

## ***Fragments: A Virtual Environment***

**Tamika Grant-Iramu | 8 May – 6 June 2020**

Over the past year as I forged my professional practice, my work continued to draw on the complexity of nature from my immediate environment. I have travelled to places far and wide to find inspiration for my printmaking – one that is imbued with personal reflections but also connected to my Indigenous heritage.

This year, I had the opportunity to present my first solo show at Redland Regional Art Gallery. However, due to restrictions in response to COVID-19, this exhibition has been postponed, like many other events across the local and global arts sectors.

While our world has become smaller in terms of the spaces we can inhabit, we also find ourselves immersed in the online world of connection and participation. My reinvented first solo show—now titled, *Fragments: A Virtual Environment* and presented as an online exhibition on the Onespace Gallery website—offers a new space to connect with my audience, and to showcase a selected series of my most recent artworks. The works curated for this online showcase highlight the environments I have encountered, offering my impressions of localised natural worlds through the forum of this global digital realm.

Many of us have experienced emotional fulfilment from viewing or being physically present within natural environments. My connection to nature has never been greater than it is now, and I draw comfort from my relationship with the immediate environment during these times of self-isolation and social distancing.

Reflecting back on the places within Australia and overseas that I can no longer visit, I use the medium of print to capture my own impressions and experiences of three unique locations: Siem Reap, Cambodia; Haugesund, Norway; and the Redlands, Australia. Relief print carving is not simply used as a tool for visualising these environments but as a way of translating my visceral impressions as a traveller experiencing an environment for the first time.