



Press Release

'Parallel Threads: Entangled Ends'

[Bristol Art Museum](#), 10 Wardwell Street Bristol, Rhode Island, USA 02809

December 8, 2024 – January 26, 2025

Headline option 1: Ipswich artists go global

Headline option 2: Ipswich artists on show in the USA

This bi-national visual arts exhibition showcases 11 artists from Ipswich, Australia and New England USA. The artist's work explore themes on the history of the textile industries in Ipswich, Australia and New England, USA. Co-curated by Dr Janis Hanley (Australia) and Deborah Baronas (USA), the exhibition highlights the rise and fall of the wool mills and industry in the two countries.

Hennie Cote, Angelina Martinez, Mieke den Otter, Lynda Flewell-Smith, Damaris Parker, Belinda Whitehouse, Carolyn Kerr, Annamaria Mays Vermeer, Kelly Nolan and Dorothy Walsh, are thrilled to have works exhibited in another former 'mill town' for an American audience. The artists work expresses their personal connections with the mills as former textile workers, pastoralists, fibre artists, and through family heritage.

Curator Dr Janis Hanley said it had been a huge task and not without challenges to organise the exhibition from Australia. 'Parallel Threads', and the 'Ipswich Threads' exhibition, the precursor held in 2023, had its origins in my doctoral research journey. It is great way to showcase this important Ipswich heritage, our amazing talented artists and their art on a world stage.'

Dr Hanley interviewed all the Ipswich artists and created short videos which will on display in the gallery alongside the exhibition. She said it had been 'a great pleasure interviewing each of the artists and drawing out a unique story connecting with Ipswich's woollen mill heritage and the global story of textile manufacturing.'

Multidisciplinary artist and curator Deborah Baronas was a former designer and creative director in the textile industry in the USA and Europe. Deborah was invited by Dr Hanley to spend 4 weeks in Ipswich in 2023 working with the local artists to create a body of work celebrating the legacy of Ipswich's wool mills. The resulting exhibition Ipswich Threads, held at the old fire station, featured original works by Deborah Baronas and local Ipswich artists, as well as mill artefacts and, upcycled pieces and eco-dyeing.

Dr Janis Hanley is a heritage consultant through her company, VisionDesign. She is also Resident Adjunct at Griffith University's Centre for Cultural and Social Research. Her doctoral research focused on Ipswich's Woollen Mill Heritage, and what heritage creates.



If you would like more information please contact:

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Youtube Parallel Threads: [Ipswich artist's interviews](#)

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Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a captivating bi-national exhibition that delves into the shared stories of mill workers from the U.S. and Australia, including workers' experiences with mill closures and reimagined futures. © Deborah Baronas



Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States such as workers' experiences, mill closures, the impact of such and possible futures. © Deborah Baronas



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<p>Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States such as workers’ experiences, mill closures, the impact of such and possible futures. © Deborah Baronas</p>	<p>Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States such as workers’ experiences, mill closures, the impact of such and possible futures. © Deborah Baronas</p>	<p>Dr Janis Hanley, Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States such as workers’ experiences, mill closures, the impact of such and possible futures. ©Christopher Hanley</p>
		
<p>Dr Janis Hanley, (Left)and Deborah Baronas (right) Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States such as workers’ experiences, mill closures, the impact of such and possible futures. ©Christopher Hanley</p>	<p>Dr Janis Hanley, (Left)and Deborah Baronas (right) Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States such as workers’ experiences, mill closures, the impact of such and possible futures.</p>	<p>Deborah Baronas (right) Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States . © Janis Hanley</p>



Hennie Cote, Trish Hoare and Janis Hanley with artists works packaged to send to the US. Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States .



Ipswich Artists Hennie Cote and Angelina Martinez's Brighton House for a planning meeting. Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States © Janis Hanley



Ipswich Artists Mieke den otter, Lynda Flewell-Smith, Annamaria Mays Vermeer and Carolyn Kerr being interviewed by Janis Hanley at Brighton House. Parallel Threads – Entangled Ends, a bi-national exhibition that explores the parallels and entanglements between Australia and the United States © Janis Hanley