

Born and resides in Sydney, Australia.

Artwork

Kathryn Skelsey's artwork investigates the intersections between art and medical science. Her primary media are watercolour painting and drawing, presented in the style of traditional medical illustration, however she also injects elements of other media to build the meaning and presence of her works; for example, photography, printing, digital imaging, sculpture and textiles. She often sources images from medical imaging technologies such as endoscopy, muscle biopsy, MRI and radiology.

History

During her early years Skelsey developed an interest and ability in both the arts and sciences, and subsequently her career has continued to explore the links between the two. She initially studied (1985-88) and pursued a career in Physiotherapy, working in many hospital and private practice settings, focussing on Orthopaedic, Women's Health and Paediatric Physiotherapy, and finally specialising in Metabolic Rehabilitation. Physiotherapy was always intended from the beginning to enable expression of Skelsey's desire to assist others, and to provide a stable financial and philosophical foundation for her art pursuits. Her experiences as both a therapist and patient have informed the health emphasis of her artwork, and ultimately strengthened her resolve to develop her artistic skills for purposeful employment towards enhancing the care and treatment of others. Skelsey was finally able to embark on studying a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the College of Fine Arts (UNSW), Sydney. This was undertaken on a part-time basis, while still working as a part-time Physiotherapist. The degree was completed at the end of 2006.

Future Directions

Skelsey intends to develop a freelance career as a Fine Artist and Medical Illustrator, while continuing her part-time Physiotherapy employment. She also plans to continue exploring the possibilities of public art (such as mural painting) and children's book illustration. Skelsey believes that her artistic and health careers balance and draw inspiration from one another, and she enjoys discovering the vast creativity, inspiration, instruction and order that each potentially possesses.