

MEDIA RELEASE

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Beyond the Deckle @ the NEW Gallery

A new exhibition by Deloraine artist Carmel Burns combines a distinctly Asian aesthetic with a fascination with the texture of paper as an implicit aspect of art.

Beyond the Deckle opens at the University of Tasmania's NEW Gallery at Newnham on Friday 11; her eye-catching works are mainly oil-based ink on hand-made paper, some with gold and silver leaf.

Carmel often works with unusual hand-made papers, occasionally tearing and weaving them into compositions, or using collage to create broadly representational and non-figurative works.

"I'm increasingly interested in the texture and quality of the paper after some past projects on specially-commissioned hand-made paper," she said.

"The exhibition includes a progression of works done over time, with some of the more recent pieces made from fragments of specially-commissioned, hand-made paper adhered to canvas."

These works are a radical departure for Carmel Burns, whose original training was as a printer.

"I'm increasingly a painter using the process of screen printing," she said.

These works are abstract but in them is a sense of viewing a familiar landscape or scene; not actually but in the feeling they elicit. The paintings have been clearly influenced by the artist's travels to India, Turkey and especially Japan – the latter apparent in the fan shape of several of the works.

"I find that a beautiful way of exhibiting; it's a different way of looking at the work," Carmel said.

Beyond the Deckle will be exhibited until July 12.

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