel pinv

2013

2014



'MH370 - year 2014'

Malaysia Airlines flight 370 disappeared on the 8th March 2014 somewhere in between Kuala Lumpur and Beijing. All of the 227 passengers and 12 crew are presumed dead and the whereabouts of their resting place remains a mystery, after 4 years of searching the southern Indian ocean.

Each link, a bubble of air. Represents a loved one who perished in this incident. Their lives lost to the world, vanishing with little trace. To all of the families and friends of these souls, I imagine you suffer un-ending grief with un-answered questions surrounding the disappearance of MH370. 239 people forever linked by this tragedy.

Nickle, Copper, Stainless Steel, Sterling Silver.

Michelle
Stemm

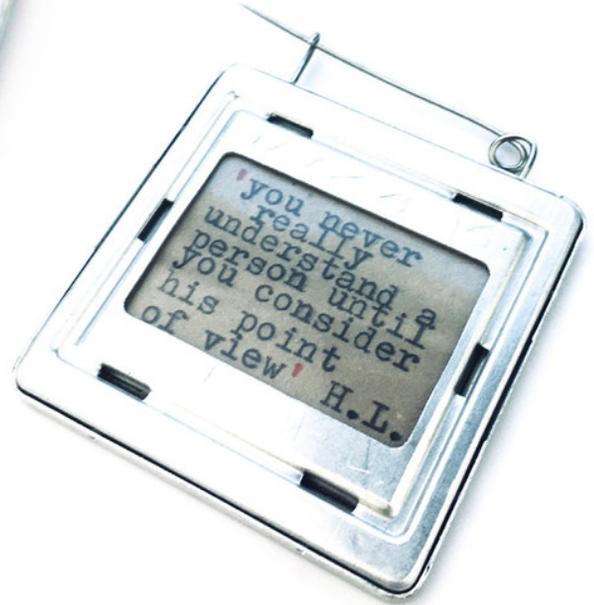
Sue Whiteman

In July, 2015 NASA's New Horizons spacecraft made its closest approach to the dwarf planet Pluto. The first ever space mission to view Pluto and its five moons the largest of which is Charon (almost as large as it) up close. Among the spacecrafts most immediate stunning findings was a bright heart-shaped feature towards the bottom right of Pluto. The complexity of Pluto and its satellites is far beyond anything that was expected to be found.



2015

2016



When searching for what to highlight from the year 2016, the most searched person on google was Donald Trump and news event, was the US election but I didn't want to focus on someone that used his power to further divide. I thought it was fitting to honour someone whose words highlighted inequities and divisions with race and gender, so I decided to honour the life of Harper Lee (April 28th 1926 - Feb 19th 2016) and her words in To Kill a Mockingbird.

"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view....until you climb in side of his skin and walk around it" Harper Lee in To Kill a Mockingbird, 1960.

Michelle
Wild

Vanessa
Williams



'Silver Dust Pin'

In 2017 I was lucky enough to go to Europe for a mentorship with Fabrice Schaefer and Jose Marin in Switzerland and Spain respectively. I had admired both jewellers for a very long time and it was absolutely wonderful to meet them and spend time with them in their studio's. One of the techniques I learned was a way to add fine silver to titanium. This is the technique I have used for this pin. It is a very unpredictable technique and I never know what the result may be.

Sandblasted, Heat blackened
Titanium, with Fine Silver

2017

2018



'2018 Gathering and Celebrating'

2018 was a year of change for women, politicians, banks, international trade and climate.

For me it was a year of family, caring and community. Gathering and celebrating journeys of recovery, birthdays and weddings. Creating for and commemorating these shared moments of joy.

Susie
Woodhouse

Sinead
Buckney



Fire. 2019 was the Australian Black Summer. Extensive bush fires across Australia that were uncontrollable for months. Massive areas of the Amazon forest were burned and the Historic Notre-Dame burned down.

I can't do justice to my feelings about the loss of wildlife, habitat and forest in 2019 in a pin, it would be a molten black blob of metal. Instead this piece represents hope, that we manage our country and climate more effectively, learning and listening to traditional indigenous ways. I am angry that this climate crisis is not taken more seriously by our government. I want there to be real change to stop global warming, not left to individuals and the efforts they make.

That's a lot of hope though. May this pin keep the fire and rage burning inside and allow you to channel that energy effectively.

2019

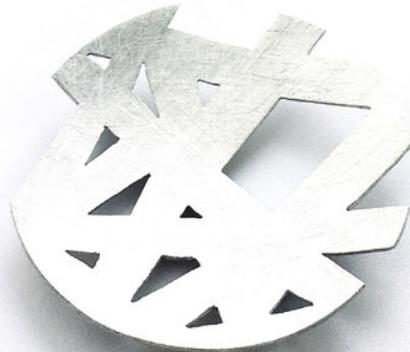
2020

As the world welcomed in the new year of 2020, so few could have predicted a global pandemic to sweep through our communities.

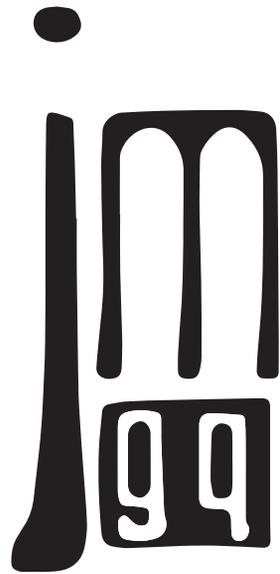
Masks have become common place in everyday society. They are seen, unlike the virus. A reminder of the impact it had and is still having on so many people's lives.

This brooch draws its inspiration from the interwoven fibres of a surgical mask. They are able to be seen in this detail using a microscope, the only way in which we are able to see Covid-19.

Changing the scale and material of these fibres has allowed me to create this memento, to be worn long after we have doffed our masks.



Tash
Nicolson



1971 - 2021