

Catalogue

28 September - 12 October 2019

Big Fat Smile Gallery

1/98 Railway St, Corrimal, NSW 2518, Australia



aussie books
for zim

Exhibition Sponsors and Partners (in Alphabetical Order)

This exhibition is supported and sponsored by many generous souls.
Thank you.

Big Fat Smile
Booth Signs
Knit for Life
misslicko (Fiona Hudson)
Notonos Global

And ... many many kind hearted volunteers particularly Molly Duff and
Dave Elkan Gomurah.

Tariro | Journey of Hope

Tariro means *hope* in the Shona language. It is a theme chosen by the Founder and CEO of Aussie Books for Zim, Dr Alfred Chidembo.

At Aussie Books for Zim, we experience hope everyday - through the smile of the students who we are supporting in rural Zimbabwe, the support of our volunteers, the generosity of our sponsors and partners and the transformative power of books.

We are forever grateful for having you with us on this life-changing journey. It is indeed a journey of hope.

It is *Tariro*.

Dr Suzi Chen
Exhibition Curator





Kawondera



Tadiwa Kunzekweguta

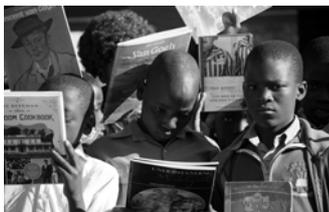
Journey of Hope, 2019

Digital photography

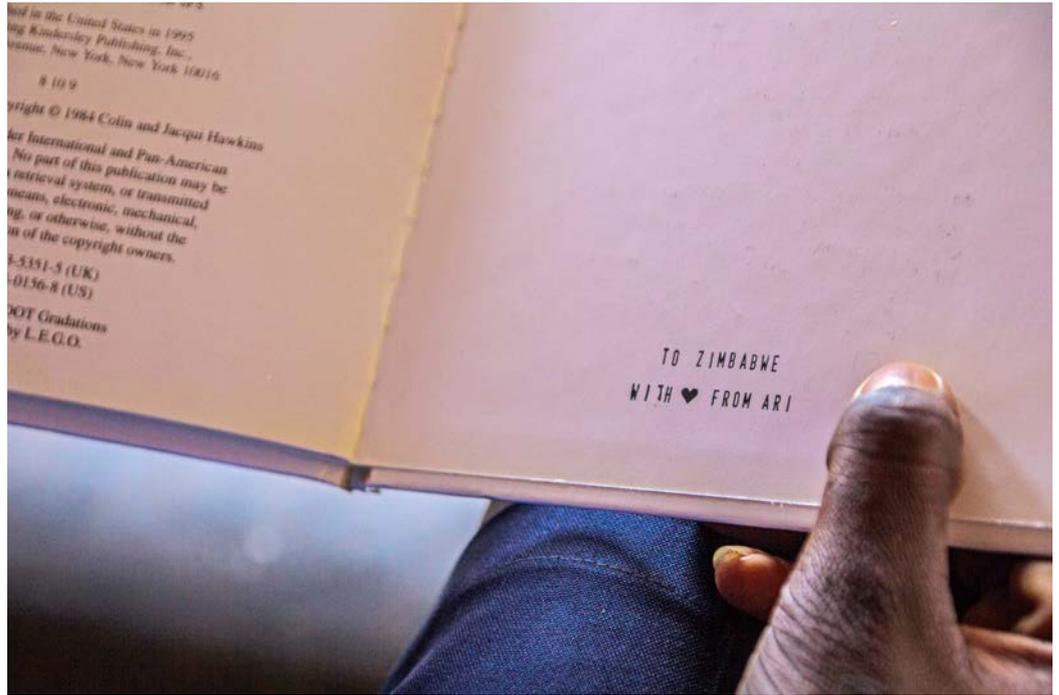
A selection of photographic images from Aussie Books for Zim's July visit to Zimbabwe forms the basis of the Tariro | Journey of Hope Exhibition. This collection documents book ceremonies, which took place in Kawondera, Chinembiri, Gert Nel and Ntepe communities in Zimbabwe.

Commissioned by Aussie Books for Zim, 2019





Gert Nel





Jessie Bleakley

Captured Love, 2019

Fabric including wet and needle felted wool felt
100 x 60 cm
\$450

This piece was created as a representation of the love shown to me after my mum passed away through flowers. Rather than letting the flowers simply wilt, I pressed them and began an artwork.

The flowers and leaves can be seen captured within the fabric alongside my thoughts written during this time. The artwork is a culmination of processes including felting, free motion machine embroidery and was created with many tears and evolves and also depicts the transition from grief to remembering joyous occasions and the hope of a new unimagined future.



Jessie Bleakley

Second Chance, 2019

Steel wire and rescued book pages from a damaged book, wax, metallic thread, aluminum drink cans
40 x 30 cm
Auction

This piece was created using a damaged book destined to be thrown away. It is my own interpretation of a lantern similar to those used in the Japanese light festival Tōrō nagashi to transport the souls of those loved ones who had passed away into another life. By stretching the book pages to their materialistic limits, I have created something new that explores the fragility and delicacy of life. The traditional visual representations of sadness and grief the teardrop shape features heavily throughout the piece, although they remain well camouflaged and work alongside the design to transition into something new and beautiful.



Naomi Ullmann

Seaward, 2017/2018

Oil on linen canvas
70 x 90 cm
\$2800

Seaward represents a journey of hope, however dangerous, for a new, safe beginning. It recalls not only my parents' voyage after WWII, but also the current movement of refugees across the globe.



Amelia Hope Bennett

Dare to Dream, 2019

Pen and water colour on paper
40 x 30 cm
\$200

The picture shows a kangaroo with a love of learning. The kangaroo wants to be an astronaut. Books help you to become anything you want. Learning makes us feel joyful.



Rumbidzwaisho Chirara

Journey to Your Dream, 2019

Digital Image of a drawing
29.7 x 42 cm

The artwork is divided into two parts. On one side there is a young girl and on the other side is the older version of that same girl. There are little hints of details in the background.

The story is about a girl who faces challenges in life but remains hopeful and achieves her dream of becoming an aeronautical engineer. This relates to the exhibition theme, Journey of Hope, in the sense that despite all that happened, the young girl remained with a positive mindset and it led to her success.



Joné Haesslich

Learning in Action, 2019

Digital photography
59.4 x 84.1 cm & 42 x 59.4 cm

“The uniforms made them feel so confident” were the words penned by Kariega Foundation’s community-coordinator, Nomawethu Ngangqu. Nomawethu’s letter beautifully describes the sentiment on the day that the locally manufactured (South Africa) netball uniforms were delivered.

The photographer, Joné Haesslich says: “Excitement, pride and happiness were written on their beautiful faces.” Andy Radice, Inpower Community’s president says: “This story shows the journey of how hope can be transformed into actions, resulting in tangible outcomes.”



Kariega Foundation, Inpower Community’s local partner, believes that such projects are crucial in building personal skill sets in local communities increasing the likelihood of success in work and life.

Commissioned by Inpower Community, 2019



Carly Burns

Tribe, 2019

Felt tip pen on paper, framed
29.7 x 21 cm
\$180

True education comes from acknowledging, respecting and embracing culture and our history, despite how we may live our own lives today. Intertwining the customs and beliefs of our forefathers with the technological advances and living of today becomes inherent in creating a rounded society.



Carly Burns

From Small Things, 2019

Felt tip pen on paper, framed
20 x 20 cm
\$150

It is through the eyes of children which real hope can be found. Pure and innocent, it is the small things that can conjure a smile and inspire a change and set a lifelong track of behaviours.

From the beginning we can educate our children to create a positive impact on the world or a negative one.



JCI Australia

Community Banner, 2018

Canvas
92 x 300 cm

A simple community banner that is filled with support and well wishes from members of JCI Australia to communities in Zimbabwe.

Exhibiting Artists / Organisations in Alphabetical Order

Amelia Hope
BENNETT

Amelia is a 9 year old student at Cedars Christian College. She loves drawing. She draws imaginative characters in all shapes and sizes.

Drawing is Amelia's passion.

Jessie
BLEAKLEY

Based in Melbourne, I am an artist who is currently experimenting in a variety of mediums including metal, wood, glass and textiles. I'm particularly interested in exploring emotions and their representation as sculptural forms as well as sculptural investigations of natural elements such as leaves, moss and fungi and the relationships between these elements and their hosts.

Carly
BURNS

I am an Illawarra local who is inspired by human emotion. My work is inspired by photography of real people in moments of life. I like to capture the positive and negative in black and whites, and sometimes capture a glimmer of colour.

A communication designer and marketer by day, I am an artist after hours. This is where I find time for myself to relax and decompress and allow my inner feelings out on to the canvas or paper.

Rumbidzwaiishe
CHIRARA

Rumbidzwaiishe is a practising artist who was born in Harare, Zimbabwe. She is currently a 15-year-old and is taking up art for her O-level Cambridge exams next year. At the age of 14, she exhibited her artwork at The Annual Wild Geese Art Festival and was recognised as an artist among many older, accomplished artists. She enjoys working with ink and continues to practise using other media and hopes to soon be a world recognised artist.

JCI
AUSTRALIA

JCI Australia is a membership-based, not-for-profit organisation. It is part of a global network of more than 200,000 young people aged 18-40, which is present in more than 100 countries.

JCI members focus on grassroots actions, professional and personal development opportunities that help people, communities and the world. As such, JCI Australia is a proud supporter of Aussie Books for Zim.

Tadiwa
KUNZEKWEGUTA

Based in Zimbabwe, Tadiwa is a talented photographer. Having been born with dwarfism, Tadiwa has a unique perspective to his photography, which allows him to tell stories in a way that has never been seen before. Through his company Siyano Photography, Tadiwa focuses most of his work on nature photography, telling stories through everyday lives.

Tadiwa was commissioned to document Aussie Books for Zim's recent trip in Zimbabwe.

Andy
RADICE

Representing Inspower Community™, Andy Radice is the President and Founder of the Swiss charity established almost 3 years ago. Andy currently resides in Brisbane and uses his banking and finance background to better communities around the world with a string focus in South Africa.

Andy is passionate about local empowerment and entrepreneurship, resulting in the conception of his project: micro-loans with 0% interest for African entrepreneurs.

Andy is also the CEO of a newly established Australian-based social enterprise travel company Be a Local Experiences, which aims to create a sustainable way to support the communities. Be a Local Experiences will give the opportunity to everyone to experience the real Africa while supporting local communities in an ethical manner.

Naomi
ULLMANN

Naomi holds a Masters of Fine Arts from the University of Western Sydney, a Bachelor of Visual Arts from the City Art Institute (COFA), University of NSW and a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Comparative Sociology Macquarie University.

Her work has been included in numerous curated group shows and she has been a finalist in the Archibald , Sulman , Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize and the Portia Geach Memorial Art Prize.