

Zahidah Zeytoun Millie

PhD candidate at Deakin University

artist, founder and curator of the Mangroves from the Water (MFTW) art campaign since 2013.

- [Immersive experience](#) (short video, work in progress).



- Canoe project (work in progress/part of my PhD art project).

- Mangroves are under-recognised and under-whelmed by negative misperceptions about their aesthetics and value at a time when they are much needed.
- People protect what they love (Jacque Cousteau).
- Art can play a far stronger role in effecting social change to aid scientists and community leaders.





شجر القرم من الماء

Mangroves from the Water

- *Mangroves From the Water* (MFTW), an art campaign initiated in 2013 in the United Arab Emirates and continuing since 2017 here in Australia..
- MFTW aims to open a new way of seeing and perceiving the mangroves to generate care and protection.



Facts and figures don't influence people directly. Stories we tell, the metaphors we draw on, create the world (Peter Reason).

“any form of art is a form of power; it has impact., it can effect change – it not only moves us, it make us move (Ossie Davise).

zaidan zeytoun mime **زهيدة زيتون ميلي**

Place : National Museum of Ras Al Khaimah المكان : متحف رأس الخيمة الوطني

Time : Opening Night, 5:30 pm. الرمثا : الافتتاح الساعة 5.30 مساء

7 to 9 March 2013 7 - 9 مارس 2013



معرض رسوم مائية (سكيتش)
Exhibition of water colour sketches

الربع ستخصص لاطفال سورية المهجرين
All proceeds to Syrian refugee children




Ras Al Khaimah from the Mangroves, the first mangroves exhibition opened on 7 Mar 2013 at the National Museum in Ras Al Khaimah, UAE



The Self, acrylic resin, mangrove branch, plaster, machete for chopping, leaves, 2017



Mangroves Festival by the mangroves in Umm Al Quwain 2017.



With the support of the Umm Al Quwain Education Zone we organised a mangroves art competition between schools.



لماذا غابة المنغروف مهمة للإماراتيين

ما هي الخدمات التي توفرها

Why Mangrove Forest is important for people of UAE

What services does it provide



1

المنغروف هي نظام كاربون ينقي أزرق: تحصر الكاربون وتخزنه لتخفيض مستوى غاز الكاربون في الجو. هذا يساعد على مكافحة الاحتباس الحراري.

Mangrove Forest is a Blue Carbon Ecosystem: It traps carbon and stores it, thus reducing the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere. This helps to combat global warming.



2

المنغروف تلعب دورا كمصفاة طبيعية، حاصرة الرواسب الضارة والمغذيات الزائدة.

Mangroves act as natural filters, trapping harmful sediments and excessive nutrients



3

المنغروف هي ارض خصبة للعديد من انواع الاسماك التجارية (سمك النماش الاحمر الشبوط) القشريات (على سبيل المثال: السلطعون والفريدرس) والمحار.

Mangroves are important breeding grounds for many commercial types of fish (red snapper, sea bream), crustaceans (for example, crabs and shrimps) and shellfish



4

تحمي المنغروف الشاطئ من التآكل الناجم عن حركة الامواج وتيارات المحيط.

Mangroves protect the coast from erosion caused by wave actions and ocean currents



5

يقدم الساحل ذات المناظر الخلابة فرص ترفيهية كالتجديف، الإبحار والغطس.

Scenic coastline and islands present recreational opportunities such as kayaking, sailing and diving



6

يؤمن المنغروف ارضا لمسكن، لتعشيش ولتفدية مختلف الطيور، وهي التي تشكل التنوع البيولوجي في الخليج.

Mangroves provide habitat, nesting and feeding grounds for various birds; they are biodiversity hotspots in the Gulf Region

مهرجان شجر القرم من الماء 2017
Mangroves from the Water Festival 2017

المنغروف في الإمارات
MANGROVE FESTIVAL 2017

Dr. Nadia Kettell – 12 signs made by students of the Higher Colleges of Technology.



Immersion in nature stimulating our emotions and giving our work an authenticity as well as an aura.

A personal connection between the inside and outside are inseparable (Merleau Ponty).

Zahidah Zeytoun Millie, Watercolour done from a kayak, 2021

Ecological intimacy, an affective, ecological way of thinking aiming to give voice to degraded environments by connecting the human and nonhuman mangroves for the mutual benefit of the human and the connected.



The MFTW project is an ongoing project which started in the UAE in 2013 and is the topic of the PhD.

‘Mangroves from the Water’ workshops in the UAE and in the Geelong Region.

- Kayaking to the mangroves and painting, a holistic act that can be shared.
- Building a bond with the mangroves and promoting the wonder of ecological intimacy.



WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP
PAINT & SKETCH FROM A KAYAK

WITH ZAHIDAH ZEYTOUN MILLIE

PART OF "MANGROVES FROM THE WATER" Festival

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP
Head to the source of inspiration behind the exhibition and learn unique painting skills from the artist herself as you swerve through the Mangroves in a Kayak.

DATE Saturday 11 March **TIMING** 2:30 - 6:00
LOCATION Khor Umm Al Quwain, from UAQ Marina

TO SIGN-UP Contact Zahidah on 050 680 4820
*Please bring your own sketchbook & watercolours
*LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

شجر القرم من الماء
Mangroves from the Water






Poetry, performance Dance, and music on site at the mangroves in the Barwon Estuary.



Jacqui Dreessens



Jacqui Dreessens

Art has a role in connecting with communities to encourage care and protection.



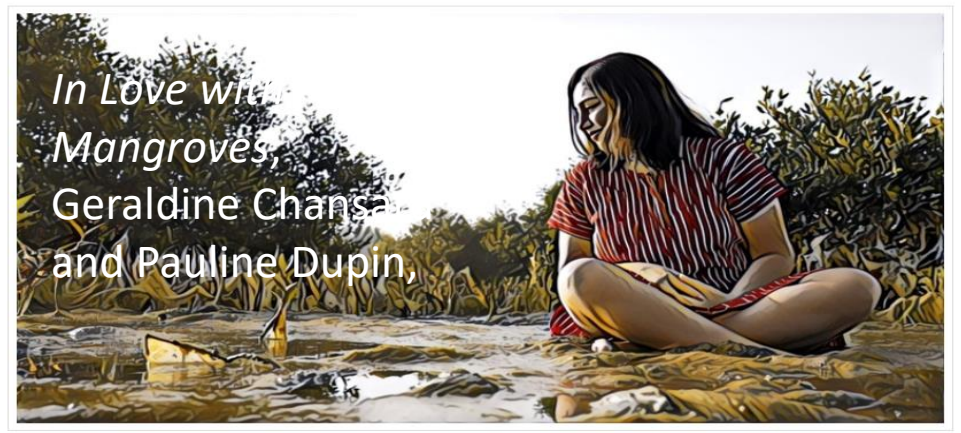
Woolen blanket, length 45 m, produced by more than 200 women inside and outside the Emirates. The length indicates the union of the seven emirates on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the Union for the conservation of the mangrove forests .
Stephanie Neville

Kharareef Heritage Storytellers, Zayed University.



Alexis Gambis

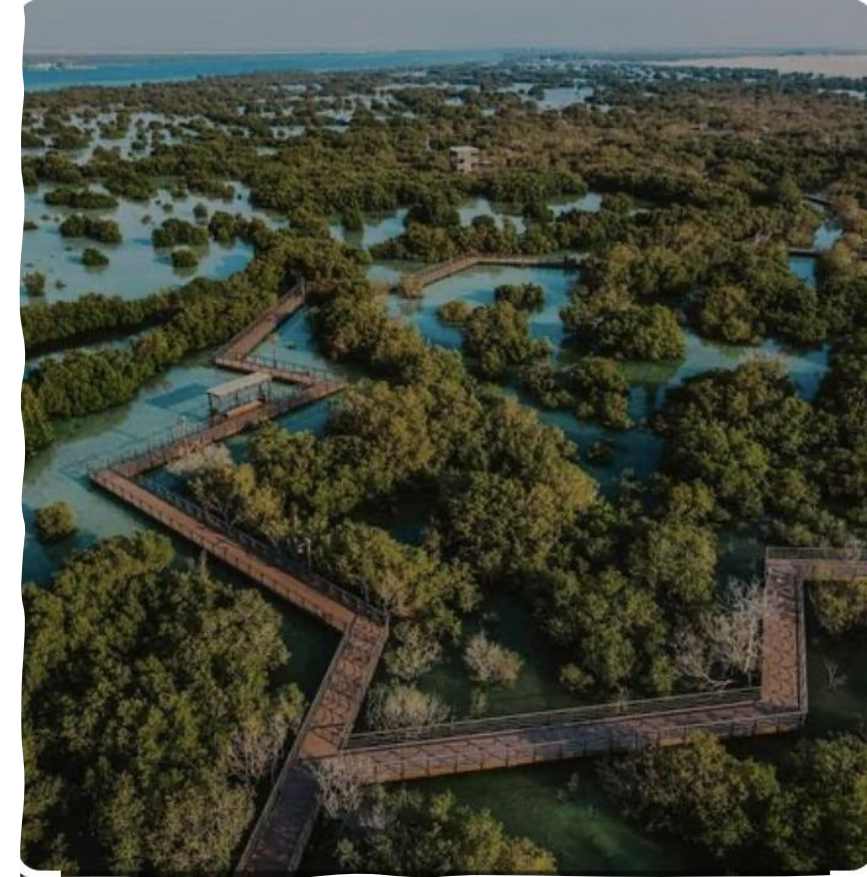
Guardian of the Mangroves

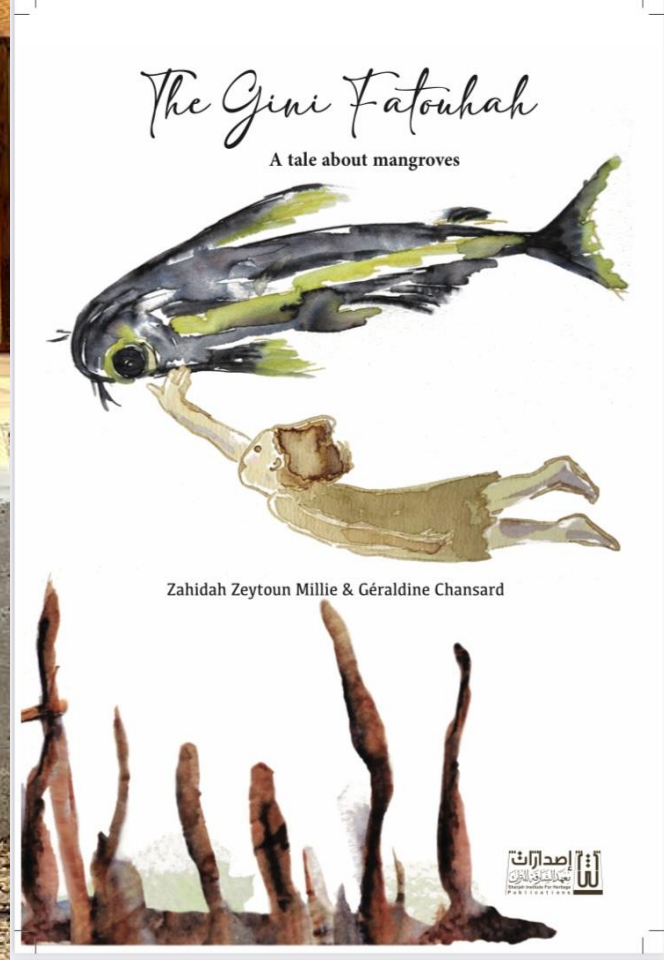


The girl who fell in love with the mangroves , is a tale taken from real events. Through a conversation with Pauline Dupin, inspired the writing of a moving tale. Coming from France to the Emirates (RAK- UAQ) they had gathered a team of local participants to the play the roles of the girl, the fisherman and the robber...

Mangrove preservation was achieved in 2020

- An outcome indicative of success has been the naming in 2020 of a beach in the UAE Umm Al Quwain mangroves called *Mangroves Beach*.





The MFTW campaign gained recognition in the UAE by being invited to join the nation's arts and heritage contingent at the 2022 Smithsonian Folklife Festival.

The oak tree and the olive tree, both metaphorically laden with cultural meaning. The mangrove, very little....if any.

Mangroves from the Water exhibition catalogue, Gordon Gallery, Geelong, Australia, August 2021.



MANGROVES FROM THE WATER
AUGUST 7 - AUGUST 18, 2021
GORDON GALLERY

Deb Taylor
Peter Martin
Kerrie Taylor
Nicola Cerini
Helen Martin
Alexis Gambis
Enrico Santucci
Richard Collopy
Stephanie Neville
Jacqui Dreessens
Géraldine Chansard
Zahidah Zeytoun Millie
Barwon Heads Primary School Students

شجر القرم من الماء
Mangroves from the Water

Gordon Gallery
2 Fenwick St.
Geelong, Victoria, Australia

A multi-disciplinary exhibition of work
curated by Zahidah Zeytoun Millie
www.mangrovesfromthewater.com

Exhibition hours:
Daily 11am - 4pm

This exhibition was made possible by a Community Events Grant from

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Also supported by:





- shadow places,
- shadow places,
- Val Plumwood (2008)
- Val Plumwood (2008)

Shadow places

“Landscape is an instrument of cultural power”.

“Sublimation is always haunted by its shadow, its other”.

Community Engagement

Humans in Geelong

A team of volunteers telling the stories of locals who are making a difference

humansingeelong@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/HumansinGeelong/

Jacqui Bennett





PRODUCTS



Barwon Estuary Project

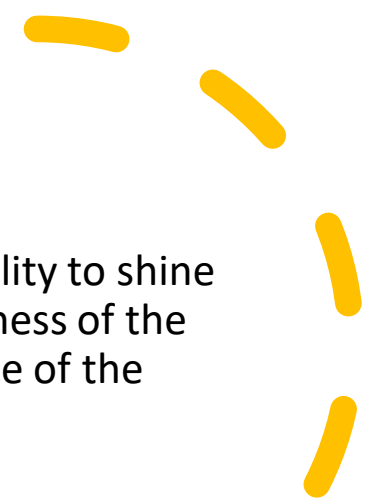
Margaret Griffith

Our Legacy





Art based ecological intimacy has the ability to shine light upon shadow places to raise awareness of the importance of the beauty and importance of the mangroves.



Seed of Life, Zahidah Zeytoun Millie



If Objects Could Speak, 33cm x 31cm,
Zahidah Zelda Zeytoun Millie, 2023

The Self, acrylic resin, mangrove branch, plaster, machete for chopping, leaves, 2017



The Gini Fatouhah

A tale about mangroves



Zahidah Zeytoun Millie & Géraldine Chansard



إصدار
مكتبة
الكتاب
البيئي

Storytelling offers a rich way of acting upon the world. Recognition of traditional stories about mangroves is important for the protection of habitats and cultural development. Ghosh (2016:4) writes that “recognition is famously a passage from ignorance to knowledge.”



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Mangroves From The Water

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Mangroves from the water



MangrovesFTW



Mangrovesftw

THANK YOU شكراً