



Cara Johnson
I love you all the same

14 March- 18 April 2026

At a time when hierarchies and inequality are becoming increasingly pronounced, Cara Johnson explores the nature of love, of tending, as an act of equalisation.

In 2024, Johnson and her partner Matt took ownership of a native plant nursery, growing local plants for revegetation and conservation. They devote their time to seed collection and plant growing, while in the midst of an ongoing drought, maintaining other roles and raising their small daughter.

This new body of work is born of and reflects this period - a time of great productivity and accomplishment, but also of pressure and responsibility. The demands on Johnson's attention are reflected in the exhibition's title: *I love you all the same*. She describes "processes that lend themselves to a fragmented life, things that can be picked up and put down", and this new work reveals an ongoing exploration of what life looks like as one holistic practice; when art, work, family and place are indivisible, all honoured as inextricably linked parts.

As well, the exhibition title touches on Cara's negotiation with the question of how to value invasive species, how to hold the tenderness she feels for life, regardless of whether it 'belongs'. Cara approaches this through intensively laborious processes, and by her use of materials that connect directly to land and our use/misuse of it. From agriculture: baling twine, silage netting, iron and fence posts. Weed species such as birch and willow. Old rakes and pegs. Feathers from beloved chickens. Johnson approaches each material with an equalising reverence, honouring each through her attention and labour. The resulting works are lyrical evocations of place and the passing of time, and most particularly, of our relationship to both.



Cara Johnson's craft-based practice interrogates tensions and narratives connected to ways that land is lived on, treated and used through her materials, intentions and deep investment of labour. Her practice is entwined with her rural location, drawing on the intimacies of a domestic life and ideas surrounding impact and control.

In 2016 Cara completed a Bachelor of Fine Art (First Class Hons.) at RMIT University. Solo exhibitions include *Understory* at the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, *Overlay* at Ararat Gallery TAMA and *Semblance of Repair* at Gallery Funaki. Cara exhibits widely in group shows, notably Paper Art 2017 at CODA Museum in the Netherlands, *Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize 2021*, the *Wangaratta Contemporary Textile Award in 2025* and her work was selected for *Schmuck* in both 2022 and 2023. In 2026 Cara's work will be represented in *Nature Machine: 6th Tamworth Textile Triennial*. Her works are held in various public and private collections including the National Gallery of Victoria and Ararat Gallery Textile Art Collection.

Image on previous page:

Cara Johnson

Coop (detail) 2024-2025

feathers from chickens I've loved, unraveled silage netting

Portrait and photos of work (except *"esterday*) by Fred Kroh. Install photos by Andrew Curtis.

All prices are in AUD and include sales tax.





Install photographs by Andrew Curtis





Brolga
Necklace, 2025
Iron rake, baling twine, paint
120cm long, hangs to 61cm
\$3400





'ellow I

Necklace, 2025

Woden pegs, baling twine, paint

48 x 40 x 0.3cm laid flat

\$2200



'ellow II
Necklace, 2025
Wooden pegs, baling twine, paint
77cm long, hangs to 35cm
\$1450



'ellow III

Necklace, 2025

Wooden pegs, baling twine, paint

96cm long, hangs to 48cm

\$1450



Holding on
Necklace, 2026
Hand forged iron nails, baling twine
120cm long, hangs to 60cm
\$2200





A form for a hare
Necklace, 2025
River red gum fence post, baling twine
40 x 24 x 5cm
\$1640



Cockatoo
Necklace, 2026
Rake, willow, baling twine
180cm long, hangs to 90cm
\$2300





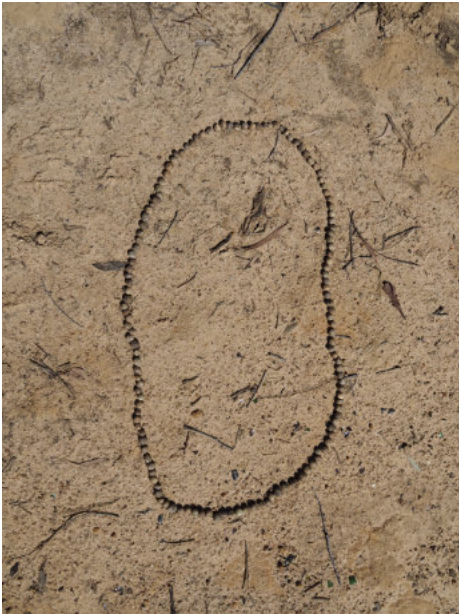
The amount of dirt my daughter and I can hold
Objects, 2026
iron
10 x 8 x 8cm / 5 x 3.5 x 3.5cm
\$5200 (pair)



Flock V
Necklace, 2026
Edition of 5
Birch, paint, silage netting
88cm long, hangs to 44cm
\$880



Paddock IV
Necklace, 2023
Willow, baling twine
250cm long
\$2300



Pearls (Rabbit poo) I, II & III
2026
Photograph on cotton rag paper
29.7 x 42cm
\$150 each (unframed)



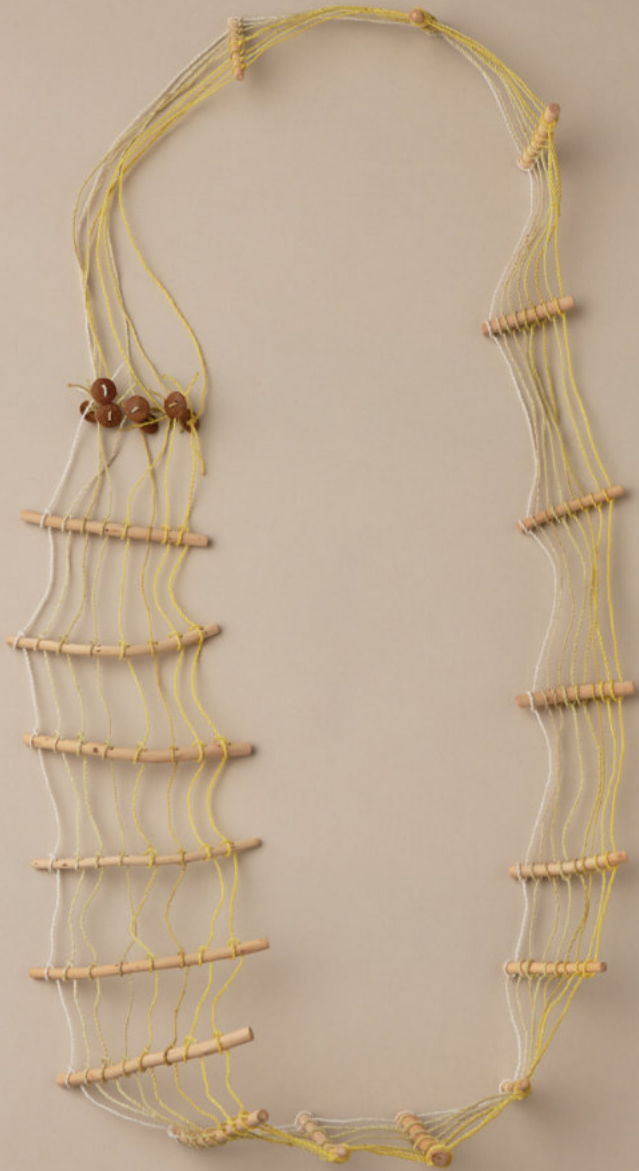
Flock IV
Necklace, 2025-26
Chicken feathers, silage netting
120cm long, hangs to 62cm
\$1300



Coop
Object, 2025-26
Chicken feathers, silage netting
112 x 24cm
\$6200



Unravelling II
Necklace, 2021
Willow, baling twine
240cm long (overall)
\$2250



Loom

Necklace, 2024

Steam bent apple wood, baling twine, apricot seeds

130cm long, hangs to 65cm

\$2300

'esterday
Necklace, 2026
Unlimited edition
Tree guard, silage netting
108cm long, hangs to 54cm
\$420



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Wednesday - Friday 12-5pm
Saturdays on occasion & by appointment