



BEST AFTER | 30 August – 14 September 2018

Liz Butler + Renate Nisi + Cynthia Schwertsik

BEST AFTER

Liz, Cynthia and Renate: three art practices. As we meet we intuit a kinship.

And so we begin our conversations. We circle a common core, try to name its qualities, find words for the wordless makings that inhabit our imaginations and our studios.

We resonate with our surroundings in particular ways:

Liz Butler has spent many years travelling to remote areas of SA and spending time in indigenous communities. In response to this experience, her work is of the land and can be seen as a dialogue with its surface patterns, whilst also acknowledging and respecting that which lies beneath, unseen. Leaning toward combinations of natural and artificial materials, she pursues experimental printmaking, digital imaging, video, sculpture and installation.

Cynthia Schwertsik's background is in dance. Consequently, performance is a key element of her art practice in which she challenges the gap between the experience of physicality, movement and appearance. Her 'landscape' is composed of the marks left by encounters with everyday objects in particular places. Sculptural installations and photographic images are representational memories of contemporary landscapes – works done in collaboration with photographer Jennifer Hofmann.



Renate Nisi calls herself a maker and loves the bodily interaction with matter. She often employs the universal forms of life's processes as exemplified in cellular transactions and branching growth. She holds that such sculptural structures have the power to induce embodied knowing of the commonalities we share with all living organisms. The process of 'grafting' becomes a metaphorical act about the interconnectedness in our ecosphere.

Within these affinities of our individual ways, we share a concern for the sustainability of our environment, and along with this, a preference for salvaged materials, be they natural or manmade. We enjoy the richness afforded by previous histories of object use, as well as by material deterioration. We fancy we continue this ongoing process by giving new readings to old remains. We do think them BEST AFTER their 'expiry date'!