

Andrea Vargas

Visual Artist | Curator | Arts & Community Engagement Practitioner

Based in Melbourne, Australia

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Artist Bio

Andrea Vargas is a Chilean-born Latin American visual artist and arts professional based in Melbourne. Her practice intertwines ceramic sculpture, mixed media, and poetic narrative, drawing deeply from the landscapes and cultural memory of Chile, the Australian environment, and the writings of Gabriela Mistral. Through clay, texture, and symbolic form, she explores themes of belonging, identity, and emotional transformation.

Living in Elwood for over five years and around Melbourne for 9 years has influenced her visual language, merging South American storytelling with Australian coastal rhythms. Parallel to her studio work, she contributes actively to the local arts ecology through curation, gallery support, community workshops, and creative engagement programs. Andrea's ceramic jewellery workshops, in particular, create intimate spaces for personal expression and cultural connection.

Curriculum Vitae

Professional Practice Overview

- **Media:** ceramics, mixed media, installation, photography.
- **Themes:** identity, migration, memory, poetics, landscape, cultural heritage.
- **Current Series:** *Fire, ashes to rebirth*. Inspired by Gabriela Mistral's poem "Fuego", exploring the transformation, renewal, and emotional resonance of Australian landscaping.
- **Community Practice:** ceramic charms/jewellery workshops, creative engagement programs, cross-cultural storytelling

Exhibitions

2025

- *Transitions Exhibition* – Romulus Folio Gallery, South Melbourne
- *Observer Exhibition* – Romulus Folio Gallery, South Melbourne
- *Affordable Art Show* – Space2b Gallery, St Kilda (Melbourne)
- *Other Latin Art Fair* – Marrickville Town Hall, Sydney

- *Postcard Collection* – Linden New Art, St Kilda (Melbourne)
- *Water Exhibition: Ebbs and Flows – Water and the Moon* – Caelene Nee Glen Gallery, Brighton (Melbourne)

2024

- *Nature in Relief* – Space2b Gallery, St Kilda (Melbourne)

2023

- *Postcard Collection* – Linden New Art, St Kilda (Melbourne)
- *Portal: Capture the Day* (Photography) – Devonport Regional Gallery, Tasmania

2011

- Solo Exhibition – My goddesses, Pinacoteca University of Concepcion, Chile

2001

- Collective Exhibition – Alexandria High School, Virginia, USA

Professional Experience

Romulus Folio Gallery – Melbourne

Artist, Workshop Facilitator, Gallery Contributor

2025

- Facilitates ceramic workshops engaging diverse communities.
- Contributes to gallery programming and participates in exhibitions.
- Supports audience engagement and creative activation events.

CNG Gallery – Melbourne

Gallery Consultant

2025

- Assisted with exhibition planning, preparation, and scheduling.
- Supported artwork handling, installation, and de-installation to meet professional standards.
- Strengthened skills in curatorial support, event coordination, and audience engagement.
- Developed strong relationships with partner organisations, suppliers, and cultural institutions.

Laurus Education – Melbourne

Arts Advisor, Curator & Events / Audience Engagement

2023–2024

- Designed and delivered arts workshops for students.
- Curated art installations across multiple campuses.
- Managed exhibition logistics and creative programming.
- Led community and student engagement initiatives.
- Event coordinator in various venues.

Space2b Gallery – Melbourne

Art Manager and Curator

2022–2024

- Curated art installations.
- Managed exhibition logistics and creative programming.
- Running the gallery in all the operations.

Freelance Arts & Events Professional

2019–Present

- Exhibition installation and fine art handling.
- Gallery operations and visitor engagement.
- Curatorial support for community and independent exhibitions.
- Delivery of ceramic charm workshops, cultural programs, and arts events.

Education

- **Postgraduate Diploma in Arts Management** – University of Chile 2013
- **Bachelor of Fine Arts (Sculpture Major)** – University of Concepción, Chile 2011
- **Bachelor of Arts in English Teaching** – University of Concepción, Chile 2015
- **Advanced Diploma in Marketing** – Appoly, Melbourne - 2023
- **Advanced Diploma in Program Management** – Appoly, Melbourne - 2021

Collections

2025 – Gentle Land of Waters, 2025 - Private Collection, Ambassador of Chile in Vietnam

Awards

[2025 – Best 5 artists at Latin Awards, Melbourne](#)

Media

- [2025 – SBS en Español – Radio Interview](#)
- [2025 – Amiga Mía – Feature Article](#)

Skills

- Mixed media & ceramic sculpture
- Cultural programming & exhibition planning
- Fine art handling & installation
- Community engagement & workshop facilitation
- Bilingual communication: Spanish / English
- Curatorial support & event organisation