I'm an Adelaide artist who spent almost a decade in Birmingham, England (otherwise known as Brum). It was there that I established myself as a visual artist, exhibiting and selling my work under the name 'The Crafty Brum'. I used my illustration to connect with the city and express all that I loved about it. During this time, I also co-founded 'Moved' a collective, to bring together creatives from all over the world who had chosen to call Birmingham home. I coordinated three group exhibitions in this time.

I returned to Australia in December 2023 and I have been re-exploring my connection with my hometown as a visual artist and soon my business 'The Crafty Brum' is about to enter its 5<sup>th</sup> year of trading. My art style is forever evolving, I am a self-taught, mixed media artist who works with acrylic, watercolour, digital, lino, collage and fine line illustration. I also complete large scale works such as murals and window art.

My work is heavily influenced by the landmarks that make our city our homes and often contain a botanical element.

Seeing the world has sparked a real appreciation of how wonderful South Australia is and I have been reexploring my new connection with my hometown as a visual artist. I have enjoyed illustrating the locations I missed, those that spark fond memories and even new places which have popped up in the time I was away.

Retaining my business name 'The Crafty Brum' here in Adelaide has been a wonderful decision, it's my business origin story, a reflection of where my art journey began and has resonated with so many people who have connections to Birmingham and England. I like many others are lucky enough to call two cities home.

# **Professional Experience:**

**ARTIST/BUSINESS OWNER,** The Crafty Brum, 2020-present **ASSISTANT MANAGER,** Gorman, Burnside, 2024-present

### Education:

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 2013 – 2016 Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) TAFESA

2012 Diploma in Children's Services

# **Completed Programs:**

February 2021, *Prince's Trust Enterprise Course,* The Prince's Trust, Birmingham UK February 2022, *Headspace Program for Young Creatives,* Creative Alliance, Birmingham, UK

# Exhibitions:

September 2023 *'Moved'*, Group Exhibition (Co-founded and Coordinated), The Engine Room Digbeth, Birmingham, UK August 2023 *'Here We Are*,' RBSA(Royal Birmingham Society of Artists) Birmingham, UK thecraftybrum@gmail.com https://thecraftybrum.com/ https://www.instagram.com/thecraftybrum/

June 2023, 'Gallery Pop-Up,' Hockley Social Club, Birmingham, UK October 2023, 'Gallery Pop-Up,' Hockley Social Club, Birmingham, UK October 2023, 'Moved,' Group Exhibition (Co-founded and Coordinated), The Engine Room Digbeth, Birmingham, UK September-October 2022, 'Birmingham Open Studios,' Birmingham, UK September 2022, 'The Crafty Brum,' Solo Exhibition, Attic Brew Co, Bournville, UK

## Awards:

2025 Finalist '*Best Craft Innovation of the Year*'- We Are Creative Awards, Midlands, UK 2021 Finalist for '*Start-Up of the Year*'- Birmingham Awards, UK

# **Collaborative Projects:**

May 2023, 'Moved' The Library of Birmingham Installation, CASS Art, Birmingham, UK August 2022, '20 Year of CASS A Celebration of Art,' CASS Art, Birmingham, UK

## Stockists:

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery Shop, UK The Birmingham Botanical Gardens, UK Root 13 Shop, Kings Heath, Birmingham, UK

# **Commissions:**

September 2023, Mural, Wylde Green Train Station, Birmingham City Council, UK June 2023, Root 13 Shop Mural, Birmingham, UK

# **Print Media:**

I Choose Birmingham, "They Chose Birmingham," 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022, https://ichoosebirmingham.com/they-chose-birmingham

Birmingham Museums, "Meet Local Maker The Crafty Brum," 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022, https://shop.birminghammuseums.org.uk/blogs/news/meet-local-maker-the-crafty-brum

I Choose Birmingham, "Get Crafty," 2nd March 2022, https://ichoosebirmingham.com/get-crafty

J'AIME MAGAZINE, "Meet The Crafty Brum – a Midlands-based artist whose work spans the globe," 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021 https://jaimemagazine.com/meet-the-crafty-brum-a-midlands-based-artist-whose-work-spans-theglobe/