

EDGE OF THE TIDE

An exhibition by Jade Zander

Women's & Children's Hospital Foundation

Arts in Health

Jade Zander is an emerging stippling artist based in Adelaide, South Australia, whose practice brings together art, ecology and a deep appreciation for the natural world.

Drawing on her professional experience as a Restoration Ecologist, Jade creates intricate ink drawings of Australian birds using stippling, a meticulous technique built from thousands of tiny dots. The birds she depicts are species she regularly encounters through her fieldwork, where close observation has given her an intimate understanding of their behaviour, habitats and the environmental pressures they face.

This collection celebrates South Australia's coastal and wetland birdlife and the vital connection between these species and the health of their environments. Through highly detailed drawings, Jade invites viewers to pause and look more closely at wildlife that can easily be overlooked. Each dot becomes an act of observation, gradually revealing the beauty, character and resilience of each bird.

Jade's field observations are central to her creative process. The tilt of a head, the shape of a wing, or the fleeting moment before a bird takes flight can become the starting point for a work. Drawing offers her a slower, more reflective way of revisiting these encounters and connecting her ecological knowledge with the experience of simply paying attention.

At a time when coastal and wetland ecosystems face significant environmental challenges, including marine algal blooms and H5N1 avian influenza, the collection also speaks to the importance of care, stewardship and hope. By bringing vulnerable species into focus, Jade encourages us to consider what is precious, what is at risk, and what is worth protecting.

Ultimately, these works are a celebration of life and resilience, and of the enduring relationship between people, wildlife and the landscapes we share.

Jade has exhibited in group exhibitions and galleries and was a finalist in the Foot Square and Petite Pieces Art Prizes in 2025. Represented by Aspire Gallery in Brisbane, she exhibited at the Brisbane Affordable Art Fair in 2026 and was selected as one of three Artists in Residence with Nature Foundation in 2026.





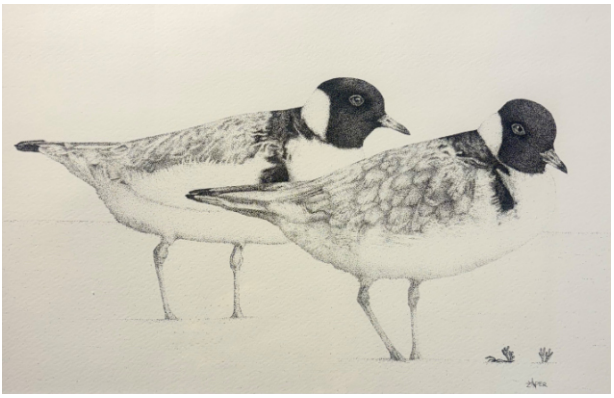



Image top left: Against the Tide, *ink on paper*, 2026

Image top right: Facing the Current, *ink on paper*, 2026

Image bottom left: Fragile Shore VII, *ink on paper*, 2026

Image bottom right: portrait of Jade Zander

See more of Jade's works on Instagram **@j.a.d.e.z.a.n.d.e.r.a.r.t**

The Women's and Children's Hospital Foundation (WCH Foundation) improves the health and wellbeing outcomes for children and families under the care of the Women's and Children's Hospital and the broader Health Network.

The WCH Foundation Arts in Health program creates an interactive and vibrant hospital environment that improves the health and wellbeing of the hospital patients, their families and staff. Through art, play and music, we encourage curiosity and creativity and reduce the stress of being in hospital.

The Arts in Health Exhibition program provides a space away from the stresses of treatment to distract, entertain and inspire by improving the hospital 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: detail of *A Delicate Waddle*, ink on paper 2026



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