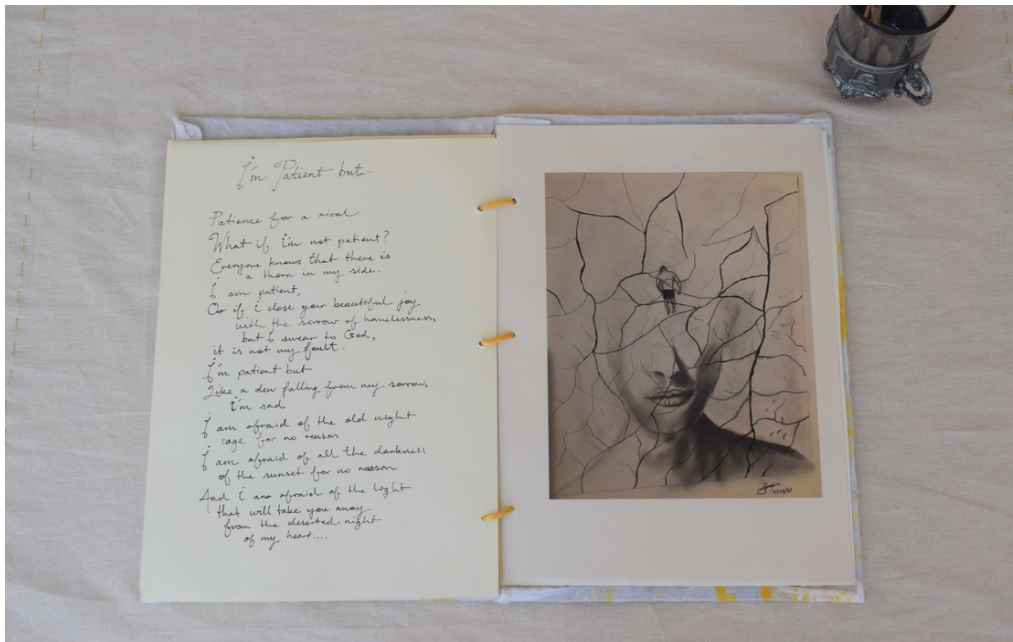
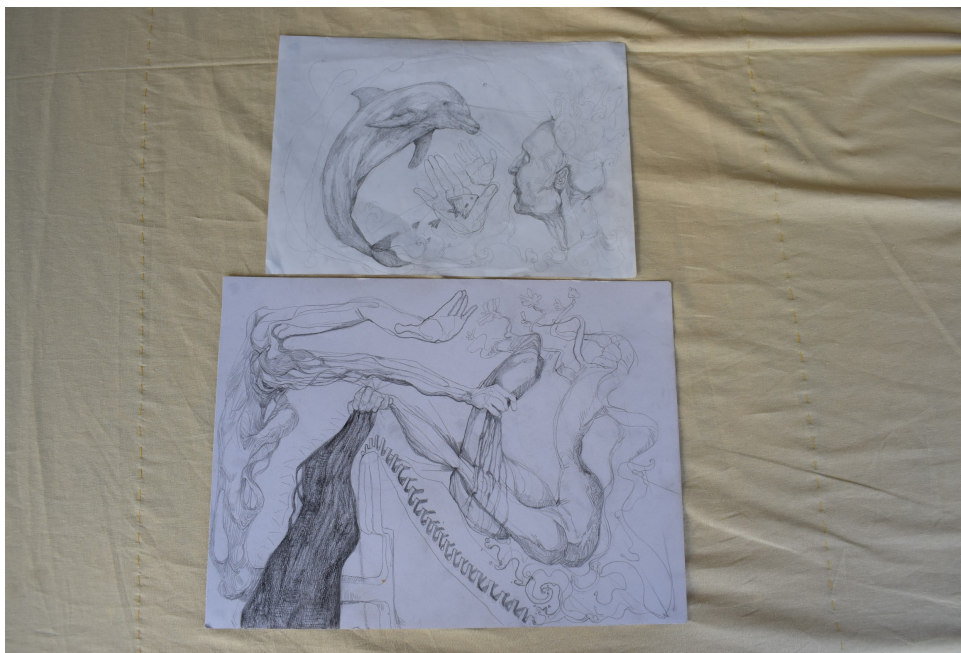


ARTWORKS BY RSM ARTS COLLECTIVE



ARTWORK 1

This artwork is by Jalal, a visual artist and writer currently held in detention. Jalal is inspired by his father Kazem, who was an Arabic poet. He feels that his father's spirit is with him, inspires his art and has helped him continue to stay strong. He is currently held in detention, and has been there for more than 8 years.



ARTWORK 2

An artwork by Kit (@cyborgmeat), in response to Jalal's writing. Kit was inspired by the way Jalal's writing finds the beauty in pain. Kit is a Meanjin/Brisbane-based visual artist.



ARTWORK 3

This artwork is by Yahya, a visual artist from Iraq who is currently held in detention at Kangaroo Point. He is passionate about surrealism, and continues to draw within the confines of his holding room. Yahya describes his painting: "Al-Nahal is a painting that expresses the hell that is. We are the people."



ARTWORK 4

This artwork by Ilijana is a response to her relationship with Yahya. Ilijana (@ilijana.milutinovic) is a Serbian-Australian artist based in Meanjin/Brisbane. Initially

having mistaken that Yahya was being held in the maximum-security detention centre in Pinkenba, they met to her surprise at Yahya's window in the Kangaroo Point APOD. Unlike a small number of the refugee men held there, Yahya does not have balcony access. His view of the outside world is limited to a small barred window overlooking the side-street. Ilijana has painted a portrait of Yahya, and his window.



ARTWORK 5

This artwork is by Mori. Mori has made a motion graphic of this work, which can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/sMKdiYcqOug>

“My name is Mori, I'm a graphic designer. I left Iraq in 2013 in search of safety, but unfortunately, I am still in detention for the eighth year without any crime. I view the world only by my phone because the freedom for me has become difficult to get.”



ARTWORK 6

This artwork is a collaboration between Fazel and Lisa.

Fazel's name means "Scholarly". He is a mechanic from Ahwaz in South Iran. Fazel comes from a large family, all of whom still live in Ahwaz. Fazel spoke of his life before displacement; of the river Karun that runs through the city where he would walk and eat out with his friends. Fazel spoke of his job as a mechanic, building and making, and of how he loved his work. Fazel's favourite dishes are Omar and Alexander, and are the most delicious if they are cooked by his mother.

Fazel has been in detention for over 8 long years since he arrived by boat seeking political asylum. He spoke of his 3 years on Manus Island and the inhumane conditions he faced. He spoke of having his bike stolen and being attacked by locals, suffering a severe head injury that still impacts his memory now. He spoke of a rescue dog he looked after on the island, who he called Marshall.

While he used to build mechanics in real life, he now builds models pieced from recycled items he can find in detention. Fazel hopes and dreams for a life outside of detention, where he can work again and cook and share food in the community.

Lisa Kelly (@themoongallery) is a visual and mural artist. Her artwork is inspired by the experiences Fazel spoke about during their conversations.



ARTWORK 7

This artwork is a collaboration between Amin and Miri.

Amin Afravi works installing suspended ceilings, as a plumber, carpenter, electrician, and mechanic, he can help fix 99% of things that are broken. Even a broken soul. He believes that life is about helping people, to do the best we can as human beings. He came here from Ahwaz and he is currently detained, he has been locked up in detention for more than 8 years.

Miri Badger (@miri.badger) is a Brisbane Based figurative painter. Utilising a stylised colour pallet and assertively flat brushstrokes to render form, her subject matter stems from an investigation of uncanny human interaction and psyche. This is manifested in painted scenarios played out in ambiguous space. The amalgamation of seemingly mismatched objects and figures contributes an unusual mixture of pathos and eerie amusement in her paintings. In 2019 Badger (b.1996) graduated with Honours (1st class) in Fine Art at Queensland Collage of Art (Griffith University) and in 2017 from National Art School with a Bachelor of Fine Art.



ARTWORK 8

This artwork is a collaboration between Maeve Baker and someone who is currently held in detention.

Maeve Baker (@maevebkr) is a story-teller who creates animation, illustration and comics. Maeve tells stories which honour the beauty in the mundane, calm in loneliness and the surreal present in real life. Maeve uses organic shapes, bright colours and a balance of abstract and figurative imagery in her work. Maeve studied under artists and animators at the Queensland College of Art (Australia) and Volda University College (Norway) during her Bachelor of Animation before it's completion in 2017. Maeve's work has been published in Voiceworks Magazine, Going Down Swinging and QPAC Story Magazine. Maeve is based in Brisbane employed on freelance projects for clients across Australia.



ARTWORK 9

This artwork is by Rachel Monique Walker. This work is a move towards processing the strangeness, absurdity and surrealism of seeing refugee friends on the balcony just metres away during a protest at Kangaroo Point detention centre, and not being able to be free together. Like the sewn phrase that remains unfinished, the discomfort of this situation can't be neatly tied up or integrated. Becoming friends with some of the men inside the KP detention centre makes this absurdity even more pronounced.

Rachel is a Meanjin based artist of Anglo-Celtic descent and a creative workshop facilitator who helps others unlock their creativity through collage. In her own practice she takes coloured papers from fashion magazines and transforms them into affecting, tonal works. This collage extends her practice into fabric, another long-term beloved material.

PROJECT CONTRIBUTORS

Katrina Irawati Graham

Katrina Irawati Graham is a writer, director, playwright, facilitator and activist. She is a fierce, wise healer who celebrates her Indonesian-Australian heritage and champions representations of diversity. Although she writes in a range of genres, her true love is feminist horror.

Aleea Monsour

Aleea is a Lebanese Australian artist and community theatre practitioner from Brisbane, Queensland. She is passionate about the power of theatre and the arts as an agent for change and being able to engage with people from all walks of life. She is personally inspired to engage with the stories of communities and in particular the voices of women and young people in theatre and art.

Kirk Radunz

Kirk Radunz is an artist based in Meanjin/Brisbane and Gympie. They work variously with oil painting, animation, textiles and community participation.