VISUAL ARTS

Joseph O'Brien

"Ice and Fire"

REFLECTION STATEMENT

My work was influenced by the devastating 2020 Australian 'black summer' fires initially. I felt deeply the great loss of native animals, livestock and people. The fires burned huge swathes of forests and land. It burned and consumed nearly 2,800 homes. I heard and read of the people personally affected by these terrible fires. My collage artwork is a way of looking at these terrible fires. In contrast, I wanted to show the beauty and majesty of nature. The great white snowy mountain became the focus of my work. The result was two opposites, in Ice and Fire, coming together in my body of work to show the complexity of life, of our environment and the nature of contradictions in the world.















