

Nicky Shelton

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Location: Village Art Gallery – Whiteman Park, Western Australia

As a child I was usually found with a crayon, pencil or paint brush in my hand.

Upon graduating from school my initial intent was to pursue a career in Fine Arts but instead I diversified into a successful corporate career. Five years ago I decided life is too short and made the decision to retire from the corporate world and reignite my childhood dream to become an artist. I swapped a desk for an easel and attended a series of local TAFE art classes, lovingly dedicating every spare moment to developing my artistic skills.

My chosen niche is to paint realistic Australian birdlife in oils. I have always loved birds. Australians are fortunate enough to share the continent with a wonderland of diverse birdlife. To me birds are one of Mother Nature's gifts. Through my paintings, I endeavour to capture the beauty, unique personality and magnificence of each native bird. I love interpreting each bird's quirky characteristics, and developing layers of oil paint over weeks to capture the charisma and detail of every subject.

In support of our feathered friends I am an active member of Birdlife Australia – the nation's largest bird conservation organisation. This independent, not-for-profit organisation aims to create a brighter future for Australia's birds. It is unfortunate that so many of our beautiful birds face an uncertain future.

From every original bird painting sold, I make a donation to Birdlife Australia to help protect the many bird species which are under threat.



'Nelly' female Red-tailed Black Cockatoo oil

My decision to pursue my artistic passion has been life changing. During May 2017 I became the Resident Birdlife Artist at the Village Art Gallery – Whiteman Park one of Perth, Western Australia's premier wildlife tourist destinations. Here you can view many of my finished and part completed artworks. I am also surrounded by the company of a diverse collection of feathered friends all of whom fly free and share the park grounds with guests and visitors. Some of these feathered friends have been incorporated into my paintings.



'Edwina's Luncheon Orb'
Female Baudin's Black Cockatoo
Oil on canvas
finalist 2017 Holmes Art Prize

AWARDS

As an emerging realistic birdlife artist, I appreciate my work being recognised through competitive jury selection:

2017 – Finalist – Holmes Art Prize for Excellence in Realistic Australian Bird Art.

Finalist – Cliftons Art Prize

2017 – Finalist – [Midwest Art Prize](#)

2016 – Finalist – Emerging Artist Awards, South Perth (first competition entry)

SERVICES OFFERED

Original oil paintings

Prints available

Commissions in oil

MEMBERSHIPS

Wildlife Art Society of Australasia

Birdlife Australia

