

POSTCARDS FROM HOME
CRESSIDE COLLETTE

15.02.19 - 07.03.19

“Postcards from Home”- a series of small woven tapestries that explore the notion of ‘home’ to an artist born in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) and transplanted to Australia at the age of 11.

Why is it that our earliest influences remain so potent in our lives? Everything that touches our senses as young children remains an indelible part of us, whether we choose to put it to one side during our evolution into adulthood or not.

Every time I return to the country of my birth my senses are awakened to that familiarity, no longer foreign but an essential part of my being. I smell the ripe pungence of the air on arrival. The warmth envelops me in its stifling embrace. I hear the accents that surround me and I slip into the sing song easily, tailoring my own speech patterns to identify with them. The tastes have never left me – in 55 years my own culinary practice pays homage to the spices and techniques that bind me to this island. And above all, all that I see is imprinted on my psyche as I hungrily seek out the visual treasure that informs my art practice. And so where is ‘home’ really? Those of us who have lived our lives separated from our birthplace dwell in limbo, longing to belong. I can feel Australian in many aspects of my life but not completely. I was planted in a different soil, grew and reached for the sun in a different climate, absorbed the culture and manners of a different society as I grew. It will always be part of me, and yet is lost to me as the country I knew as a child has evolved into something other.

Home is what you imagine it to be, make it to be. My hands shape it into existence through the one constant that cannot be changed, the natural environment that speaks to the heart.

Cresside Collette, 2019



Weligama Garden I, 2017, Tapestry, 30cm x 30cm



Weligama Garden II, 2019, Tapestry, 30cm x 39cm



Paddies near Hanguranketha, 2018, Tapestry, 33.5cm x 50cm



Digana View, 2011, Tapestry (woven en plein air), 17.5cm x 8.5cm



Yala, 2018, Tapestry, 38cm x 31cm (x2) & 38cm x 29cm



Kalpitiya View, 2017, Tapestry, 30cm x 30cm



Kalpitiya Lagoon and Sea, 2017, Tapestry, 27cm x 59cm



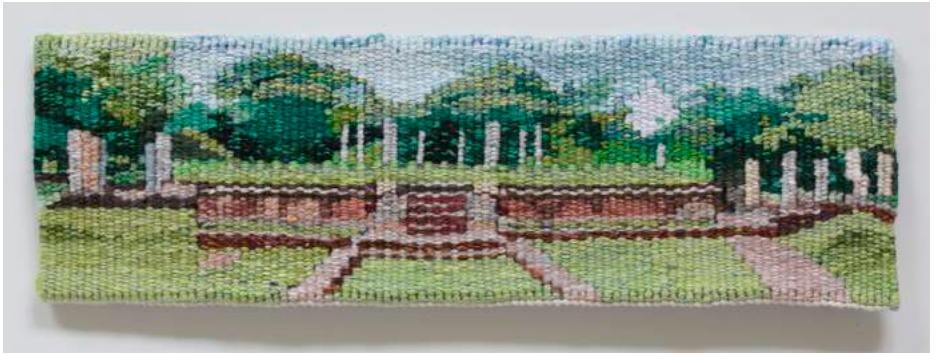
Kalpitiya, 2011, Tapestry (woven en plein air), 11cm x 19cm



Garden near Weligama, 2011, Tapestry (woven en plein air), 11cm x 18.5cm



Brief Garden, 2013, Tapestry (woven en plein air), 11cm x 20cm



The Western Monasteries - Anuradhapura II, 2018, Tapestry, 9cm x 28cm



The Western Monasteries - Anuradhapura I, 2017, Tapestry, 9cm x 58cm



Kaludiya Pokuna, 2017, Tapestry, 30cm x 30cm

CRESSIDE COLLETTE b.1950

Education

2003	Master of Fine Arts (by Research), Monash University, Melbourne
1998	Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art), Honours in Tapestry, Monash University
1980 – 81	Postgraduate studies, Tapestry Department, Edinburgh College of Art
1970	Diploma of Graphic Art, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

Solo Exhibitions

2015	Woven Worlds: Ten years of 'en plein air' tapestries, Ararat Regional Gallery, Victoria (a Manningham Gallery Touring exhibition)
2014	Woven Worlds: Ten years of 'en plein air' tapestries, Manningham Art Gallery, Doncaster, Melbourne, Victoria
2008	A Month At Bundanon: en plein air tapestries and drawings by Cresside Collette, Whitehorse Art Space, Box Hill, Melbourne The Drill Hall Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra.
2006	A Month At Bundanon: en plein air tapestries and drawings by Cresside Collette, Chapel Galleries, Chapel off Chapel, Prahran, Victoria, Australia
2005	Material Bodies: tapestries and drawings, Ararat Regional Art Gallery, Ararat Victoria, Australia
2004	Material Bodies: tapestries and drawings, Maroondah Art Gallery, Ringwood, Victoria, Australia
1994	The Inner landscape, Ararat Regional Art Gallery, Ararat, Victoria, Australia
1991	Tapestries and drawings, Reflections gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
1987	Cresside Collette: Embroideries and Tapestries, Victorian Tapestry Workshop, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
1971	Cresside Collette: Embroidered Wallhangings, Realities Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Group Exhibitions

2015, 2017	Kate Derum Award for Tapestry, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Honourable mention.
2013	Beyond the city: Art from the suburban studio, Deakin University Gallery, Melbourne
2013	Sensorial Loop - 1st Tamworth Textile Triennale, Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery, QLD, Manly Art Gallery, NSW, Ararat Regional Art Gallery, Victoria
2012	Real Nowhere Land, Manningham Gallery, Doncaster, Melbourne
2012	Sensorial Loop - 1st Tamworth Textile Triennale, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne, Goulburn Regional Gallery NSW, Manning Regional Gallery, Taree, NSW, Albury Art Gallery, NSW, Broken Hill Regional Gallery, NSW, Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery, QLD, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, NSW, Ararat Regional Art Gallery, Vic.
2011	Sensorial Loop - 1st Tamworth Textile Triennale, Tamworth Regional Gallery, NSW.
2011, 2013, 2017	Wangaratta Textile Design Award, Wangaratta Exhibitions Gallery, Vic.
2010	About Time, Australian Studio Tapestry 1975 - 2005 Ararat Regional Art Gallery and Regional Galleries around Victoria
2010	Women's Salon 2010: Place and Belonging, Counihan Gallery, Brunswick
2009	Inaugural Wangaratta Textile Design Award, Wangaratta Exhibitions Gallery
2009	Summer Landscapes, Whitehorse Art Space, Box Hill, Melbourne
2006	Soft Centre, Yarra Sculpture Gallery, Melbourne Victoria, Australia
2003	Masters Examination Exhibition, Faculty Gallery, Monash University, Melbourne Vic.
2002	Teach It, Preach It, Do It, RMIT Staff Exhibition, RMIT, Brunswick Victoria, Australia
2001	Powder — The Controlled Space, Faculty Gallery, Monash University, Melbourne, Vic.
2000	Decade: Ten Years Of Tapestry At Monash, Faculty Gallery, Monash University, Vic.
2000	Knowing Bodies, Third Prospect Textile Biennial, Prospect Gallery, Adelaide, South Australia
1999	Exposure — Artists' Portraits of Artists, Linden Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
1997	The Tapestry Weavers, BC Gallery, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia
1993	The Tapestry Weavers, Craft Victoria Gallery, Craft Victoria, Melbourne Victoria, Australia
1988	World Weavers Wall, Gryphon Gallery, Melbourne University, Melbourne Victoria, Australia
1981	Miniature Textile Biennale, Ararat Regional Art Gallery, Ararat Victoria, Australia
1980/81	STAG 3: Scottish Tapestry Artists Group Exhibition, Edinburgh, Nottingham, London, UK
1980	Australian Weavers in Wool, Wool House, Melbourne, Australia; St James Gallery, David Jones Sydney, Australia; International Wool Secretariat, London, UK

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