



Wayne Talbot *Tracing Time*

Woolloongabba Art Gallery

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# Tracing Time

I've been drawing & photographing extraordinary parts of our country for many years now. When travelling in remote Australia, I can connect to the landscape on a much deeper sensory level than simply a visual one. When I'm there I feel I'm in the presence of a lot more than just the earth and it's elements; witnessing the time that has passed and how it has formed that place over hundreds of millions of years.

Regular excursions form a vital part of my artistic practice, working plein air and taking thousands of photographs that provide reference for future studio work. The photos reflect geological and botanical interests that I've had since studying map making & geography in my early years.

The age and history of the Australian landscape are strong considerations in my work. They directly influence my aesthetic in a profound way. Spending time in the bush also gives me a strong sense of calm.

I hope my pictures communicate some of the stillness and quiet that I've experienced in the outback.

In recent years I've exhibited mainly photographic work so I'm familiar with digital techniques and comfortable combining photography with my drawing practice. However, I only reference photos briefly at the beginning of the process. I have no interest in duplicating a photographic image. I soon let the drawing adopt a life of its own allowing the intuitive elements to take over so the drawing is free to tell me what it needs.

Sometimes the drawings are straight forward and 'fall out' and other times they are contrary and difficult to resolve. I prefer the 'fall out' ones.

I have long been concerned that Australia's ever increasing urbanisation is causing a disconnection with the natural world, something that is having enormous consequences. In some of my pictures I've interpreted this disconnect through elements such as floating outcrops and trees, unnatural colour and alien skies.

Through these pictures I hope my humble efforts to help raise awareness of man's disconnect with nature can assist in creating change.

*Wayne Talbot 2017*  
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