

VANESSA CARLESSO BORTIGNON

VISUAL ARTIST

carlessobvanessa@gmail.com

vanessabcarlesso.com

based in Australia

PROFILE

I am an Italian artist currently based in Australia, working primarily with ceramics through both hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques. Clay is at the core of my practice, which often expands into textiles and installation to explore the relationship between body, material, and space. My sculptural and participatory works reflect on transformation, constraint, and the tension between softness and rigidity. Alongside my studio practice, I have experience teaching ceramics, sculpture, and printmaking to adults, including neurodivergent people. I value shared making as a space for dialogue, experimentation, and collaboration.

EXHIBITIONS

SOLO & DUO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Cinema Bianchini, duo exhibition with Marco Maculan, Project 100, Nelson, NZ
- 2022 Pane Quotidiano, solo exhibition, Spazio Piera, Trento, IT

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Vicine Distanze, Museo delle Navi Antiche, Pisa, IT
- 2022 Elephant in the Room, Faro Coworking, Vicenza, IT
- 2021 Il Terzo Occhio, Art Night Academy, Venice, IT

RESIDENCIES

- 2025 Internship at Kiln Studio, Nelson, NZ
- 2023 Stone Sculpture residence, L'energia dei Luoghi, Aurisina, IT

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

- 2026 Invited Master Artist, Clay Gulgong Festival, live clay sculpture demonstrations Gulgong, NSW, AU

WORKSHOPS

- 2026 Masterclass: How to Model a Head 2-day workshop (2 editions) Mas & Miek Ceramic Studio, Brisbane, QLD, AU
- 2026 Masterclass: How to Model a Head 2-day workshop Clayground Studio, Sydney, NSW, AU
- 2026 Masterclass: How to Model a Head 2-day workshop Kilnfolk Studio, Melbourne, VIC, AU
- 2025 Figurative Sculpture Course 6-week evening adult class Kiln Studio, Nelson, NZ

EDUCATION

2016 - 2023

Academy of fine art
Venice, IT

- Master in Sculpture
- Bachelor in Sculpture

2022

Academy of Fine Arts
Granada, ES

- Erasmus program

2010-2015

Liceo artistico G. De Fabris
Nove, IT

- Diploma in product design

SKILLS

- Ceramics (wheel throwing & hand-building)
- Figurative sculpture
- Printmaking
- Installation-based practice
- Workshop facilitation
- Inclusive teaching practices

LANGUAGES

Italian (Native)
English (Fluent)
Spanish (Fluent)

2025 Masterclass: How to Model a Head
2-day workshop (3 editions)
Taradale Pottery, Napier, NZ

2025 Workshops: Irrational – Make your
oneiric clay sculpture & How to
Model a Head
Phia Foundation, Auckland, NZ

2025 Workshop: Irrational – Make your
oneiric clay sculpture
Project 100, Nelson, NZ

2025 Ceramic Sculpture Workshop:
How to Model a Head
1-day adult workshop
Kiln Studio, Nelson, NZ

TEACHING

2022–2024

Sculpture and printmaking
instructor for neurodivergent artists
Artismo Venezia, Venice, IT