



Cate Dudley: All our fellow creatures

Cate Dudley: Beloved earth



Cate Dudley: Drink from this heart

Cate Dudley: The Offering



Cate Dudley: We lay down and wept

Cate Dudley: *The Sorrow*



WHEN OUR WORLD CAUGHT FIRE at the end of 2019, we had just experienced an unprecedented year of high temperatures and drought and we and all our fellow creatures were at our most vulnerable.

The Gospers Mega Fire continued to burn for months, killing hundreds of thousands of creatures, reducing our land to ashes. This time was cruel and desperate and seemed to be never-ending. We who live in this wilderness were broken-hearted and struggled to know what to do to ease the pain and the suffering and to gradually heal.

Art making during the bush fires was, for me, an antidote to the overwhelming magnitude of what was happening and the accompanying non-stop news-watching.

when our world caught fire CATE DUDLEY



Cate Dudley: *Each life that leaves us*

It felt necessary for me to make a private place to be able to grieve for this incomprehensible loss. The process of drawing and journaling allowed me to feel who I am regardless of what was happening.

Visually articulating my experience going through the fires somehow connected me with the awareness of it being a shared pain. When the Earth is hurting we all hurt. It also allows connection to the love.

These are drypoints but I also draw and put a bit of watercolour on them... By developing the images into drypoints it adds another layer with the ritualistic elements of scratching and rubbing ink into a surface, then placing beautiful thick paper over it and wheeling it through the press.

These images are about being with that pain which also allows connection to the love.