

Matters of the heart and disturbances of the psyche...

MYTHO-POETIC, an exhibition of artist books, collages and etchings by Glen Skien, offers viewers an immersive experience at [Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum](#) from [14 September - 26 October 2013](#).

Images of fish and birds, boats and houses, solitary figures and cryptic inscriptions appear frequently as myths and icons. These motifs are highly evocative of familiar places, lost encounters, life histories, and autobiographical chronicles.

"As with atlas cartographers, Skien's images of the past are fleeting, recuperated from lost and forgotten sources," says Dr Jess Berry, Lecturer, Queensland College of Art, Brisbane.

The exhibition interrogates the human condition with assemblages and installations that bring to life social histories and vexing questions of Australian identity, place and myth. Skien's etching practice is the platform for his work, with underlying narratives utilising the symbolic imagery of maps, postcards, books and ephemera.

Skien is highly respected in the national printmaking community and the delicacy and sensitivity of his images spark immediate affinity. Matters of the heart and disturbances of the psyche are his dark and transformative subtexts.

"In their reconfigured state, the original images become almost unrecognisable, echoing the way memory plays the game of Chinese whispers, obscured by what we know and see later. Thus, Skien mobilises his ghostly atlas of images, objects and texts to remind us that history is an apparition of the disappeared and the departed," says Berry.

The Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum are proud to welcome Skien back to Gladstone, after the success of the collective exhibition *Habitus* which featured his work in 2009.

Schedule of events:

Friday 27 September:

- *Floor Talk* with Glen Skien - 2pm
- *Artist Lecture* with Glen Skien - 5pm
- *Official Launch* of the exhibition by Mayor Gail Sellers - 6pm

Saturday 28 September:

- *Journal Stitch Binding Workshop* presented by Glen Skien - 9am - 5pm

MYTHO-POETIC is organised by Gympie Regional Gallery and toured by Museum & Gallery Services Queensland to 16 venues in all Australian States until mid-2016.

This project has been assisted by the Gordon Darling Foundation and the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

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