



G A B B Y
M A L P A S

Culture crash catalogue

October 2019

NB: all sizes listed are the actual image sizes, excluding the framed size.



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'Mercat soup'

Watercolour and
gouache on paper

16.5 x 16.3cm

\$370.00

A cat

As a mermaid

With flower wreath

In a blue and white

porcelain bowl of

soup

With violin beetle

attendant

What's not to like?



'happiness noodles'

Watercolour and
gouache on paper

16.5 x 16.3cm

\$370.00

Noodle soup is found in various forms throughout Asia and Italian pasta is said to be an import from the time of Marco Polo after he returned from China. This little noodle bowl has taken on a life of its own. The colourful little fish is an anchovy from which fish sauce is made.

All in a Peranakan peony bowl for happiness.



'Standoff'

Watercolour and
gouache on paper
16.5 x 16.3cm
\$370.00

Highly improbable, is
what this is.
The spotted beetle is
putting up a brave
fight to the turquoise,
chinese cloud
patterned frog – who
is just casually eyeing
his lunch.

This image is inspired
by the Japanese
Ukiyo-e art genre.



'Fook yew: Fortune friendship'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

15cm x 24.3cm

\$470.00

A naughty word play on Chinese characters. I only recently realised that the fat, laughing, happy buddha figurines seen everywhere in Asia are not actual representations of Buddha but of a Daoist monk.

Over the time the distinction got blurred and these figurines are called 'laughing buddhas'.

For luck, fortune and friendship.



'Staffordshire dog 1'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

13.7cm x 22.3cm

\$470.00

Intended as a pair

\$820 for both images

Pairs of ceramic dogs based on the King Charles Spaniel breed were very popular as mantelpiece ornaments in English and Scottish homes in the 19th Century.

The Chinese equivalent would be the foo dog statues.

My dogs are in the traditional creamy colours with brown markings but the markings have a distinct chinoiserie flair.

They are teamed with exotic lotus and waterlilies in Peranakan pots.



'Staffordshire dog 2'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

13.7cm x 22.3cm

\$470.00

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‘Mon mon cat: fish soup’

Watercolour and gouache on paper

14cm x 22cm

\$470.00

In tattooing circles amongst those following the Japanese tattoo art genre, there are cats depicted with tattoos on their backs called mon mon cats.

My cats’ designs are Peranakan floral inspired, their colours bright and intended purely as fantasy.

This image is inspired by the Japanese Ukiyo-e art genre and especially to the US based Japanese tattoo artist: Hirotoomo of State of Grace.



'Under and over 2'

Watercolour and gouache on
paper

19cm x 26cm

\$850.00

**Unframed
Online only**

A fantasy image showing
underwater and terrestrial
plantings on an inky night with a
full moon.

It's hard to see which is which.

See this image on my limited
edition foldable tote bags.



'Batik tulis 1'

Watercolour and gouache on
paper

29cm x 28cm

\$900.00

Or \$90.00 per month with
Art Money

Find out more or apply at:
www.artmoney.com

Unframed Online only

I first came across batik fabric in
Indonesia in 1988 and I've been
collecting it ever since.

The detail and work involved in
each handmade piece is intense
and colours range from delicate
pastels to strong primaries and
earthy tones.

My designs borrow from
traditional motifs and patterns but
with an extra 'Gabby' kick.



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'Never ending story 1'

Watercolour and gouache on paper
23cm x 28.5cm

\$960.00

Or \$96.00 per month with
Art Money

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www.artmoney.com

There is a tradition in China of sewing colourful hats in a shape of a tiger head to protect babies. Some of the older hats are now museum pieces and beautifully made.

This flying tiger celestial being is transporting 2 happy rabbits to their NY celebrations on a bed of Chinese clouds. I was channeling 'The NeverEnding Story' when painting this. The yellow and pink floral background is Peranakan inspired.



'Never ending story 2'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

23cm x 28.5cm

\$960.00

The lucky white rabbit is riding the CNY lion to Chinese New Year celebrations on a bed of Chinese clouds.

I was channeling 'The NeverEnding Story' when painting this. The bearded Lion reminds me so much of Falkor the flying dog in the movie (who is actually a dragon).



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'Medinilla in coralware'

Watercolour and gouache on paper
27cm x 28cm

\$960.00

Or \$96.00 per month with
Art Money

Find out more or apply at:
www.artmoney.com

I first came across this luscious plant at the Columbia Road flower markets in London. Needless to say this tropical plant didn't last too long in a dingy London flat.

Coralware ceramics were greatly prized because of the association with the colour red and were often privately commissioned.

The design has been adapted from Peranakan coralware pieces.



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'Strange fruit 2'

Watercolour and gouache
on paper

29.6cm x 27.7 cm

\$960.00

Or \$90.00 per month with
Art Money

Find out more or apply at:
www.artmoney.com

Fantasy floral and bird in a
seafoam coloured vase.
The florals have been
adapted from batik
designs.



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'Thousand flower poppies'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

28cm x 38 cm

\$1,200.00

Or \$120.00 per month with

Art Money

Find out more or apply at:

www.artmoney.com

Nothing says 'Spring in Sydney' more than the showy but paper delicate, iceland poppies.

Although I am not a botanical artist I make sure I paint enough of a plant's attributes so it can be identified. I also try and capture the quirkiness – awkward stems and insect damage so it's not chocolate box perfect. I feel that my audience appreciates the extra effort.

The thousand flowers refers to a style of Chinese porcelain where the pieces are covered in tightly packed florals.



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'Broken tulips'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

28cm x 38 cm

\$1,200.00

Or \$120.00 per month with

Art Money

Find out more or apply at:

www.artmoney.com

'Broken' refers to the striped effect on tulips that are actually caused by a virus. It was this virus that made the striking blooms resulting in the tulipmania craze in the Netherlands in the 17th Century.

The thousand flowers refers to a style of Chinese porcelain where the pieces are covered in tightly packed florals of various hues.



'The Coal Loader garden'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

29cm x 41 cm

\$1,250.00

Or \$125.00 per month with

Art Money

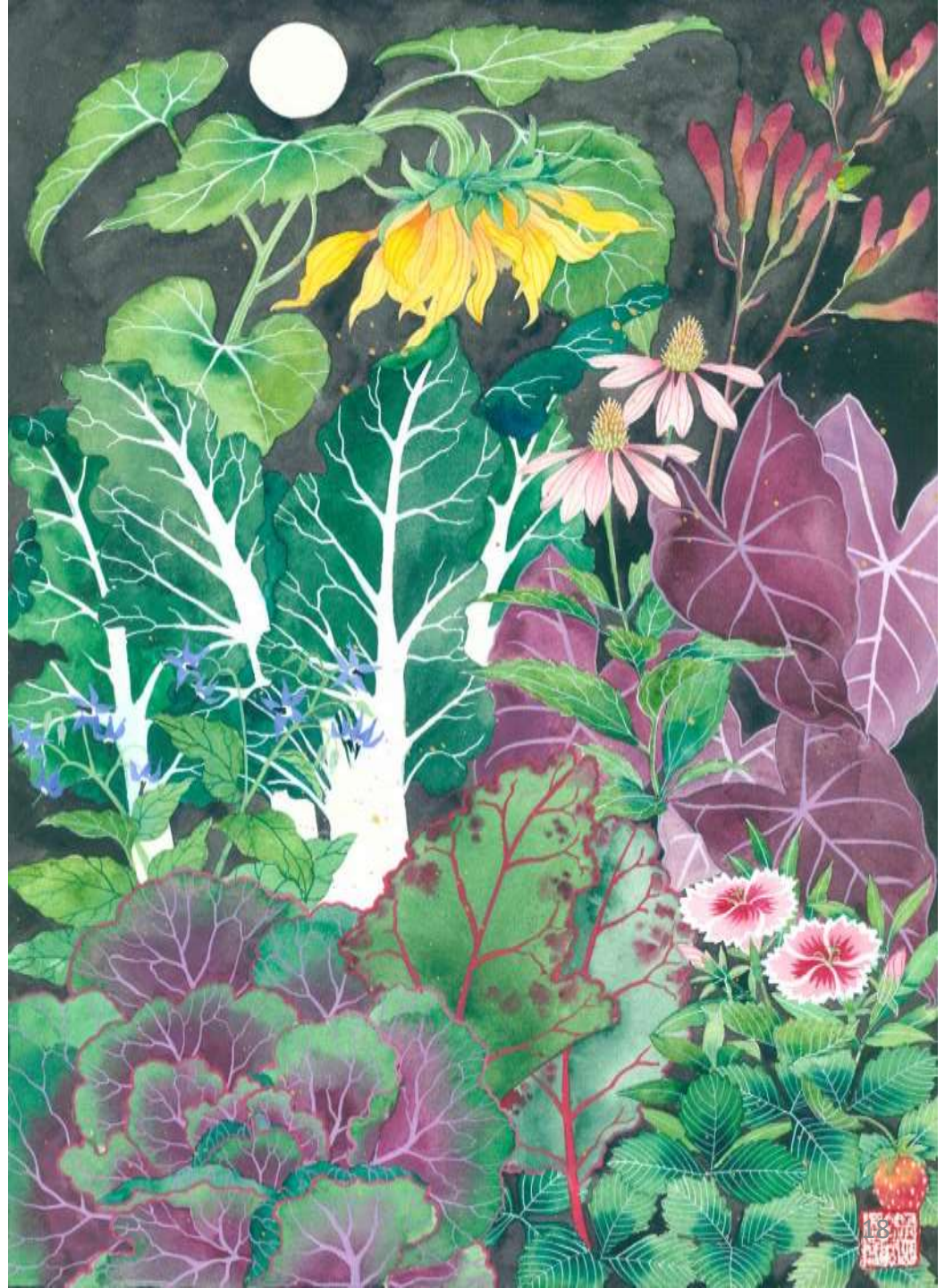
Find out more or apply at:

www.artmoney.com

I am a big fan of gardens.

The coal loader garden in North Sydney is all about sustainability and sufficiency: their garden beds are a profusion of cottage garden, Australian natives and edible plants & herbs.

At any time of year you can see a riot of colour and green.



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'Tulips from Columbia Road Market'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

26cm x 56cm

\$1,500.00

Or \$150.00 per month with

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I lived in London on and off for over 10 years.

Columbia Road Market on a Sunday was a sometimes excursion to sample bagels and stock up on plants and flowers.

Spring was my favourite season – I don't think I've ever been able to buy such beautiful parrot or split tulips anywhere else.



'Colourblind 4'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

26cm x 52cm

\$1,500.00

Or \$150.00 per month with Art Money

Find out more or apply at: www.artmoney.com

This is the latest in my 'colourblind' image series. It remains the most important adoption image I have made to date – a riot of colour for an important message: People mean to be kind when they say: "I don't see colour", or: "we are all one race".

To us raised in families who are a different race this is damaging as it dismisses our lived experience including the uncomfortable reality of racism and prejudice which is in contrast to the life experiences of our white siblings, parents and peers.

Race matters. Preparing your non-white child for the world outside of the safety of your home and community is crucial.

Lotus are revered in Asia: the beautiful and useful plant grows from mud in a pond.



'Night out in Cabramatta'

Mixed media on canvas

25cm x 30cm

\$1,100.00

Or \$110.00 per month with Art Money

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www.artmoney.com

Bruce, a mon mon cat arranged for a big night out in the Sydney suburb of Cabramatta which was infamous for a couple of decades for drugs. A maneki neko cat and 'peach bum' were acknowledged for luck but the night didn't go as planned so Bruce consoled himself with a Chiko roll on the last bus home...



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'Peranakan dreaming cat'

Mixed media on canvas

30cm x 40cm

\$1,600.00

Or \$160.00 per month with

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7 koi carp for longevity are raining down on this full moon night. Most will reach the safety of the water jar to swim safely amongst the lotus, the others will be dinner.

The dish of oranges is a wish for good fortune.

Lotus is also symbolic of longevity and a crab is often read as 'harmony' in Chinese.



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'Candi Bentar with Koru'

Mixed media on canvas

30cm x 40cm

\$1,600.00

Or \$160.00 per month with Art Money

Find out more or apply at: www.artmoney.com

I first visited Bali in 1988. To me the island remains magical and a beautiful place.

Split gates or Candi Bentars are found all over the island with the intention of people to pass through.

They are often beautifully carved.

This design is made up of the NZ koru: a spiral shape representing an unfurling silver fern frond. It is an integral symbol in Māori art, carving and tattooing, where it symbolises new life, growth, strength and peace. Its shape "conveys the idea of perpetual movement," while the inner coil "suggests returning to the point of origin".

Lotus and the 7 koi carp are symbols of longevity.



'Sarah's garden 30'

Watercolour and gouache on paper

57cm x 76 cm

\$3,950.00

Or \$395.00 per month with Art Money

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Sarah and Andrew Ryan's cottage garden: 'Hillandale' in Yetholme, NSW has been my muse since around 2010. Each Spring or Summer I make a trip to visit Sarah, walk through the garden, note anything new and discuss our plans/projects for the coming year.

Every year I make a series of images of the garden numbered accordingly and every year I get the images a little closer to how I want them to be.

My Sarah's garden images are mostly about friendship – those gentle friendships we nurture as we get older.



'Rainbows and unicorns: wolf butterfly'

Digital print of composite elements

Total paper size: 30cm x 28cm

\$ 70.00

Unframed

Edition of 10

Each print is numbered, signed and chopped

These butterfly images are titled 'rainbows and unicorns'.. the popular and perpetuated myth of building a family through adoption. It's a lovely sentiment but this line of thinking disregards the trauma and often heartbreaking personal stories behind adoption.

Butterflies are often a symbol of hope and joy and these have definitely been made with joy in mind.

The characters in the centre are Chinese for:
'double happiness' .

This image is also available on printed-to-order
tshirts.



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Auction piece for Charity

The following work will be offered for sale by bidding in a silent auction that will close at the end of the show. NB: the work is unframed.

The recipient of all proceeds from the sale is the Post Adoption Resource Centre (PARC), part of the Benevolent Society. I proudly sit on the Advisory Committee.

'Choices'

Watercolour and gouache on Arches
paper

36cm x 40cm

Silent Auction: RRP \$1,200.00

Unframed

Postage:

within AU: \$15

international: \$30

All proceeds to be donated to PARC.

In my adoption I feel that I have been
incredibly lucky.

I have had choices and opportunities
that my birth mother and my adoptive
parents did not have. I have been
fortunate enough to live in three
countries, travel widely and pursue
careers that would be out of reach for
many. All of my adult life choices are
mine alone and today I am working as
an artist – something I have been
working towards for 30+ years.

For this I am truly grateful.

