

Peter Brock Artist Statement

Julie Squires has worked as a professional sculptor since graduating with a Bachelor Degree in Visual Arts (BAVA) in 1993. Originally from Newcastle, NSW, Julie moved to Melbourne in 2002 and is a resident artist at the Gasworks Arts Park in Albert Park. Her work is held in collections in Australia, Europe, China and the UK. Julie's body of work includes major public commissions and numerous group and solo exhibitions. Specialising in bronze cast sculpture and steel fabrication, Julie's work often has a narrative element and has proved to be both accessible and popular with the public.

Julie has completed fifteen public art sculptures since 1996. These include a memorial sculpture for the BHP in Newcastle, sculptures integrated onto bridges for the Major Projects Division of the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority, commissions for the Newcastle Bicentenary Commission, a 9 metre bronze sculpture for the Newcastle Ports Authority, commissions for Newcastle City Council and more recently, Wyndham City Council, Frankston Council, Kingston Council in Victoria and Zoos Victoria.

The latest and most significant figurative public sculpture by Julie Squires has been the "Diggers" Great Ocean Road Memorial commissioned for the 75th Anniversary of the building of the road in 2007. (see image)

"The legend and legacy of Australian Diggers is now clearly recognised through the memorial. This history and this sculpture, a larger than life memorial to mateship and courage, will without doubt be a significant destination for the international and domestic visitors who visit the Great Ocean Rd"

The Hon Tim Holding MP, Minister for Tourism and Major Events (2007)

Amongst Julie's figurative work collection is also a life size portrait of English Cellist, Jacqueline Du Pre.

The proposed sculpture of Peter Brock will be a significant addition to the sculptor's body of work:

" I am very excited and honoured to be given this opportunity. The artist chosen for this commission has a responsibility to the thousands of fans and admirers - local, national and internationally, to represent Peter Brock in a manner that illustrates the esteem and respect felt by Australians for their racing hero." Julie Squires

Whilst honouring Peter Brock in his achievements and his personal legacy, the sculpture is hoped to become a source of pride for the local community. The proposed sculpture is a life size, three-dimensional, portrait of Peter Brock in bronze standing on top of a 1984 VK Commodore. A previous photograph of Brock standing on a car with his arms folded and legs astride inspired the image. After discussions with Rod Harvey, Director of the National Motor racing Museum, the originally photographed car has been

replaced in the proposed sculpture, with the 1984 VK Commodore. This car, driven by Brock as the winner of the 1984 Bathurst 1000, was seen as a more fitting vehicle to encapsulate Brock's association with the Mount Panorama Circuit and the National Motor Museum. The car was also acknowledged as one of Brock's favourite cars.

The car will be a cut away section of the full the side view of the vehicle with a 200mm section included across the roof / bonnet/ boot, to allow Brock's feet purchase on the roof panel. The windows will be open to allow visitors to be photographed as if inside the vehicle. Aside from providing the essential visual link between Brock and the racing industry, the car also acts as a base or plinth, elevating the figure of Peter Brock. This placement symbolically encapsulates Brock's eternal position as "King of The Mountain", whilst providing a greater viewing platform for visitors.

The objective of this sculpture is to create a work that resonates with the spirit of the "King of the Mountain".

"A memorial to Peter Brock not only has to resemble him physically but also reflect his unique ability to remain a mate, an approachable, obliging hero who will be remembered always as a true gentleman. The artwork needs to encompass Brock's resolve to "follow your heart and live your dreams".
Julie Squires

Peter Brock's connection to Mount Panorama is the main thematic element used in the artwork, placing him in a context of his achievements at Bathurst as well as his place in racing history. Brock's racing history at Bathurst will be cast on the back of the car body, listing his achievements and connections to Bathurst.

Small details included in the composition are the key to creating a work of layered meaning and sustainable interest to the viewers. Details such as the Brock05 insignia and other iconic logos would be integrated into the design.