

Contents

01	About
02	Drawing
03	Materials
05	Awards & Exhibitions
06	Recognition & Features
07	Portfolio
08	Commissions
09	Contact

About

"I choose my subjects like I choose my food: I'll have a little of everything!"

Candace Slager is a drawing artist living on Australia's sunny Gold Coast. She is best known for her diverse subjects and detailed works that catch the eye. Primarily working with colour pencil and graphite, Candace specialises in expressing realism through her technique.

Her art's ability to capture realistic detail and captivate and move emotions resulted in her piece 'This is not a drill' being announced the winner of the 2020 Art Lovers Australia Prize.



Candace's work is often inspired by something offbeat, situations of everyday life or from her travels. Some pieces tell a clear story, others allow the viewer to derive their own meaning and connection. Being unencumbered by set themes and subjects allows her to create something truly unique to the moment.

Like a lot of artists, Candace has been drawing since she was a child. She says, "Dad bought my first set of Derwent Artist colour pencils, and not long after, mum uncovered my masterpieces drawn on the underside of the family coffee table!"

Unfortunately, that didn't mean her career as an artist was set in stone. After finishing her schooling, she pursued a career in the corporate world, which meant she only created art as a pastime. After years in corporate life though, she took the opportunity to dedicate her time to drawing as a full time profession. She now spends time honing her skills and producing works she proudly shares.

Candace has been told she is "down-to-earth" in her creative approach and talents. She welcomes this description as she firmly believes art skills are attainable by anyone. "It takes dedication, hard work and practice, rather than wishful thinking and an artsy-fartsy smock!"

Drawing

Why drawing and not painting?

While drawing isn't perceived as "traditional" like painting for example, humans have been doing it for thousands of years.

While academics argue over whether oil or acrylic painting is "better", drawing artists have secretly known the humble pencil's potential to rival them as a fine art medium.

Truthfully, no single medium has the edge when it comes to quality or value. It really comes down to what YOU like and how the artist applies their skills.

Candace is thankful for the convenience and portability of drawing materials, which made it possible for her to continue drawing in her lunchbreak while working an office job.

Although she formerly painted, she now finds the slow meditative process of drawing more enjoyable. Not to mention that unlike paint, she doesn't get her clothes dirty!



Unlike painting, drawing errors are harder to correct. This is part of the artform. It means problem solving, taking time, and using strategic and deliberate movements to get a piece just right. The pencil's precision allows for small details which accumulate to produce something truly striking.

Creating deliciously detailed subjects with no more than a sharp millimetre of pencil to do the job is no easy feat. It requires many hours, sometimes weeks and months, to build up the pigment, particularly on a large scale.

My meticulous technique ensures the artwork has a depth of realism and can captivate its viewers.



Materials

A great drawing starts with great materials



Works of art are valuable, one-of-a-kind pieces that should be preserved at their original degree of quality for as long as possible. As a professional artist, Candace only use the highest quality archival materials available to ensure longevity.

Candace sources supplies from brands considered to be some of the oldest industrial companies in the world. They lead the way in manufacturing the highest quality art products and are valued internationally by professional artists.

This includes world renowned pencil manufacturers and paper producers. In fact, papers used include those from paper mills that produced paper Old Masters such as Monet, Van Gogh, Picasso and Dali used. They even produced paper for the 1493 Nuremburg Chronicle and works for Napoleon.

Many of the brands Candace use today are those I began her journey with 30 years ago. She feels privileged to now create contemporary art using materials from brands with such rich and extensive histories.

Coloured Pencil

Unique and on trend

Candace has been using coloured pencils for over 30 years. The approach to this medium is unique and takes time to perfect.

As one of the fastest growing mediums, coloured pencil is rising in popularity with professional artists, galleries and collectors. With ongoing innovation, they are capable of standing up against traditional painting mediums.

As demonstrated in Candace's work, it can be manipulated to give the appearance of paint, watercolour or even look as realistic as a photograph.



Graphite Pencil

Sometimes a poignant story is best told in the absence of colour

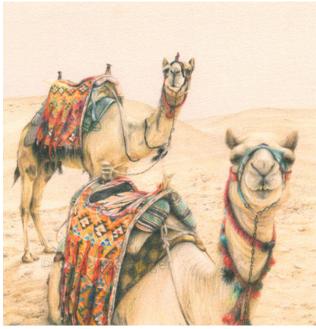
Candace has always been enamoured with the contrasting beauty of black and white art. She creates striking focused pieces using this timeless smoky, moody medium. These highly popular pieces offer her an opportunity to be a little looser with her style and techniques.

Finely graduated degrees of hardness allow for anything from the lightest wash of colour to the richest of carbon black.



Awards & Exhibitions





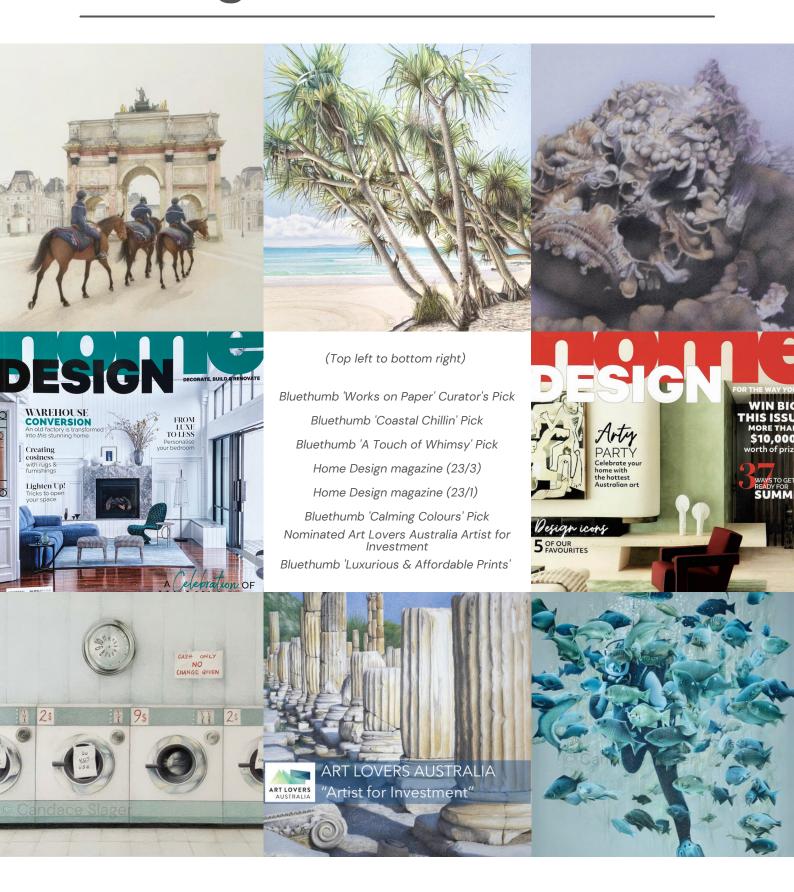
(Left) Art Lovers Australia 2020 Artist's Prize Winner - 'This is not a drill'

(Top right) Robina Community Centre Gallery Exhibit 2017 - 'Giza'

(Bottom right) Art Lovers Australia 2021 Artist's Prize Finalist: "Maestro'



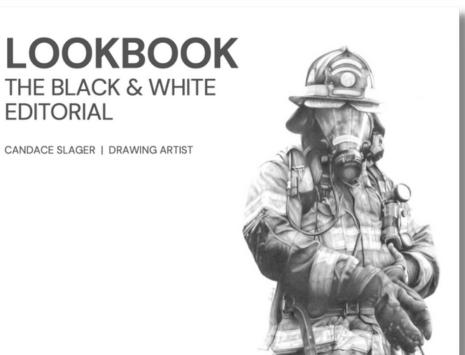
Recognition & Features



Portfolio

For a full portfolio of Candace's work visit **candaceslager.com** Lookbooks also available for preview.





Commissions

Please contact Candace for information regarding custom private or commercial commission artwork.



Contact



CANDACE SLAGER | DRAWING ARTIST

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Instagram | YouTube | Pinterest | Facebook