

Education Resource for Primary Schools

Sophie Carnell

SILENT SENTINELS

A herbarium of works in silver
focussing on the rare parts of
lunawanna-allonah | Bruny Island



About the Artist

Sophie Carnell was born in the UK and moved to Australia in the 1990s. She now lives on lunawanna-allonah | Bruny Island, Tasmania, working from her home studio. She is interested in our relationship with the natural environment, and uses precious metals, natural and found materials to make art.

About the Exhibition

In her exhibition, *Silent Sentinels*, Sophie Carnell portrays endangered plants of Bruny Island in silver. She explains: "I'm seeking to instil a sense of wonder and joy in the small and disregarded plants that our heavy feet have pushed to the very edge of existence."

The exhibition can be viewed at Hadley's Orient Hotel, 34 Murray Street Hobart, from 5 October – 5 December 2023, or experienced online at <https://www.hadleyshotel.com.au/sophie-carnell-silent-sentinels>

Activity

Find your own way to draw attention to an endangered plant where you live.

Use the Tasmanian Threatened Species website to find threatened species in your area. Search your area and scroll down to 'Plants'. Explore your garden and nearby parks and see if you can find any of the plants.

<https://www.threatenedspecieslink.tas.gov.au/Pages/Search.aspx>

You could:

sew

photograph

knit

paint

draw

animate

collage

stitch

sculpt

trace

with

watercolour

charcoal

felt

wool

acrylic paint

sticks

paper

cardboard

Outcome

Have a class exhibition to share your plant.


Send a photo of your class exhibition to Amy on
curator@hadleysartprize.com.au


Discussion Questions

- Why do you think Sophie chose silver?
- How do the plants look different being all in silver?
- Do you think the plants are the same size as in real life? If you think the artist has made them bigger or smaller, why do you think the change was made?
 - Have you seen any of these plants in real life?
 - Why do you think some of the plants are in boxes and glass domes?
- Does the exhibition make you want to learn more about endangered plants?

Curriculum Links

General capabilities

 Critical and Creative Thinking

 Sustainability

Foundation – Year 2

Use and experiment with different materials, techniques, technologies and processes to make artworks (ACAVAM107)

Create and display artworks to communicate ideas to an audience (ACAVAM108)

Years 3&4

Use materials, techniques and processes to explore visual conventions when making artworks (ACAVAM111)

Present artworks and describe how they have used visual conventions to represent their ideas (ACAVAM112)

Years 5&6

Develop and apply techniques and processes when making their artworks (ACAVAM115)

Plan the display of artworks to enhance their meaning for an audience (ACAVAM116)