

The Extant Landscape, Eromanga Basin

Richard Randall Art Studio, Mt Cootha Botanic Gardens
Friday 30 November - Sunday 2 December 2012

[Alan Thomson](#)



Artist's Statement:

Many view our landscape from a distance. It is a harsh, yet beautiful environment; a balance of harmony, which is fascinating and intricate in its structure with colour in varying shades and vividness to be hold.

Impacted by the elements and life forms, its true essence is revealed when viewed at an intimate level. Organic shapes, patterns and textures reveal the ever changing metamorphosis of the landscape.

Intrinsically a part of our landscape and although veiled from our view, stunning gems of Qld Boulder Opal can be found. Often referred to as the 'Colour of the Soul' for their diverse colour and patterns, these are a source of admiration for their individuality and varied displays.

Influenced by these shapes, patterns and marks, which I have viewed for more than thirty years of living midst our landscape, my jewellery designs are an abstract interpretation of those observations.

It is these observations coupled with my passion for those colourful gems which form the basis of all my jewellery design. Combining these two elements I create jewellery that is balanced, colorful, texturally harmonious and organic in shape.

Artist's Biography:

Alan Thomson's passion for Australia's array of spectacular gems was a natural progression from a childhood spent fossicking in the gem fields with his father. After graduating from Sydney University in 1977, he travelled far western Queensland where he was smitten with the brilliant beauty of boulder opal. Turning his back on a career as a biochemist, he bought his first parcel of rough opal.

For more than thirty years Alan lived and worked in the tiny town of Quilpie located in the heart of Queensland's boulder opal country. Mining, cutting, polishing, then finally setting the stone in distinctive bold designs earned him the reputation of being Australia's premier opal artisan.

Today the Alan Thomson name is synonymous with contemporary and evocative jewellery which is truly Australian. Capturing the essence of Australia's natural beauty, Alan draws on a wealth of sensations and experiences, which he intuitively combines with Kimberly diamonds, Broome Pearls and Qld sapphire into his opal jewellery designs.

Catalogue of works:



BLOOM

Sterling Silver pendant set with 4 red Qld Boulder Opals

Pendant size: 32 x 52 mm

Necklace: Green coloured titanium mesh chain

Price \$800



CONNECT

Sterling silver filigree & offset black jade heart pendent inlayed with Qld boulder opal

Pendent size: 34 x 63 mm

Necklace: Black neoprene choker

Price \$980



Diamantina Night

Sterling silver and Lightning Ridge black opal pendent/ bracelet

Pendent size: 44 x 32 mm

Necklace: Aqua blue double stranded leather choker

Price \$1250



After the Rain

Studded sterling silver and Qld boulder opal pendent with reversible filigree back

Pendent size: 32 x 58 mm

Necklace: Slate coloured titanium mesh chain

Price \$550



Morning Mists

Large sterling silver and Qld boulder opal pendant with reversible filigree back

Pendant size: 38 x 78 mm

Necklace: Large curb link chain

Price \$1600



Water Reflections

18ct yellow gold and Qld boulder opal 'enhancer' pendant with diamond and sapphire
Sapphire: 5mm Qld 'Lava Plains' Blue sapphire
Diamond: 3.5mm 'Argyle' Champagne diamond
Pendent size: 32 x 79 mm
Necklace: Multi stranded Hematite beads

Price \$3200