

SNAPSHOT

KIM ANDERSON

1 IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE ONLY THREE WORDS THAT YOU FEEL BEST DESCRIBES YOUR WORK, WHAT WOULD THEY BE, AND WHY?

Intricate: I have always been attracted to minute details and my drawings reflect this aesthetic. They are at once intricate, painstaking and absorbing, and take many hours, often weeks, to complete. **Emotive:** One of my main objectives is to move people, to make them feel something on an emotional level. I am fascinated by how powerful internal emotions such as grief, despair and longing can be embodied, and often include elements of the natural world as metaphors for intense psychological states. **Introspective:** I circled around a number of words for this last one – deep, personal, meaningful, thoughtful, introspective – all essentially from the same pool. Most of my work involves undertaking a deep personal scrutiny in order to navigate the more complicated aspects of human experience.



left
Shadow Play
2022
Ink, graphite and
charcoal on paper
56 cm x 56 cm

right
Only Breath And Shadows
2022
Ink, graphite and
charcoal on paper
100 cm x 64 cm

opposite page, top
Metamorphosis
2022
Ink, graphite and
charcoal on paper
75 cm x 105 cm

opposite page, bottom
This Fleeting Moment
2022
Ink, graphite and
charcoal on paper
100 cm x 64 cm



2 WHAT ADVICE DID YOU GET AS A YOUNG ARTIST THAT STILL INFLUENCES YOU TODAY?

It wasn't advice so much as a revelation when someone said to me many years ago: "I didn't choose art, it chose me". Years after that, a well-established artist reinforced this idea by saying that if there wasn't an absolute deep-seated need to make art, then it would be a pretty gruelling path ahead. A younger artist might have grand aspirations of fame and wealth, but these fall away as you get older, and you realise that the reward is really in the making of art itself. When I'm struggling in the studio or have had a lot of rejections or sales aren't great, these thoughts echo through my mind and remind me why I'm doing this: I need to draw to be okay.



3 WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT THE MEDIUM YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO WORK IN?

Drawing is such a direct and intimate form of expression; it can be incredibly simple or infinitely complex. At its core, little preparation is needed. I can start with a pencil or stick of charcoal and create something from nothing on the page – the ultimate form of alchemy! I love the graphic, linear qualities of drawing materials, and the intricate mark-making I can achieve with them. The apparent simplicity of drawing belies its expansive potential to translate across other media, and I enjoy opportunities to explore this further. Alongside works on paper, I have incorporated large-scale site-specific drawings, translucent suspended materials, projections, and soundscapes into my practice, combining traditional drawing techniques with the transformative effects of space, light, scale and sound to create immersive experiences.

4 HOW DOES ART ADD VALUE TO SOCIETY?

Making art is essential for my own personal well-being, however I believe this is also true on a more universal level. Art provides us with a language to try and make sense of our existence in this world in a way that nothing else does. Being a human is difficult and messy and we're often at odds with our environment. Artists have the means to go deep, bringing things to the fore to help us deal with them. Art can be confronting and beautiful, comforting, and strange, it can offer different perspectives and help us understand ourselves better. Ultimately, when I imagine a world without any art at all, I see a desolate place without any heart and soul. That's when I realise its value.

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