

Emerging 2013, Luke Shelley (Highly Commended) Gosford Regional Gallery

Artist statement

‘Elements and Apparatus’

Currently in progress is an attempt to record the elements of Wind, and Water. Through trials and concept, and inspiration from scientific recording devices, I decided to construct crude machines, or ‘apparatus’ with the ability to record the constant shifts in these elemental forces. The apparatus are constructed in the studio from materials that have been collected from central coast foreshores. The materials used are of natural (timber, driftwood, feather, etc) and human origin (bottles, fishing line, foam). Once constructed the apparatus were returned to the beaches/foreshores and assembled, as site specific installations with the ability to record on paper marks and movement created by the elements of their origin. I believe these marks contain an organic spontaneity and aesthetic of which could not be matched or replicated by human hand.

The body of work, ‘Elements and Apparatus’, is a documentation of the development of collaborative drawing concepts, between the coastal elements and my artistic processes, resulting in an installation of ‘successful results, concept drawings, and actual apparatus’. The audience is invited to establish a visual engagement between these apparatus and associated drawings.

Judges comments (Dr. Andrew Frost - Art critic, writer, lecturer, and broadcaster)

“Luke Shelley’s Elements and Apparatus is an impressive series of works that confidently execute process and outcome in the drawings and sculptures. I was very impressed with this work and asked that it be Highly Commended as encouragement for the future.”

NOELLA LOPEZ GALLERY 2014