

The Aussie art and poetry book collaboration you have to buy.

Combining art and words to speak directly to your heart.

Press Release

Australia, 27th May 2022, *SHINE*, an Australian Art and Poetry book that encapsulates both a visual and poetic invitation to all to embrace the abrasiveness of life. The unflinching images captured between its covers will crack you open, let in the light, and set your mind free with a humble truth. *SHINE* is a collaborative collection of poetry and art that follows the arc of 'The Heroes Journey', with the overarching themes being: internal conflict, realisation and transformation – coming into one's own, owning one's space and place in the world, and allowing ourselves to shine.

Skylar says: *"The works in this book follow my own journey of discovery since a traumatic event changed my life's path. In 2014, I was run down in a car park, and this changed the course of my life. It led to the writing of my first book, Pieces of Humanity, and gave me experiential perspectives on trauma, healing and finding of self. I have always been a huge advocate of humans needing to do one simple thing to change the world – make choices every day to behave decently towards other humans.*

*Engaging with others from all walks of life, from all challenges, beliefs, genders, minority, and majority groups and hearing their stories opened my mind to so many other 'realities', and my 'opinions' on many subjects underwent a huge transformation. Every poem in the book flowed from that place. It is a celebration of all that is human and **a call to all humans to let go of assumption, be brave, be decent, be all that is good and brilliant and shine.**"*

Neshka adds: *"We live in a world where we are bombarded with beautiful images, expectations for us to be perfect, for nothing else is good enough. My internal monologue shaped by the events of my childhood-the collapse of my family as well as never being able to totally fit in-stopped me from creating and sharing my work throughout my life. I was never good enough.*

*I did come to realise that life is not perfect, my art is not perfect and my interpretation is just what it is-my interpretation; good enough, **we are all good enough, we can only do what we can.** Skylar's words transformed the way I look at myself and enabled me to be me. **The art in this book not only relates to the poems themselves but to the symbolism that I grew up with.** The art in this book is not complicated; **it shows exactly what I felt with each of the written pieces."***

The book explores the following themes:

- We are all the same beneath our skin.
- Humans consciously choosing to treat each other decently is what will heal the world.

- Words and art, individually and collaboratively, speak to the heart and have the power to move us all towards new understanding, healing and connection.
- *We are enough.*

Skylar concludes: *"We wanted to create a book that people had to have on their coffee table. A book that would be opened time again, because words and art speak to the heart and have the power to move us all towards new understanding, healing and feeling less alone.*

We want to reach out to humanity in general and inspire people to choose understanding over judgment, reflection over accusation, acceptance over and above all because when we feel seen and heard, it creates the perfect environment for us all to flourish."

European and UK Book Tour takes place in October and November 2022.

In Conversation with Skylar J Wynter and artist Neshka Turner will take place on the 10th of June. To register, please click:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/in-conversation-with-author-skylar-j-wynter-and-artist-neshka-turner-tickets-334122016947>.

The official book launch and art expo takes place on the 11th of June. See more information at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/shine-book-launch-art-exhibition-tickets-336276661547>.

-ENDS-

For interviews, to request a copy of the book or for an extract please get in touch.

Media Contact: Candice Meisels candice@candicepr.com 0481 369 484