


***nine wives***

Rebecca Ross	Carolyn V Watson
Simone Eisler	Dord Burrough
Sue-Ching Lascelles	Lucinda Wolber
Kristy Morgan	Dhana Merritt
Zoe Porter	

**Opening Night:** 20th April 2011, Wed, 6-9pm.  
**Exhibition Period:** 20th April - 7th May 2011

**Nine Lives Gallery**  
 5F Winn St., Fortitude Valley, QLD  
[www.ninelivesgallery.com](http://www.ninelivesgallery.com)



**NINE WIVES**  
**GROUP SHOW**

Artists: Rebecca Ross, Carolyn V Watson, Simone Eisler, Dord Burrough, Zoe Porter, Sue-Ching Lascelles, Kristy Morgan, Lucinda Wolber and Dhana Merritt.  
 Curated by Mariam Arcilla + Megan Cope.

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**Nine Lives Gallery**  
 5F Winn St. Fortitude Valley QLD  
<http://wehaveninelives.blogspot.com/>

*Hours*  
 Wednesday - Friday: 11am-5pm  
 Saturday - Sunday: 10am-3pm  
 Monday - Tuesday: Closed

## BLURB

Nine Wives is a concept show that transforms the gallery into a contemporary domestic environment where female notions and rituals are explored. For the theme, nine female Queensland artists were invited to create artworks that respond to one of nine rooms that make up a home. Spaces such as the dining room, study, nursery, kitchen and bedroom will be creatively appropriated through sculptural, new media and installation works.

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## NINE WIVES | ARTISTS

### SIMONE EISLER

Simone Eisler is a Brisbane based artist and has exhibited her work internationally in the Philippines, Indonesia, New York, Belgium and Paris and within Australia. Her diverse hybrid practice explores the relationship between the body and Nature. She is interested in the concepts of physical transformation, sexuality, species evolution and biodiversity within the overarching notion of a changing technological, and natural world.

Her work is focused on space, time, form and structure and she moves from large scale sculptural multi media installations through performative photographic works to individual sculptural objects that reference the notion of a life lost or an anthropomorphic presence and which are symbolically transformed or become new hybrid forms. Recent objects, made after a residency on the island of Gozo in Malta, continue her interest in the relationship between human and animal and the play with surface and materials, but also explore forms that have a more distant link to the human body through the use of shapes linked to worn clothing and the veil. Eisler's practice also covers drawing, painting, video and sound and she is well known for a wide range of public art works. During the last eight years she has received numerous commissions from private, local Council and State Government clients to respond to a variety of indoor gallery and site-specific outdoor environments.

In 2000 she was awarded a internship as part of the State Governments Young People and Public Art Mentorship program. In 2008 Eisler was selected along with Fiona Foley for an Expert Reference Group to review the Queensland Governments Art Built-n Policy. In 2007 her installation Anima Requiem – A Funerary Garden toured to Belgium, Paris and Melbourne. In 2009 she was commissioned to develop her major new installation The Armoured Forest for the Arc Biennial of Art in Brisbane. In 2010 Simone's solo exhibition New Skin – Old Ceremony was exhibited at Spiro Grace Art Rooms. Currently her work features in Nature Interrupted. Contemporary Australian Sculpture at the Redland Art Gallery. Future public commissions for 2011 include the Berlin Laughter Project at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin.

*"The ritual of the dressing table is transformed into a sensual and sexual palette where beauty's tools of trade themselves become sexualised fetish objects and fecund receptacles... and where latent desire becomes palpable."*

[www.simoneeisler.com](http://www.simoneeisler.com)

### CAROLYN V WATSON

Trained as painter my recent practice has focused upon the development of my sculptural techniques. By articulating animal forms in polymer clay, bone and bound felt this has allowed a further exploration of scale. My concerns still pursue themes of animals, hostility and the human response. Curator Jacqueline Houghton says: "Possessing a rare sensibility to both subject and process, Carolyn V Watson interprets meaning in the subtle, subliminal signals that betray intent and motivation. In a transference of body language, the animals she depicts become psychological portraits of flawed humanity. Something aware and knowing informs the gestures and expressions of these creatures bound by external circumstance and inner frailties." Recent achievements have included pre-selection in 2011 Moreton Bay Regional Awards 2D and 3D categories, 2010 Marie Ellis OAM drawing Prize, 2009 recipient of the Agendo acquisition Award . 2012 will see my first Solo show at Anthea Polson Art

*“Serve yourSELF. Take one half baked concept. Source assorted bundles of extra bendy armature wire. Twist up the schemata of and drape liberally with black felt. Allow ample time for hand stitching and stuffing approx (4weeks) Whilst fingers are cramped, begin chicken preparation. Boil three birds, and let the bones slip away. Use stock for multiple soups, and bake the bones at assorted temperatures, (This will all depend upon the desired colour.) Use a hint of Ebay. The head, neck, feet and cutlery will require a good strong pair of hands to bind into place, (Allocate approx 130hours for these integral aspects to gently form.) Set the table in a self-conscious manner, alluding to thoughts of time laboured training and the missionary position. Invite guests to a roast dinner of a childhood past.”*

[www.antheapolsonart.com.au](http://www.antheapolsonart.com.au)  
<http://carolynvawatson-scratchtwinemutterings.blogspot.com/>

## **KRISTY MORGAN**

Kristy Morgan is the artist and designer behind Ruby & Prankstar. Drawing on the mythical forces of nature and earthly elements she forges metals, cradles precious stones and sculpts leathers to create jewellery, accessories, garments, wearable art and ornamental pieces. Kristy's first love and primary medium is leather. She manipulates leathers, furs and skins, re-forming, hand dying and texturing each piece. Kristy draws on traditional metal-smithing techniques, molding organic objects and animal bones in various metals. Captivated by the rawness of rough uncut stones and crystal clusters, she often selects stones and designs the pieces to enhance and cradle their natural form.

*“That Sinking Feeling...Repeatedly instructed to cleanse and purify, with the latest anti-bacterial agents, the very space in which preparation and nourishment is ritualised for the self and loved ones. Inhibiting and obstructing growth, the Western hygiene fetish manifests a fixation with the sterilisation of the heart of the home.”*

<http://rubyandprankstar.blogspot.com/>

**Lucinda Wolber** is an Artist and Illustrator based in Brisbane. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art and Bachelor of Education (Secondary) at Griffith University in 2010 and is currently working as a high school teacher while making her art. Lucinda has been showing in various group shows in Brisbane since 2008 and had her first small solo exhibition in Melbourne in 2010. {  
lucindawolberart@carbonmade.com}

*“My drawings and dioramas are influenced by antique toys, fairytale illustration and tattoo design, using popular imagery to provoke thought in her viewers. In the works created for ‘Nine Wives’ I had drawn on my experiences as a 27 year old woman not yet ready for marriage or children.”*

## **REBECCA ROSS**

Rebecca Ross explores connections between spaces and form through intervention and mapping surfaces. She has completed a Masters of Fine Art and Bachelor of Arts (Visual Art) at Queensland University of Technology. As a recipient of Brisbane City Council Lord Mayor's Young and Emerging Artists' Fellowship in 2004, Ross began an exhibition practice that has seen her work exhibited at Metro Arts, Blindside Artist Run Space, Museum of Brisbane, Artisan, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, /Soapbox Gallery and Perth Institute of Contemporary Art. Significant public art commissions include Islands at Brisbane Mater Private Hospital and Points of Departure at Brisbane Royal Women's Hospital Busway. She has had international residencies in Wellington, New Zealand, Internazionale Scuola di Grafica, Venice, Italy and Gozo Contemporary in Malta. These residencies have fostered Ross's interest in topography and geography and acted as the catalyst for her current developments in mapping sites.

*“30 Titles draws on the object of books within the space of the study, employing adhesive vinyl to cover the books; a simple and somewhat domestic activity stereotypically seen to by mothers covering school books for their children. This act declares each book anonymous by concealing its' title and author, further exploring the notion of private space within the house. The use of adhesive vinyl to cover the books makes use of a medium that has a long association with my installation practice and asserts this ready-made material through its original purpose to protect and decorate books.”*

[www.rebeccaross.com](http://www.rebeccaross.com)

## **SUE-CHING LASCELLES**

The universe of Sue-Ching Lascelles is one which is both commonplace and out of place at the same time. She dreams like a juvenile delinquent of two separate worlds, a place where childhood obsessions are validated in the transition to adulthood. It's a universe where make-and-do marry the outlines of reality and then smudges those outlines a little bit, making it hard to tell where the ordinary ends and the extraordinary begins.

Following her studies in Visual Art at the University of Southern Queensland in 2000, Sue-Ching has worked as both a textile designer and graphic designer. She began to focus on her art practice 5 years ago when she became an artist-in-residence at Jugglers Art Space (Fortitude Valley). Sue-Ching has held six solo shows which has seen her installing her work into Platform in Melbourne and the Vault at Bundaberg Regional Arts Gallery. She was a participant in the Arc Biennial Art Walk in 2007, and more recently was selected to participate in SafARI, a fringe event which coincides with the Biennale of Sydney. Sue-Ching was a finalist of the Melbourne Textile Art Guild Annual Prize in 2007 and a semi-finalist in the Nescafe Big Break Awards in 2000.

*"Do girls poo? Well, yes of course they do. They can fart too. As ridiculous as it sounds, it is a known misconception (particularly among children) that girls, especially pretty ones, just don't. The bathroom is arguably the most private space in the home. Once the bathroom door is closed, one may wonder, but never questions what another may do in there. To a female, it's a kind of sanctum. We preen, groom, inspect and sometimes, yes, we do poos."*

## **DORD BURROUGH**

Dord Burrough is a young artist who has recently returned to Brisbane after living and working in Berlin over the past two years. Her paintings and drawings serve as documentation of everyday introspection and dreams. She is interested in ideas about emotional paths, hidden truths and psychedelic experiences. Although her work has playful aspects to it, there are also darker psychological undertones.

<http://www.dordburrough.blogspot.com>

*"These works revolve around the idea of the sun room as a place for reflection, contemplation and ritual; a place to remove oneself from the stresses of modern life and connect with the wonders of the universe and float down the long river of cosmic time."*

## **LUCINDA WOLBER**

Lucinda Wolber is an Artist and Illustrator based in Brisbane. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art and Bachelor of Education (Secondary) at Griffith University in 2010 and is currently working as a high school teacher while making her art. Lucinda has been showing in various group shows in Brisbane since 2008 and had her first small solo exhibition in Melbourne in 2010. Her drawings and dioramas are influenced by antique toys, fairytale illustration and tattoo design, using popular imagery to provoke thought in her viewers. In the works created for 'Nine Wives' Lucinda had drawn on her experiences as a 27 year old woman not yet ready for marriage or children. [www.lucindawolberart@carbonmade.com](http://www.lucindawolberart@carbonmade.com)

## **ZOE PORTER**

Zoe is a Brisbane based artist currently undertaking her final year of a Doctorate in Visual Art at the Queensland College of Art. She recently spent four months producing work in Tokyo, Japan as part of a research exchange program between Geidai University and Griffith University in 2010.

Zoe's practice is multi-disciplinary, exploring primarily drawing but which also shifts between painting, installation, performance and video. Her work concentrates on the uncanny and crossing the boundaries between the real and the imagined. Zoe has exhibited work regularly in Australia and overseas in both solo and group exhibitions. [www.zoetroper.blogspot.com](http://www.zoetroper.blogspot.com)

## **DHANA MERRITT**

Dhana Merritt is an installation artist, independent curator, arts writer and arts worker. She is currently exhibiting as artist/curator in Warm Glow, at Ryan Renshaw Gallery window space for Wandering Room ARI as part of their dollhouse 'residency'. She is also a studio artist at Level ARI, an editorial board member for Independent Press and Gallery Manager at IMA.

Lemon Fresh is the title of her installation for Nine Wives at Nine Lives, and also the scent of her current washing powder. Lemon Fresh takes inspiration from a recent trip to India where she encountered a community spirit within a public communal laundry. A striking contrast to an often isolating chore in a western domestic setting.

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## NINE WIVES | CURATORS

**Mariam Arcilla** was born in Singapore, and is a Gold Coast based curator and arts industry developer. She completed a Bachelor of Creative Arts and BA Honours degree at Griffith University, and has a background in project management, public relations and community arts. Mariam currently works as a Cultural Development Project Officer at Gold Coast City Council and is co-founder/co-director of rabbit+cocoon, a multi-arts precinct launching in 2011. In between she writes and researches for organizations, and curates or exhibits in galleries and artist-run spaces. Her community projects and collaborations have been featured in Art Monthly, White Pages, ABC TV, Metro Arts, Judith Wright Centre for Contemporary Arts, Gold Coast Bulletin, Courier Mail, Monster Children, Triple J Radio, fourthousand, Electrofringe and Naked City-Guide. Mariam previously co-established 19 KAREN Contemporary Artspace, and for two years as Gallery Director, facilitated its professional development programs, which included monthly exhibitions, artist talks and workshops. She also co-founded/directed 'tinygold,' an artist-run initiative that utilised alternative spaces to showcase the works of emerging local artists. <http://mariamarcilla.com/>

**Megan Cope** is an emerging Indigenous artist; environment, identity, mapping and decolonizing methodologies are a primary aspect of her practice. She is a descendant from the Quandamooka region (North Stradbroke Island) in South East QLD.

Megan has exhibited her works in the Koori Heritage Trust in Melbourne, City Gallery in Wellington & the ARC Biennial in Brisbane. In 2006 she had her works published in Gatherings II, She received the 'Highly Commended' in the GCIADA Award in 2008 and was also a finalist for the Clayton Utz Scholarship and Sunshine Coast Art Prize in 2009. She recently completed the NEWflames Artist in Residence in Cairns, FNQ. Megan has managed/directed several artist run projects including 'tinygold' and was the Creative Director of the Brisbane Artist Run Initiatives Festival 2010. <http://nutmegandhoney.blogspot.com/>

## NINE LIVES | GALLERY



Nine Lives is a gallery space in the heart of Brisbane's Fortitude Valley. We feature local, interstate and the odd international artist - all of whom have provided an assorted array of visual pleasures. Although we sell artworks that are priced at the lower end of the spectrum, there is definitely no correlation between price and quality. Our aim is to keep the prices for works down allowing people the chance to have original artworks from talented emerging contemporaries on their walls.

<http://wehaveninelives.blogspot.com/>