

Girl in Shed

10 January – 29 May 2018



Sore Chest, Brave Face, Reclaimed Metal, 59 cm Diameter

'Girl in Shed' is an exhibition of sculpture that traces a journey through personal trauma, exploring themes such as loss, emotional pain, loneliness, anxiety, creativity, resolution, and healing towards ultimate freedom. In addition these works go some way toward articulating the degree to which environment and emotion interpenetrate: the land and the tools and materials used to work it becoming intimately connected to ongoing processes of emotional cultivation.

Artist Statement: Two years ago, during a traumatic event in my life, I came to the realisation that I needed to confront, rather than run from, my pain and my jagged emotions. In the act of confrontation that followed, I found my artistic voice and created this series of artworks. As such 'Girl in Shed' maps a journey of transformation through various stages: from the initial marital breakup itself, to

becoming a single mother, through feelings of failure, betrayal, loneliness and deep anxiety.

These works are raw and vulnerable as each sculpture focuses on a moment or a deep emotion that needed to be felt through in order to complete the healing process. The sculptures are constructed from reclaimed metal sourced from around the Yarra Valley and the Yarra Ranges: from my family farm, the local rubbish tip or from the side of the road. I use texture, colour and fastening methods to add depth to the story being told, while the conjunction of old and new materials enhances emotional impact.

Feel it. The thing that you don't want to feel. Feel it, and be free.

Nayyirah Waheed



The Lies, Reclaimed Metal, 57 cm Diameter

YERING
Station

