**Artist Biography**

**May Sheppard**

**A R T I S T**

The bright light, the wide expansive skies and the changing colours of the sea, all help create in the ideas for many of my paintings.

**ABOUT MAY**

Born in England, after immigrating to New Zealand I attended the University of Fine Arts in Christchurch but did not take up a career as a painter. Realising I needed to earn a living; I became a graphic designer and eventually developed my own advertising agency with many high-profile clients. Throughout my career I also mentored many new people into my industry and helped to develop polytechnic curriculums in graphic art.

Throughout my career I retained my interest and practice as a painter, taught art and honed my skills as a fine artist. In Wellington I also taught drawing and painting with the Lower Hut Art Society and was a member of the NZ Academy of Fine Arts. With these organisations I exhibited on many occasions and sold many works throughout New Zealand.

In 2004 I came to Brisbane and have become involved with local art groups in the Redlands area, continuing to encourage others. Some of my interests for 10+ years have been organising and curating art exhibitions for Redland's Creative Alliance Inc. of which I am also President.

I currently exhibit artworks in Redland City with the Old Schoolhouse Gallery in Cleveland, Straddievarious Gallery, Raby Bay and the Grand View Hotel. I also exhibit my works in other local and national galleries and have sold my paintings throughout Australia and overseas.

Over the years I have explored many different mediums in my artistic endeavours. I love painting with acrylic and oils, assemblage, utilising photography and even producing small sculptures. I have sold many of my works and had commissions for new works.

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**Artist Biography (cont.)**

**EVENTS GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

1970s and 80s - Christchurch Art Gallery, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hut, New Zealand

2009 - 2019 - Old Schoolhouse gallery monthly exhibi1ons

2009 - 2012 - Queensland Wildlife Artists Society

2010 and 2011 - Salford Waters Redlands art show

2010 - Aveo Art Show in Cleveland

2011, 2013 - 2014 - Yurara Art Society Redland City, Qld.

2011 and 2012 - Redlands Spring Festival, Art Gallery and competition.

2011 most years to 2019 - Rotary Art Spectacular, Brisbane

2012 - Redland Art Gallery - Redlands Crea1ve Alliance Exhibition

2012 - Border Art Prize, Tweed River Art Gallery

**NSW EXHIBITIONS JOINTLY WITH HUSBAND PHIL ROBINSON**

2011, 13 - 2019 - Old Schoolhouse Gallery, Cleveland, Brisbane

**CURATORIAL & COMMUNITY PROJECTS (also displaying my works in these exhibitions)**

Each year of 2011 - 2019 - Redfest, Art Gallery and competition

Since 2009 to 2020 Chair of the Redlands Creative Alliance – an online group of Creative Ar1sts

2018 - Voted in to be the first President of the Redland’s Creative Alliance Incorporated

2013 - Coordinator for the Ignite Redlands Light Art Fes1val, Cleveland in June

2013 - Ignite Redlands Light Art Fes1val Organiser of an art show shown in the local performing arts centre in June and a light themed parade.

2014 every year to 2020- Curator for the Redlands Creative Alliance art show shown in the local Redland Performing Arts Centre RPAC

2014 - Curator for the Redlands Creative Alliance art show shown in the local Redlands Art Gallery 2017 - 2019 - Curator for the Redlands Creative Alliance art show shown in the Redlands Museum Dunn Art Gallery 2018 - Curator for the Redlands Creative Alliance art show at Myhorizons Capalaba 2018 - 2019 - Curator/Organiser for art market/gallery at Redfest Strawberry Spring Festival