Judith Ritchie - Screen Printer - Mixed Media Artist - Tutor - Arts Writer - Costume Designer

I've been a creative my whole life, from growing up in rural Southland making things from what we had around the house and workshop to studying Fine Arts at Ilam at the University of Canterbury, and now in my own studio. Teaching has been a huge part of my creative journey, from high school to tertiary at NMIT, also overseas working for Oxfam in Samoa. I've enjoyed tutoring in mixed media, costume design, figure drawing and screen printing, and learnt so much from my students as well. I've had many Wearable Art entries both at WOW and overseas, winning several awards. I'm also passionate about recycling and sustainability, having operated a small business called Gorgeous, retro & upcycled, in Central Nelson which represented 22 artists all making beautiful wares from re-fashioned materials. This wonderful sunny space is also my studio which I share with 3 other creatives. I have a darkroom and all the facilities for running screen printing workshops, while enjoying the interaction and cross-over of ideas with my fellow-studio artists. In 2010 I built my own sustainable house in Enner Glynn, which won the 2011 Tasman Nelson Environment Award for Sustainable Design and has since been featured in the media and magazines many times. Most of all, art and creating for me has been about enjoyment; either the satisfaction of making work that others love and have in their homes, or from seeing the absolute joy screen printing brings to students as they discover the mysteries of this wonderful art form.