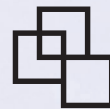


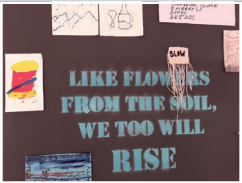
# CABIN FEVER

SMALL PERSONAL STORIES

NICKI DENNETT



Artcore  
Gallery



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## Introduction

### Cabin Fever - Small Personal Stories Good News for Bad Days

Here at Artcore Gallery, we believe that contemporary art and creativity are central to the development of people and places. Our extensive exhibition and residency programme aims to support early, mid-career and established artists to create work which deals with pressing social, political and environmental issues.

As a result of the last year of lockdowns, many of us have had no alternative but to spend time in isolation and confined to our homes. Building on this theme, Artcore Gallery presents Cabin Fever, a series of one month long residencies over a duration of six months. The residency offers artists the opportunity to test out ideas and make new work within an old retail cabin, located on Osnabruck Square just outside Artcore Gallery.

*Cabin fever (noun) is a state characterised by anxiety, restlessness, and boredom, arising from the prolonged stay in a remote or confined place.*

The residency aims to provide local artists with the time and space to create new work in response to Derby's city landscape. So far, the artists have creatively engaged with members of the public through workshops and conversations, animating the area with exciting new work. This book highlights Nicki Dennett's participatory workshops and conversations with the public as a resident Artist in the cabin.

Artcore Gallery



## About the Artist

Nicki Dennett is a Derby based artist. She predominantly creates multi-layered, mixed media prints inspired by life around her. Nicki's continual observation of her environment and an appreciation of all aspects of existence inspire her work.

*Research and development of materials are key to my practice. Continually filling sketchbooks has supplied me with a library of ideas for my handmade prints. Most recently, and since completing a master's degree in textiles, the prints have become a reflection of the transition from printmaking on paper to working with fabrics.*

Instagram | @nickidennett

Web | [www.nickidennett.co.uk](http://www.nickidennett.co.uk)

Twitter | nickisprints

Facebook | nicki.dennett



## **Unknown Feelings**

*Mixed Media*

“Covid 19 touches all our lives badly. My work is about my positive emotions during the pandemic time.

In April 2020, I was diagnosed with Covid 19.

Life is too short to be sad.

Life is too big to think trivial.”

Words (above) and Artwork (P.4) Ismail Khokon

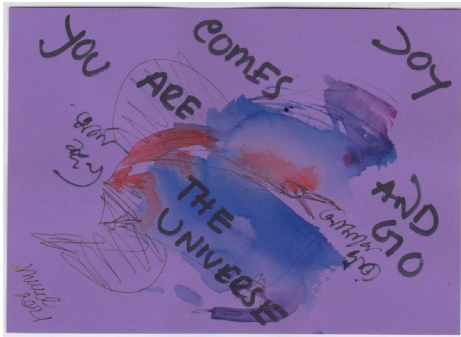
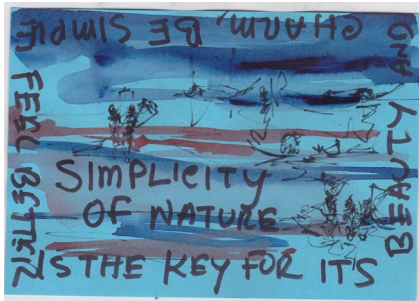
### **Quotes from Ismail Khokon's artwork**

“Let your smile change the world but don't let the world change your smile.”

Connor Franta

“If you Judge people you have no time to love them.”

Mother Teresa



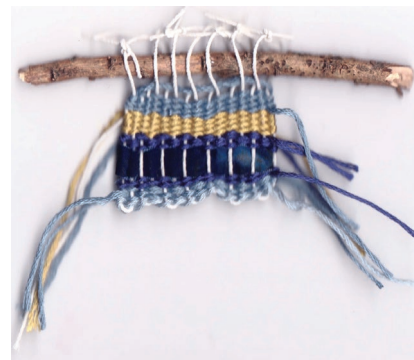
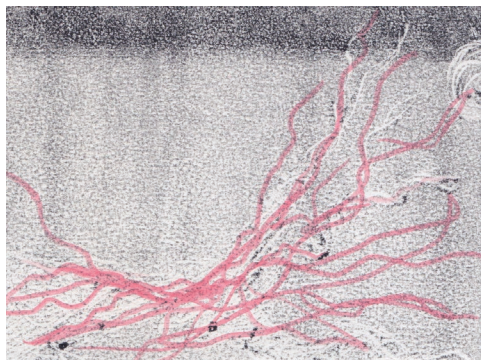
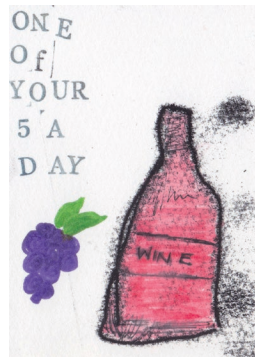
## **Untitled**

*Prints and Weave*

“During lockdown I had the chance to re-discover myself as an artist. It was a large transitional period for me as I moved from being a university student and finishing my MA in fine art to being an artist in the world outside of education. Balancing this with a full time job in healthcare involved a lot of wine and reminiscing in nature.”

**Avalon Oakes**





## **Stop, Breath, Relax**

*Weave - Mixed Media*

“Forced to stop so many things gave me the time, space to really think about what is important to me. Family, friends, health, creativity... and coffee!”

**Stevie Davies**



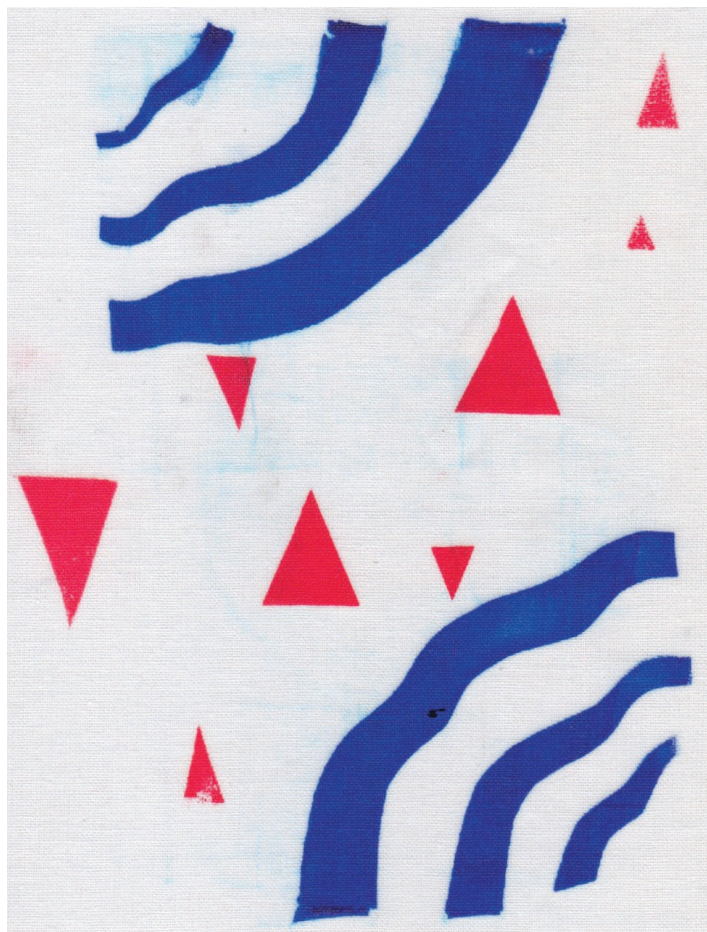
## **Lost and Upside Down**

### *Screen Print*

“I moved back to England in October 2020, shortly before the country entered its second lockdown. Alongside the isolation of lockdown, it was a very turbulent time in my personal life and I dealt with it by going out walking, exploring new places and getting lost. I fell back in love with the Derbyshire landscape, and the shapes in this screen print are inspired by the rivers, paths, journeys and the contour lines and symbols that appear on maps.”

**Lauren Spencer**





## **Wild Flowers**

*Collagraph*

“During the ‘lockdown’ I enjoyed walks in the countryside which inspired me to plant wild flower seeds in my garden, after collecting the seed pods during my walks.”

**Jill Tivey**



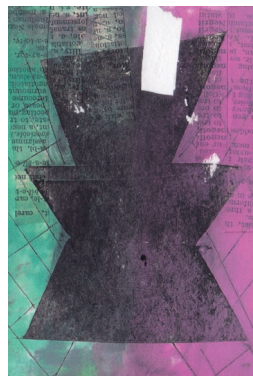
## **Selection Box**

*Screen Print*

“An opportunity to try new things and use my creative muscle.”

**Dan Webber**





## **Sew away the pandemic**

*Screen print on fabric with embroidery*

“Needle and thread. I sew everywhere, beaches, planes, buses. During the pandemic sewing was my escape from the news, the children and the outside world. The garden became a mask making workshop, leather work and design studio. I broke my house wife (needle case), from using it so much. This print is now the front of my new needle case. So far it has a patch of my daughters prom dress fabric in, a prom dress that I promised to make, knowing that the prom might be cancelled, but my daughter will have a ball in the garden if it can't go ahead. Sewing is how I manage PTSD which started in lockdown due to delayed hospital treatment. Sewing in hospital is an unusual activity but it controls anxiety more than medication.

Sew through a pandemic,  
sew back to normality.”

**Dawn Champion**



## **Oak Leaves, Hawthorn Leaf**

*Collagraph*

“During lockdown I spent a lot of time walking and collecting leaves. I was also looking for inspiration for my jewellery.”

**Helen Domleo**



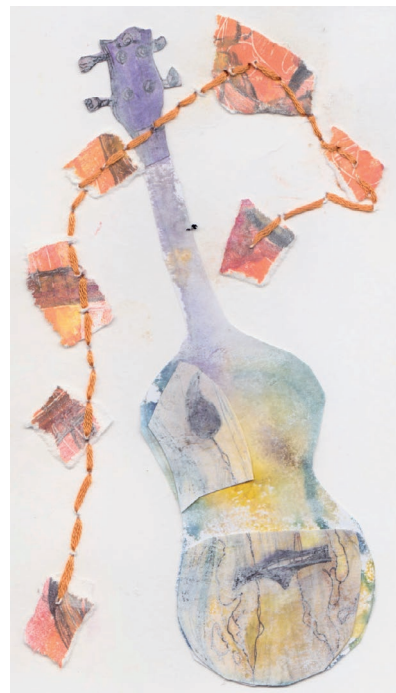


## **Ukie**

*Film, Mixed Media*

“My art work is in celebration of learning to play the ukulele during the last lockdown. The idea came to me (...from somewhere, like an ‘inspiration’). It has brought me much pleasure filling my head with happy hormones and giving me a new hobby for the future.”

**Jenny Seals**



## About Artcore

Artcore is an international centre for contemporary art and creativity based in Derby, UK, and is home to Artcore Gallery, studios and work spaces as well as a shop and cafe. A vibrant hub for commissioning, production, presentation and debate, we offer opportunities for diverse audiences to engage directly with creative practices through participation and discussion.

Here at Artcore Gallery we believe that contemporary art and creativity are central to the development of people and places. We have an extensive exhibition and residency programme which helps support early, mid-career and established artists to create work which deals with pressing social, political and environmental issues. Each year we welcome over 4000 people from all sections of the diverse communities of Derby to experience inspiring, innovative and high-quality exhibitions and events. For over 25 years we have developed links all over the world. Through this we have created a growing global community which helps us to support the aspiring artist into this contemporary world.







Web | [www.artcoregallery.org.uk](http://www.artcoregallery.org.uk)

Instagram | @artcoregallery

Twitter | @artcoregallery7

*Artcore*



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**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**





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