Artist Statement

**Tasio Sclavenitis**

I am a multidisciplinary artist working on Gadigal country. I draw my inspiration from my environment, both built and natural. My sculpture work explores botanical forms and their biomorphic possibilities. The work shown is part of a series of bronze sculptures I am currently working on (Pleiades). The mythological reference to these sisters is one that has equivalents in many cultures. The Pleiades star system, is and has been observed by people from all over the world. They are a symbol or example of what unites humanity, literally and metaphysically.

My ceramics work combines biomorphism and pareidolia in botanical forms together with figurative work inspired by childhood memories to create surreal scenes inspired by my past and Greek heritage. The work explores themes of identity, alienation and childhood nostalgia. My work involves slip cast and hand building techniques and my palett is achieved through the variety of colours created in the interaction of various white glazes interacting with a variety of clay bodies in oxidation, reduction fired to earthenware, midfire and high fire.

In my landscape works on paper, the compositions are more closed. The urban subject matter tends to be of awkward architectural spaces. There is a sense of alienation. The landscapes are devoid of people and the awkward feeling in them is a reflection of my metaphysical state.