



Medyhne Lebachen has created a series of paintings she describes as "animal whimsy". Picture by Rick Kernick

An invitation into a world of whimsy

Rick Kernick

AT A time when turning on the television means being confronted by overseas wars and cost of living issues at home, one local artist is encouraging people to indulge their imagination in life's more playful side.

Taree artist, Medyhne Lebachen, has created a series of paintings that capture a style she describes as "animal whimsy".

Favouring acrylic on canvas, Ms Lebachen's works use bright colours to depict animals in fanciful settings, creating works that radiate fun, discovery, and an almost child-like abandon and sense of adventure.

Her work also explores themes categorised as *Mystical and Magical*, and *Radiant Designs*.

"I love to paint things that uplift people and make them feel great, and I love animals and nature, so I love to draw animals - there are a lot of cats in my designs," she says.



The artist alongside her work titled, 'Dog and Kitten'. Picture supplied

"I also love fantastical themes, like I've got mermaids and fairies - all the things that really engage me, that's what I paint.

"A lot of children respond well to the paintings, but also anyone's inner child that can respond really positively towards them."

Recent exhibitions to display her work include Ringsfield House and Museum in

Nanango, Queensland and Muse Gallery in Nabyac.

Additionally, her work is currently on display at Nadia's Art Gallery and Gifts in Taree as part of the Loft Galley exhibition, on display until May 28.

As well as nationally, Ms Lebachen has made forays into the international art market, having sold a number of works in the UK, along with a commission used for a charity auction in Mexico.

Not content to sell her work only on canvas, Medyhne is currently in negotiations with a boutique fashion brand to use her designs on their clothing.

Along with her visual art, she has published an illustrated book of poems, titled *Hilhairyass Poems: by a six year old adult*, and is currently in the process of publishing her second, more adult-oriented release.

For more information on Medyhne's work, visit her website: medyhne.com/