

Silver Leaf Art Box warmly invites you to

WARREN COOKE

Convergence

Opening Friday 1 March 6 - 8 pm

with music by Sam O'Connell

2 - 17 March 2019



Warren Cooke is a mid career artist based on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula. Prior to this Cooke lived in Melbourne where he was Workshop Manager at the Australian Print Workshop in conjunction with the pursuit of his art practice. This year he is a finalist in the Burnie Print prize. Cooke has lived, surfed and created work in Balnarring for the last ten years, drawing his inspiration from the local coast. Recently, with an investment in a small boat, Cooke's work has shifted viewpoint, from looking out to sea, to looking back towards land from the perspective of the water.

This shift in perspective perpetuates an ongoing fascination with a threshold – the dynamic space where land and sea intersect. This energy-filled space is alive with movement and sound. The latest body of work extends the *Land and Sea* series that began in 2016, but here the picture plane is consistently composed of three elements – earth, water and air. The interplay between these forces illuminates the different moods and atmospheres that Cooke translates from this coastal region.

Aside from two exquisite pen and ink drawings, the works in the exhibition are woodcut prints. Cooke says of his practice "I source the timber from discarded items in my neighbourhood. I enjoy lending these timbers a new life, their grain and random marks become a serendipitous part of the work. The printmaking process is imbued with surprise, unlike drawing which is very direct and immediate, printmaking has many steps, which often produce unpredicted effects."

Cooke's woodcut prints are multi-layered with colour, the layers building as each impression is painstakingly hand printed and more sections of the wood block are carved away. This gives the work a complexity of depth and presence. The majority of the pieces in this exhibition are unique state works, capturing a moment mid process, creating fascinating insights into both the mind of the artist and the woodcut medium.

Open weekends 11am - 4pm & by appointment
For further information please contact Penelope 0422 132 525

Image: *Land & sea #34 (Tortoise Head)* 2018, woodcut, 56 x 45 cm, unique state

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