**Artist Biography**

**MANDY ROE**

My birth country of Taiwan holds the world’s largest collections of traditional Chinese art and cultural pieces, saved from destruction by those fleeing to Taiwan to escape the culture revolution of 1966. There are over 15,000 official temples in Taiwan, depicting gods, folk heroes, animals, nature and the beauty of Earth.

As a child, visiting temples awakened the cultural and artistic threads connecting myself to my ancestors. The artworks entranced me as I wondered about the era, people, places and circumstances from which they were created.

Living in Taiwan under the ever-threatening shadow of China, in hopes of a better life, my family migrated to Australia when I was 14 years old.

Attending high school in Australia was a confronting experience. Art classes being where I felt most accepted and comfortable, dabbling across mediums and gaining interest and experience across wide aspects of visual and manual art forms.

In 2019 I joined my local pottery club to try-my-hand at ceramics, and found the medium engaging. My interior design and painting experiences added to my heritage foundation; as a ceramic artist I can freely express the transition between 2D artworks and 3D objects.

When practicing ceramics, though an Australian interpretation, I reflect on the imagery and the emotions associated with my childhood viewing of the masterful beauty of Chinese art works.

My current works are my first efforts toward the confluence of two themes; the ecological state of the Earth and I hope to channel more of the masterful artisanal spirits of my ancestors; a never-ending journey of observation, expression, learning and self-discovery.

**EDUCATION**

**Queensland College of Art, Griffith University 1998** Bachelor of Arts - Design Studies (Interior Design)

**Queensland University of Technology 1999** Graduate Diploma Interior Design

**EXHBITION / AWARDS**

1990’s – Ipswich Youth Art Award (painting)

2020 - 47th Muswellbrook Art Prize 2020 Finalist- Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre

2020 Biennial North Queensland Ceramic Awards Finalist- Perc Tucker Regional Gallery