



*Let it not pain you anymore
than earth hurts earth*

By Caitlin Bowe and Chelsea Farquhar



Women's &
Children's Hospital
Foundation

Arts in Health

There is a long history of the body in art, through representation, distortion, interaction and reimagining. We can look at these figures and see a reflection of ourselves, or we can interact with an object, to create and imagine a dialogue between our body and the work.

Drawing on mythological, superstitious, and spiritual ideas surrounding health and pregnancy, Bowe and Farquhar have created works which make connections between objects and the body.

Utilising sculpture, photography, and printing processes, the gallery is filled with images and objects of sympathetic magic. Mint tied around the wrist to settle the stomach or yarrow sewn into clothing to prevent disease. The play between made objects, light, and shadow and the transformation of an image through solar prints. *'Let it not pain you anymore than earth hurts earth'* links the body to ideas of fun and play through these light-hearted and imaginative objects.

Artists Caitlin Bowe and Chelsea Farquhar met at Adelaide Central School of Art during their Bachelor Degree. Bowe later went on to complete her honours year, utilising casting and textile techniques to explore ideas of grief and personal physical trauma, drawing on Gothic Victorian aesthetics and symbols found in ancestral mythologies. Farquhar moved to Melbourne to complete her honours at the Victorian College of the Arts and continues to work as a multidisciplinary artist.

Connections to Hospitals have drawn both artists to exhibit in this space. Farquhar comes from a long line of nurses and spent a lot of her childhood in and around hospitals while her mother worked. Bowe has been a patient at the Women's and Children's Hospital for a period of time and has experienced the positive impact that art has for the patients and staff.

Art has the capacity to transform a space and to affect the people around it, so by transforming white walls into spaces of colour, material, playfulness, and fun, a moment of joy can be brought to the people who need it the most.

- Caitlin Bowe

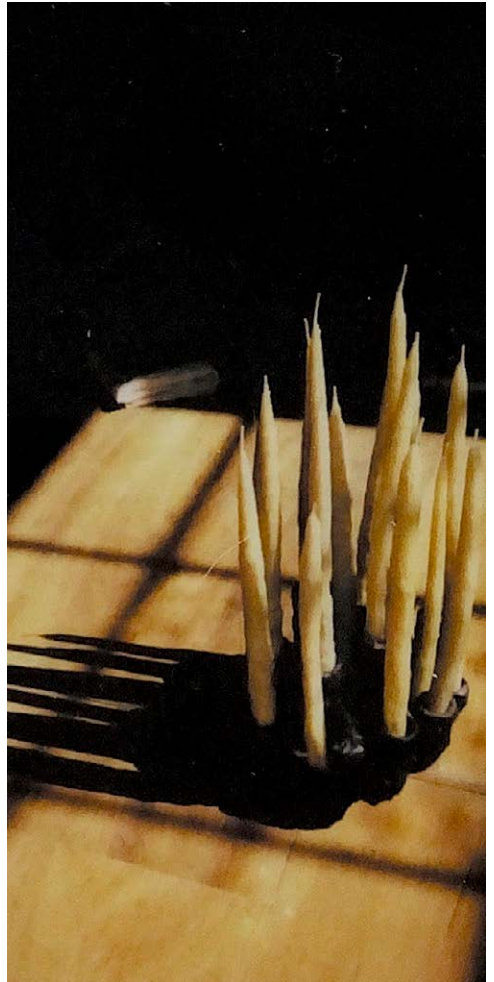


Image top left: detail of *Spells, Charms and Well Wishes #5* by Caitlin Bowe

Image bottom left: detail of *Spells, Charms and Well Wishes #7* by Caitlin Bowe

Image right: detail of *Candles* by Chelsea Farquhar

To learn more about Caitlin and Chelsea's practice's, visit:

caitlinbowevisualartist.wordpress.com + chelseafarquhar.cargo.site

The Women's & Children's Hospital Foundation (WCH Foundation) raises funds in support of the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide, South Australia. The WCH Foundation is committed to ensuring that mums, children and their families have access to the very best in medical care, hospital facilities and support services at a time when they need it the most.

The WCH Foundation has developed a number of Arts in Health programs to integrate art into the life of the Hospital to improve people's health and wellbeing. We try to make the environment more 'child-friendly', making it look better and helping to make the time spent in hospital 'feel better'.

The Arts in Health program delivers a range of activities throughout the hospital across art forms such as: Visual Arts, Digital Media, Music and Performing Arts, Public Art, Literature and the Therapeutic Arts (Play Therapy, Art Therapy and Music Therapy). From providing pencils and colouring books in waiting areas, to managing Gallery spaces and art displays in the Hospital, collaborating with Hospital School on book week activities and working closely with the Play Therapy Team, the Arts in Health program delivers smiles and fun throughout the Hospital.

The WCH Foundation's Gallery program coordinates five galleries in the Hospital, providing a space away from the stresses of treatment to distract, entertain and inspire, improving the visual environment. The artworks displayed in the exhibition spaces come from a range of sources – internally from hospital staff, patients (women & children) and their families, through specific Arts in Health activities and externally from local artists and art collectives.

This exhibition was planned and exhibited on the lands of the Kaurna People, we pay our respects to the Kaurna Elders past and present and to the Elders of the lands this brochure reaches.

Cover Image: *Rings 1* by Chelsea Farquhar



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