

# Printmaking on Show at GCS Gallery

Matthew Wai

**R**uth Burgess, a leading artist in printmaking and woodcutting, will be showcasing her 50<sup>th</sup> exhibition at the Grace Cossington Smith (GCS) Gallery from 1<sup>st</sup> April – 8<sup>th</sup> May. “Ruth Burgess is a leading force in the Australian printmaking scene and we are fortunate to present her works. It is a dynamic exhibition that engages the viewer through its connection to music and science,” noted the Director of GCS Gallery.

The inspiration for her major work, *The Music of the Planets*, came from the discovery of the astronomer, Johannes Kepler, regarding the planetary motions and sound between planets. By consolidating the imagination from both a scientific point of view and Burgess’ artistic experience, she was able to create something multi-dimensional.

Ruth’s adventure into printmaking is an interesting one. After being nominated by the Australian Government for cultural exchanges, Ruth visited China nine times during the 1980s. Numerous trips to different provinces allowed Ruth to discover a variety of Eastern woodcutting techniques. “I love doing woodcut and that is because it is very tactile. I am very involved with the work myself as I don’t use machines. I use my hands, which is very much an Eastern tradition,” Ruth says. When speaking with Ruth, it is evident that she is excited for the upcoming showcase



Ruth Burgess, *The Music of the Planets* 1<sup>st</sup> April – 8<sup>th</sup> May at GCS Gallery in Wahroonga. The artist will be present 10<sup>th</sup> April between 2pm – 4pm.

of her works. “To be honest it is wonderful to be able to show the work, particularly have a physical audience – but in fact I also just love making the work,” she shares.

And just like any of us locals, one of Ruth’s favourite places is Ku-ring-gai National Park. “We built our house here 50 years ago and planted many bushes and rainforest trees so when we look out, there is a blanket of greenery. It is typical of the North Shore area – the beautiful trees and sandstone. I love Ku-ring-gai National Park and the fact we live in this marvellous botanical area.”

Ruth’s exhibition is undoubtedly a delight for the whole community.

