Shona Wilson is a contemporary Australian sculptor who uses found objects, bronze casting, ceramics, and natural materials to create representational 2D and 3D assemblages. Her work raises awareness about pollution that incorporates nature, humans, and culture combined. She became inspired to begin her work when she discovered that plastic particles are now found inside plankton, revealing how much of an influence mankind can have on nature. Much of the materials she collects from nature is dependent on the season and what is available.

**STRUCTURAL FRAME**

Where does your eye go first and why? Where does it go next?

What things are repeated?

How does the artist create a sense of eye movement?

How do the materials show her message?

**Gathering No. 7** (55 x 55 x 7 cm)
Feathers, wings, leaves, seedpods and fish egg carapace
Critical Study

Water Pollution in Illinois:
Illinois ranked 12th on a state-by-state list of most polluted waterways. Rivers, lakes, and streams just in the state of Illinois contain almost 9 million pounds of toxic waste. All of this pollution is due to storm water runoff, industrial facility discharge, littering, and agricultural pesticide runoff. Many of the chemicals covered in various studies have been linked to causing cancer as well as to potential reproductive and developmental problems in humans.

What do you think Shona Wilson is really trying to say in her sculptures? Why do you think this?

Shona Wilson’s works with the Cultural Frame to compose her artwork. She uses repetition to carry your eyes through the picture. She uses found and natural objects to create a statement. What do you think her statement is about?

Cultural frame:
With the increase of pollution Australia has seen an increase of rising ocean temperature, due to this many wildlife has become in danger. One of the many areas in danger is the Great Barrier Reef. Localized problems have aided in the destruction such as runoff pollution, and coastal port development too.

How has this work been influenced by economic or political factors?

What are the views that surround this artwork?


Shona Wilson Diatom #9, 2009
Norfolk pine, seedpods, roots
plastic38x102x4cm
Vocabulary

Assemblages: three-dimensional work made by combining different materials

Plankton: drifting organisms within oceans, seas, or bodies of fresh water, that include animals, algae or bacteria.

Repetition: the rhythm of visual movements of the elements (colors, shapes, lines, values, forms, spaces, and textures), similar to a musical beat. It can make an artwork seem active.

Radiant: Sending out multiple beams from a single centered point

Another Art Idea:
Stick pins into a foam board and create a radiating pattern with hemp, using beads strung onto the material.

Mandy Barker:
She focuses on the representation of material debris in the sea and more recently on the mass accumulation of plastic in the oceans. Her work is made up of found objects or garbage on the sea shore.

Cultural frame:
Combine and contrast the artist Shona Wilson and Mandy Barker. Look at their use of assemblage changes for each person. Is the message still the same or different?

Structural frame:
Compare and contrast the objects used in each of their works, what is similar what is different? (think about colors, and composition)

Websites: