



LISMORE  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY

# Art Worksheet Primary

## *Retracing Bundjalung National Park*

Janet DeBoos | Christine James | Christopher Meagher

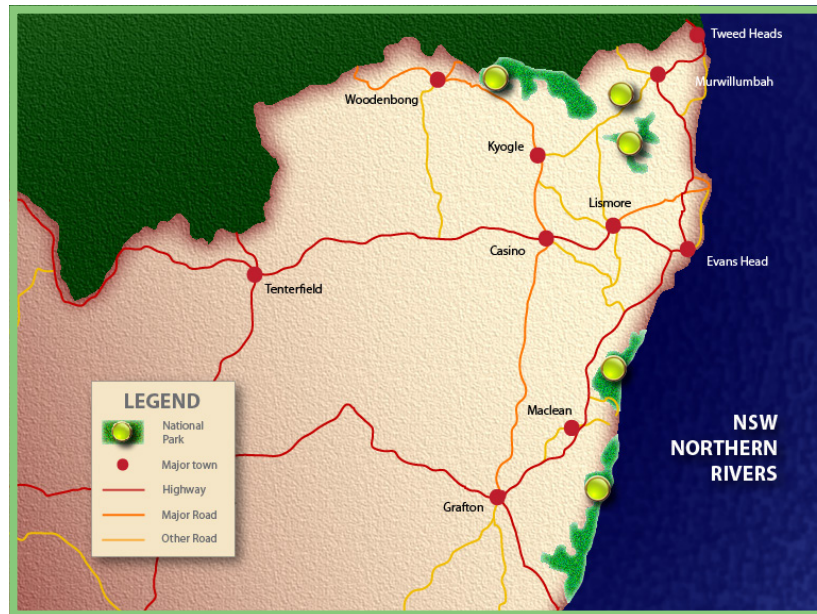
7 DECEMBER 2013 - 2 FEBRUARY 2014





LISMORE  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY

# Art Worksheet Primary



Bundjalung National Park sits on the coast between Iluka in the south and Evans Head in the north. It has some 38Km of beaches within its 17,000 hectares of land coverage.

The Esk River is a part of this ecosystem and the park has the longest natural coastal river ecosystem on the north coast of New South Wales. It has lagoons, wetlands, rainforest, coastal cypress and heathlands.

Bundjalung National Park features Aboriginal middens and camp sites throughout, these sites show us the history and culture of the Indigenous Bundjalung and Yaegl peoples who have lived in this area for thousands of years.

## The Exhibition

This exhibition is based on personal connections to local our landscape, it includes the work of three artists; ceramicist Janet DeBoos (Canberra), painter Christine James (Lismore), and photographer Christopher Meagher (Woodburn). The exhibition explores the close connection all three artists have with the National Park on the coast near Lismore.

All three have a close connection with Bundjalung National Park, having returned to the Park over many years. Each artist has made artworks that tells stories of their memories and experiences of this beautiful ancient landscape.

The artists Janet DeBoos, Christine James and Christopher Meagher have all worked for a long time perfecting their art practices of ceramics, painting and photography. They have revisited Bundjalung National park and used their art skills to make the artworks in the exhibition.





LISMORE  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY

# Art Worksheet Primary

## The Artists

### Christine James



**Christine James** was born in Casino and studied Visual Arts at ANU, School of Art in Canberra and Queensland College of Art, she has been exhibiting nationally and internationally as an artist since 1986.

Christine James is a painter, she uses oil paints on canvas to create her artworks and her favourite subject matter is the Australian landscape. The landscape paintings she has made in the exhibition *Retracing Bundjalung National Park* are about her experiences and memories of the Park. She has created beautiful dreamy visions of the landscape with earth tones and colourful the flowers that grow in the Park.

Christine has a strong connection to the landscape near Evans Head. As a child she spent all her weekends and holidays at her family's beach cottage at Airforce Beach, Evans Head.



LISMORE  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY

# Art Worksheet Primary

## The Artists

### Janet De Boos



**Janet DeBoos** first encountered The Bundjalung National Park during the two decades that her parents owned a motel and restaurant in Evans Head in the seventies and eighties.

After completing a science degree, Janet DeBoos studied ceramics at East Sydney (National Art School) in 1970/71. She has taught at and been in charge of ceramics at various colleges in Sydney (St George and Randwick TAFE's) and was Head Teacher at East Sydney when she retired from full time teaching in 1980 to run a production pottery for almost 20 years.

Janet is a ceramic artist and creates beautiful objects from clay. Janet was a botanist (a scientist who studies plants) before she was an artist and knows a lot about the plants of the Australian landscape.

In the exhibition you can see she has drawn and painted with glaze many beautiful pictures of Australian bush plants from the Bundjalung National Park. One of the techniques Janet uses in her ceramic making is Sgraffito, in which she draws designs by scratching away the top surface of her ceramic object to reveal the colours underneath.



LISMORE  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY

# Art Worksheet Primary

## The Artists

Christopher Meagher



**Christopher Meagher** was born in Melbourne and is a photographer who has been making artwork since the 1970's. He worked as a Geologist (scientist who studies, rocks, minerals and the earth) before becoming an artist and has lectured both in Photography and Environmental Science at Southern Cross University in Lismore.

Christopher has traditionally used black and white silver gelatin medium photographic techniques. Now he also uses digital photography to capture the colour of the landscape he is photographing as well as a freer, more informal way to engage with nature.

Christopher Meagher has lived for more than 30 years on the edge of the Bundjalung National Park, near Evans Head and knows that landscape very well. His photographs record the beauty and the way the park has changed over time.



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GALLERY

# Art Worksheet Primary

## Activities

### Things to make and do

1. Take photographs of a landscape that is special to you.
2. Write a story, poem or song about why the land is special to you.
3. Draw or paint a picture of the landscape you have chosen.
4. Make a clay sculpture based on the Australian bush.
5. Scratch different Australian plant and animal designs into your clay sculpture.



Image: Christine James, *Callistemon and Heath Looking East II*, 2013, oil on Belgian linen, 40 x 51cm, courtesy the artist



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# Art Worksheet Primary

## Activities

the drawing spot ...

Draw a picture of your favourite landscape.



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## Activities

### lets play eye spy!

Play eye spy while you look at the artwork in the Lismore Regional Gallery.

Here are some eye spy challenges below.



1. What colours can you see on these pots?



3. What kind of plants are in this painting?



2. What kind of trees can you see in this photograph?

Image 1: Janet DeBoos, *coming alive with colour #1*, 2013, porcelainous stoneware, terra sigillata, underglaze stains, decals, overglaze enamels, 20 x 100 x 20cm, courtesy the artist

Image 2: Christopher Meagher, *Fireworks (Banksia regrowth)*, 1994, silver-gelatin print, 24 x 36cm, courtesy the artist

Image 3: Christine James, *Callistemon and Heath Looking East I*, 2013, oil on Belgian linen, 40 x 51cm, courtesy the artist



LISMORE  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY

# Art Worksheet Primary

## Key Terms

### **Landscape art**

Is an artwork that's main subject matter is natural scenery. All three artists in the *Retracing Bundjalung National Park* exhibition have made landscape artworks. They have painted, photographed and created clay works that were inspired by the landscape of The Bundjalung National Park.

### **Landscape painting**

Painting where the main subject matter is natural scenery such as mountains, valleys, trees, rivers, and forests, etc.

### **Landscape photograph**

Photograph's where the main subject matter is natural scenery such as mountains, valleys, trees, rivers, and forests, etc.

**Ceramic art:** Artworks made from clay.

**Sgraffito:** An art technique where the artist scratches into the top layer of the clay or paint to reveal the colours and texture of the surface underneath.





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GALLERY

# Teachers Notes Primary

## Welcome to Lismore Regional Gallery

We are committed to supporting students and educators to further enhance their learning skills in critical thinking, self-expression and applied knowledge whilst embracing new ideas relating to arts and culture.

We want to build and nurture a love of arts and culture in our community and foster an educational environment that seeks to explore the joys of life-long learning through art.

This education resource has been created at Lismore Regional Gallery for:

## *Retracing Bundjalung National Park*

**Janet DeBoos | Christine James | Christopher Meagher**

**7 DECEMBER 2013 - 2 FEBRUARY 2014**

Was created and compiled on behalf of Lismore Regional Gallery by Learning Officer Claudie Frock.

**Special Acknowledgements to:** Gallery Director: Brett Adlington, Curator: Kezia Geddes and Administration Officer: Amy Miller.

All images of the artworks from exhibition are courtesy of the artist. You may copy and distribute these worksheets for educational purposes only and reproduction of artworks for anything other than educational purpose is not allowed.

You may wish to use this resource in its running order or use segments before and after tours to prepare students or revise tour. Lismore Regional Gallery's website has an archive of past and current exhibitions and educational resources associated with the exhibitions that can be accessed to support your students educational needs.

We are always open to feedback and your recommendations on how we can improve our educational materials.

## Here is a link to our online Image Archive:

[http://www.lismoregallery.org/cp\\_themes/default/4col.asp?c=497](http://www.lismoregallery.org/cp_themes/default/4col.asp?c=497)

## Here is a link to our online Education Resources Archive:

[http://www.lismoregallery.org/cp\\_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-ZGZ-08-72-54](http://www.lismoregallery.org/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-ZGZ-08-72-54)

Thank you for visiting Lismore Regional Gallery.

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Janet DeBoos' images were photographed by Art Atelier Photography

Christine James' images were photographed by Kristen Gardner

### Lismore Regional Gallery staff

Brett Adlington	Director
Kezia Geddes	Curator
Amy Miller	Administration Officer
Shane Dunian	Gallery Assistant
Phoebe Hall	Gallery Assistant
Claudie Frock	Learning Officer

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