

# Cheerished memories



**ARTIST** Margaret Delahunty Spencer's four children are all grown up, but when they visit their grandma's house the first thing they do is wander to the fish pond and check in on the goldfish happily swimming there.

A childhood habit that stays with them, perhaps within the subconscious, reassuring and satisfying in its simplicity and routine.

This joy of childhood memories and experiences is captured by abstract painter Margaret in her latest exhibition at The Hive Gallery in Ocean Grove over Easter.

For the first time locally she joins forces with long-time collaborator Mary van den Broek, an experienced sculptor in bronze and steel for nearly 20 years, after she left her career in occupational therapy.

Together they have exhibited regularly in Ballarat where they reside and in Melbourne, exploring many themes.

Margaret has been represented by The Hive since its early days four-and-a-half years ago, and her abstract paintings that explore the gesture and mark making have been well received by the community.

With a degree in Fine Art from Federation University, Margaret has been working in art and design for more than 30 years, creating her own swimwear label, teaching, and always painting, with a style that rapidly evolves

as boundaries are pushed.

Mary received an honours degree in Fine Art in 2009, and a Masters of Fine Art from RMIT in 2014.

Her focus is around play, numbers and communication.

By working towards playing together in our world, she hopes we can achieve more than in isolation and fear of others.

Currently she is working on a sculptural commission for an exhibition on institutional child abuse incorporating the Loud Fence campaign, to be held at Ballarat Art Gallery and then touring child abuse hot spots around Australia.

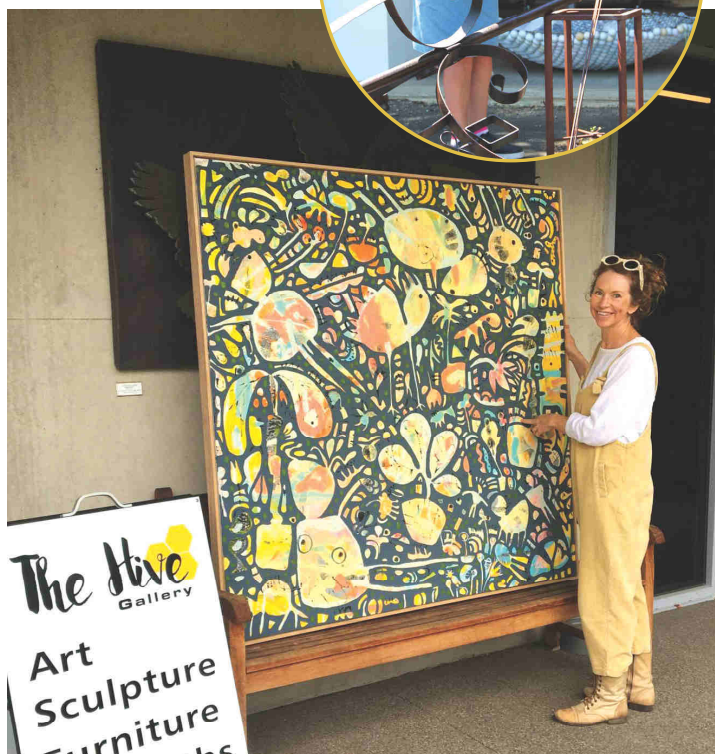
She is also working on a series of 'paper plane' works which will hopefully give flight to the idea that maybe the future is as secure as riding a paper plane.

Opening on Easter Saturday you can join the artists from 2-4pm at The Hive Gallery for "Memory Pool".

Here they review in paintings and sculpture, both indoor and outdoor, how we store memories, how those memories are unique to each of us, but some sentimentality and emotions are shared by many of us when we look back on cherished family time together and our childhoods.

The Exhibition runs for the month of April and is open Friday to Sunday, with the exception of Good Friday.

The Hive Gallery is at 41 Smithton Grove, Ocean Grove. Discover more at [thehiveoceangrove.com.au](http://thehiveoceangrove.com.au).



**INSET:** See Mary van den Broek's sculptures at The Hive Gallery this weekend. **MAIN:** Artist Margaret Delahunty Spencer captures the joy of childhood memories and experiences in her latest body of work.



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