



FRAN IFOULD'S PHOTOS COURTESY OF KELLY STURGISS.

MAIN STREET



Fran Ifould

For me it all started with painting murals with my daughter Bohie. She got a big job in Adelaide last winter and I went over and worked with her. We've also been doing other work and last Easter when I was painting murals I had a devil of a time trying to capture perspective.

I already had the idea of a main street show in the back of my mind and had started work on a book. My friend Marianne said, "you know that looks like a nice book, let's do a project together".

That's how the show came about and I welcomed the opportunity really to improve my perspectives. It's a great idea I think, to just record what's happening, so this work is a bit different for me. My work is usually much more environmental and conceptual, whereas these are quite graphic and architectural recreations of the main street really, they're just recordings. My next project is with the Southern Highlands Printmakers; it's called, 'Standing on the shoulders of ...'. Everybody who is involved with a



group has taken a deceased artist and is building a body of work on that artist's practice or their life ... something like that.

So, my work is on Christoph Altenburg, centring around the Iron Corroboree. So what I'm doing is making woodblock plates from poker work. That's where my journey is at the moment.



Marianne Courtenay

Fran had been doing some work on the old buildings in the street. She had made a book on dyed paper. I think the books are terrific, I love her use of the dyed paper. Then one day she said, "we should do an exhibition about the main street", and I sort of went, "oh, yeah, yeah that's a good idea."

And although I liked the idea, I have to say that drawing buildings isn't my thing. If you look at my body of work it's all about the natural world. My prints are about the world I live in, the trees, the small details of nature, and my installation work is using natural materials.

So to find myself faced with drawing buildings, even though I love the old buildings, was completely left field for me — which proved to be good, because it is always good to go on a journey that takes you somewhere else.

But I thought, I don't think I want to draw buildings, a lot of people draw buildings, so what else could I do? Robert, my partner, is a fine woodworker, so I thought, if I got him to do a little core block, maybe I could draw my idea on to the block. But when I did that I discovered that when I just had the one surface to draw on, it looked a little bit like a lolly tin.

I realised then that it is the verandahs and the details that give the buildings their character. So I thought, I am

going to have to do the projections and of course once I did that I was into making a model which is a really interesting journey because I have no background in model making.

I went to the model shop in Canberra

