**Artist Biography**

**DENISE SANDERS**

DENISE SANDERS was born in 1968 in Cheltenham Victoria but lived most of her childhood in Country Victoria. Art and creating has always been a passion. In 1988, she studied Bachelor of Art Design /Sculpture at RMIT Melbourne.

Moving to Drouin, Victoria, she married in 1997 and went on to have 4 children. In 1999, she decided to go back and renew her skills by studying a Diploma of Art Design / Ceramics at Chisholm Institute, Dandenong Campus.

Over a 20-year timeframe, Denise was kept very busy with family, Artwork has always been a passion but seldom exhibiting her creations. Some of her artworks were sold privately and occasionally through local markets. Over a time of experimenting with all mediums from clay, paper, inks and fabric, her love and skill with clay stood out. As her love for clay grew, she took the steps of acquiring a kiln, which enabled her to develop her own style and techniques.

Heavily influenced by nature, history and the inner character of either humans or animal, she often found herself incorporating found objects. Denise also enjoys Australia’s great bushland and the outback and would find many pieces of nature that she brought home, eventually becoming the artwork which was inspired by its story and shape.

Moving to Redland Bay in 2018, her love of the raw material encouraged Denise to join both the Redlands Creative Alliance and Yurara Art Society. This allowed her to meet other like-minded & creative people and invigorate her passion for the arts. Through persistent calls from those that see her work, she began exhibiting her craft publicly, which reaped the following recognition:

· 2018 – Redland Creative Alliance Popular Choice award “Reserved Seating” Popular Choice

· 2019 – Drouin Ficifolia Prize Winner “Catch of the Day”

· 2019 – Redland Creative Alliance Equal Popular Choice “Land Ahoy” Popular Choice

· 2019 – Quota Art Show “Pelican post” · 2019 – Brisbane EKKA “Best Pottery Exhibit”