



clare jaque vasquez weaving with paint

Clare Jaque Vasquez is an emerging Indigenous artist from Gomerioi/Kamilaroi Nation. She grew up in Sydney, then moved back on Country to a community in a small town near Tamworth. Clare now has a studio based on Bindal Country and transverse across Gurambilbarra (Wulgurukaba Country) in North Queensland.

Clare works in layers, painting or 'weaving' a subtle palette of acrylic paint and textural mediums into diverse motifs that dance across the canvas. Her style implies etching and scarring, yet is guided and navigated by Cultural stories, weaving practices and often contorted topographical map lines. She uses a range of art tools to weave and apply her uniquely concocted mediums. These tools include natural brushes, branches, sticks and palm tree fibres, which are specifically used to connect the works with Country.

Clare's methodology is time-consuming, taking up to 12 weeks to complete. This slow process of layering showcases her gentle, resilient nature, carefully turning a two-dimensional canvas into a sculptural painting. Her deliberate approach to creating art also protects and embeds her Cultural stories into the works

Clare's first solo exhibition, *Weaving with Paint*, specifically captures her stories and memories of being surrounded by three generations of Gomerioi/Kamilaroi women, navigating the complexities and journey of the modern world. *Weaving with Paint* takes viewers through a timeline of diverse memories and moments—including experiencing the effects of the multinational fast-food industry on Country and the roles of women as they traverse from community to cities. Clare gently encourages the viewer to think about the shifting roles between contemporary society and First Nations practices and how traditional practices have evolved to occur in the modern world.

"To me, baskets are what we would see as the modern-day handbag. I've captured different basket motifs in my work to demonstrate the unseen things we carry with us each day and the journey it takes us on... I want viewers to move and shuffle in the space to view works from different angles and from a close proximity. There's almost a dance that happens when viewers experience my work. They double-back for more and try to touch and connect. The contorted, raised topographical map lines appear different when a viewer is ready to see."

—Clare Jaque Vasquez



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ON DISPLAY 10 MARCH - 16 APRIL 2023

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image list:

Front: Clare Jaque Vasquez, *The common thread* (detail), 2022, Acrylic, oil and impasto on canvas, 195 x 195cm. Photograph: Amanda Galea.

Page 1: Clare Jaque Vasquez, *Brave new world 1* (detail), 2022, Acrylic, oil and impasto on canvas, 101 x 101cm. Photograph: Amanda Galea.

Page 2: Clare Jaque Vasquez, *Foundations* (detail), 2022, Acrylic, oil and impasto on canvas, 101 x 101cm. Photograph: Amanda Galea. | **Back:**

Clare Jaque Vasquez, *Brave new world 2* (detail), 2022, Acrylic, oil and impasto on canvas, 101 x 101cm. Photograph: Amanda Galea.

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408 FLINDERS ST, TOWNSVILLE

OPEN TUES - FRI 9AM - 5PM | SAT - SUN 9AM - 1PM

Umbrella respectfully acknowledges the Wulgurukaba of Gurambilbarra and Yunbenun and the surrounding groups of our region; Bindal, Gugu Badhan, Nywaigi, Warrgamay, Bandjin and Gudjal as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather, share and celebrate local creative practice. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the first people of Australia. They have never ceded sovereignty and remain strong in their enduring connection to land and Culture.

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