

1. Can you give us an insight into your artistic process?

My work at Chalmers Road school is led by sensory activities and offering students different sensory experiences through a broad range of materials. Some works are based on a theme, but many works are abstract and the medium and techniques really inform the presentation of the work.

2. Is your work pre-planned or created intuitively? How long does each work take to complete?

Sessions at Chalmers Road are short (30 minutes) to suit students' learning needs and therefore pre-planning is very important. Many works featured in this exhibition have been created collaboratively and this ensured that all students' contributions are acknowledged. Works are usually completed in two days which is the allotted time I must deliver lessons with the whole school. Postproduction and mounting varies depending on the medium and complexity of parts.

3. Do you keep some kind of ongoing drawing book or diary? Or a collection of images or photographs for inspiration?

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4. Who are your favourite artists? Who do you draw inspiration from?

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I spend a lot of time working with materials thinking about how students can engage in a process and what we'll create. I try and set up experiences that students can activate given that many of our students have limited fine motor skills. The material is everything; if the prep isn't right or the materials are too difficult to use the activity fails. It's a lot of trial and error and some things just fall over, and some things fly, the great thing is nothing is entirely predictable, and a good piece develops a life of its own.

