

EMPTY NEST | Margaret Ambridge



As soon as a child is born, you start preparing them for the day they will leave.

Empty Nest will be a significant milestone solo visual art exhibition exploring the concept of an 'empty nest' through the intensity of nest building, home making, and reflecting on what, and who leaves, or is left behind.

Margaret expands her vocabulary from the two dimensional, embracing sculpture, installation and sound work to further her exploration of 'the nest' through the lens of her own experience.




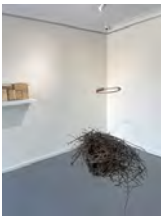



Empty Nest invites viewers to enter a human size nest. Entangled within the nest will be remnants of four generations of family nest building. It asks visitors to consider what an empty nest means to them; the leaving, of being left behind and of what has been left behind in their family 'nests'.








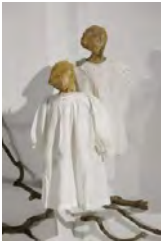
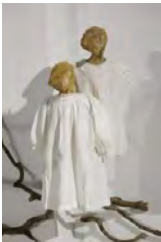
Participants are invited to write a note, to their parents/carers, their children or their future selves and pin it to the nest. Over the duration of the exhibition the notes will build, creating glimpses of memories, experiences, and reflections of times of transition and of times past.











Empty Nest builds on Margaret's previous Praxis Artspace exhibitions, *Beneath* and *Becoming Invisible*, further exploring and reflecting on lifelong human relationships.










Adelaide arts writer Stephanie Radok has written a sensitive and personal accompanying essay, 'What is left behind and what endures'.










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1.  **Margaret Ambridge**
Inheritance, 2026
NFS
2.  **Margaret Ambridge**
Train of Life, 2026
Dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose, steel
\$200.00
3.  **Margaret Ambridge**
1950's Kitchen, 2026
Dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose and wooden spoon
\$200.00
4.  **Margaret Ambridge**
Fallen, 2026
Found magpie nest
NFS
5.  **Margaret Ambridge**
Colour Memory #1, 2026
Pastel, water colour on board
15 x 15 cm
\$100.00
6.  **Margaret Ambridge**
Colour Memory #2, 2026
Pastel, water colour on board
15 x 15 cm
\$100.00
7.  **Margaret Ambridge**
Colour Memory #3, 2026
Pastel, water colour on board
15 x 15 cm
\$100.00










8.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Colour Memory #4</i> , 2026 Pastel, water colour on board 15 x 15 cm	\$100.00
9.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Colour Memory #5</i> , 2026 Pastel, water colour on board 15 x 15 cm	\$100.00
10.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Newborn</i> , 2025 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 20 cm	\$450.00
11.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Archie 6 weeks</i> , 2022 Charcoal on paper 15 x 16 cm	\$450.00
12.		Margaret Ambridge <i>At Rest</i> , 2026 Charcoal on paper 9 x 10 cm	\$450.00
13.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Resting</i> , 2026 Charcoal, water colour on paper 24 x 23.5 cm	\$450.00
14.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Bird's Nests</i> , 2026 30 year collection, suburban bird's nests Vale Viesturs Cielens, with thanks	NFS
15.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Twin a (front)</i> , 2026 Gifted vintage children's clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose	\$400.00
16.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Twin b (rear)</i> , 2026 Gifted vintage children's clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose	\$400.00










17.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Christening (3 birds), 2026</i> Gifted vintage Christening gowns, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose	NFS
18.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Fledgling (#1 of 7), 2026</i> Gifted vintage baby clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose - pink lace	\$450.00
19.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Fledgling (#2 of 7), 2026</i> Gifted vintage baby clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose - blue shirt	\$450.00
20.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Fledgling (#3 of 7), 2026</i> Gifted vintage baby clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose - smocking	\$450.00
21.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Fledgling (#4 of 7), 2026</i> Gifted vintage baby clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose - w pink sashes	\$450.00
22.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Fledgling (#5 of 7), 2026</i> Gifted vintage baby clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose - white smocking	\$450.00
23.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Fledgling (#7 of 7), 2026</i> Gifted vintage baby clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose	\$450.00
24.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Fledgling (#6 of 7), 2026</i> Gifted vintage baby clothes, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose - with bonnet	\$450.00
25.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Shadow Lands, 2026</i> Dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose, steel Desk lamps, vintage dried fruit box, wood	NFS
26.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Blinky Bill (The Complete Adventures of Blinky Bill 1942), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 31 x 18 cm	\$80.00









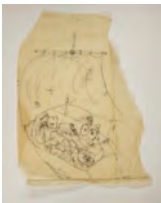
27.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Homelight</i> , 2026 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 20 cm	\$450.00
28.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Standing Bear (circa 1968)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 20.5 x 16.5 cm	\$80.00
29.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Inherited Bible</i> , 2026 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 20 x 20 cm	\$425.00
30.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Shelter</i> , 2026 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 15 x 15 cm	\$350.00
31.		Margaret Ambridge <i>First pram (circa Christmas 1969)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 26 x 19 cm	\$80.00
32.		Margaret Ambridge <i>First Rabbit (circa 1967)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 16 x 17 cm	\$80.00
33.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Tom Kitten (Beatrix Potter circa 1904)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 21.5 x 15.5 cm	\$80.00
34.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Jack and the Beanstalk (Book of Fairy Stories 1934)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 31.5 x 18.5 cm	\$80.00
35.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Ideal for Small Boys (Playboy cover Aug 1976)</i> , 2026 Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$110.00





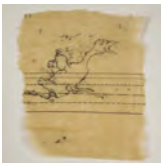




36.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Betweens (Barbie 1960 meets Ken 1971), 2026</i> Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$110.00
37.		Margaret Ambridge <i>1960's Barbie gets ready to meet 1970's Ken, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 25 cm	\$480.00
38.		Margaret Ambridge <i>With Some Special Features (How to Train Your Dragon, circa 2014), 2026</i> Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$130.00
39.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Shadow Play, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 20 cm	\$450.00
40.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Little Women Good Wives, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 20 cm	\$450.00
41.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Time even erodes concrete, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 30 x 40 cm	\$480.00
42.		Margaret Ambridge <i>For Your Young Space Traveller (Wall-E, circa 2008), 2026</i> Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$110.00
43.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Hand in Hand we came (AA Milne), 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 20 cm	\$450.00
44.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Flopsy Bunnies, 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 22 x 21 cm	\$80.00







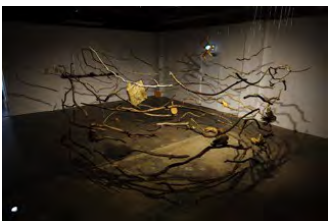

45.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Wonderful Bird Nests (Coles Book Arcade), 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 30 x 30 cm	\$500.00
46.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Any Youngster Would Love (Winnie the Pooh, circa 1925), 2026</i> Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$110.00
47.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Doll and pram (circa 1969), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 20 x 15 cm	\$80.00
48.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Babyboy (very dear), 2026</i> Babyboy (very dear) 15 x 15 cm	\$350.00
49.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Breakfast Bunnykins, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 20 x 20 cm	\$425.00
50.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Nest, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 30 x 30 cm	\$480.00
51.		Margaret Ambridge <i>First gathering (circa 1969), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 17.5 x 26 cm	\$80.00
52.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Evening, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 25 cm	\$425.00
53.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Christening Gown, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 50 x 40 cm	\$650.00

54.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Hush-a-Bye-Baby (Nursery Rhyme Land 1950), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 30 x 20 cm	\$80.00
55.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Doll (circa 1970), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 15 x 13 cm	\$80.00
56.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Sanctuary 1, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 30 x 30 cm	\$450.00
57.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Gift, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 40 x 40 cm	\$550.00
58.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Bambi (Little Golden Books, circa 1948), 2026</i> Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$110.00
59.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Bonnet (gifted), 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 20 x 20 cm	\$425.00
60.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Two Bad Mice, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 20 cm	\$450.00
61.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Rabbit (Winnie the Pooh 1942), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 16 x 15.5 cm	\$80.00
62.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Blinky's Adventures, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 25 cm	\$480.00

63.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Sanctuary 2</i> , 2026 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 30 x 30 cm	\$450.00
64.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Just the Thing for Toddlers (Dr Who Cybermen, circa 1982, 1966, 1968, 2006, 2017)</i> , 2026 Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$150.00
65.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Play Clothes (FNAF circa 2014)</i> , 2026 Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 44 cm	\$180.00
66.		Margaret Ambridge <i>My Mother's Cat</i> , 2026 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 15 x 15 cm	\$400.00
67.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Misguided Music Box</i> , 2026 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 15 x 15 cm	\$480.00
68.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Threeway sex with Daleks (Playboy Aug 1976)</i> , 2026 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 25 cm	\$450.00
69.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Keep Them Happy (Alien 1979)</i> , 2026 Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$110.00
70.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Hey, Diddle, Diddle (Nursery Rhyme Land 1950)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 28.5 x 27 cm	\$80.00
71.		Margaret Ambridge <i>One Yard Playsuit (Murder Drones, circa 2022)</i> , 2026 Charcoal on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$110.00

72.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Play Shorts (Playboy cover Nov 1975), 2026</i> Charcoal, watercolour on Enid Gilchrist's pattern books (circa 1966) 29 x 22 cm	\$110.00
73.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Cot (circa 1970), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 17 x 25 cm	\$80.00
74.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Hunca Munca (Tale of two bad mice, Beatrix Potter 1904), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 25 x 19 cm	\$80.00
75.		Margaret Ambridge <i>First dolls (circa 1967), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 15 x 19 cm	\$80.00
76.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Peter told Old Solomon about his Adventures (Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens 1943), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 21.5 x 28 cm	\$80.00
77.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Little Red Riding Hood meets the Wolf (Book of Fairy Stories 1934), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 33.5 x 21 cm	\$80.00
78.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Abandoned, 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 15 x 15 cm	\$350.00
79.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Peter (retold for Little People), 2026</i> Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 20 cm	\$425.00
80.		Margaret Ambridge <i>The Owl and the Pussy Cat (Nursery Rhyme Land 1950), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 30 x 22.5 cm	\$80.00

81.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Home</i> , 2026 Charcoal, pastel, water colour on board 25 x 20 cm	\$425.00
82.		Margaret Ambridge <i>First teddy (circa 1966)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 19.5 x 14.5 cm	\$80.00
83.		Margaret Ambridge <i>First tractor (circa 1669)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 22 x 18.5 cm	\$80.00
84.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Teddy & blocks (circa Christmas 1968)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 16 x 20.5 cm	\$80.00
85.		Margaret Ambridge <i>The Ugly Duckling (Book of Fairy Stories 1934)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 20.5 x 17.5 cm	\$80.00
86.		Margaret Ambridge <i>"Hello Rabbit" (Winnie the Pooh 1942)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 21.5 x 22.5 cm	\$80.00
87.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Eeyore and Piglet go for a walk, (Winnie the Pooh 1942)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 15.5 x 21 cm	\$80.00
88.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Eeyore has a Birthday (Winnie the Pooh 1942)</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 18 x 25 cm	\$80.00
89.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Pooh meets gastrocnemius</i> , 2026 Monotype on dress making tissue 28 x 16.5 cm	\$80.00

90.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Pooh discovers his foot, 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 18 x 34 cm	\$80.00
91.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Pooh discovers his scapula, 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 34 x 18 cm	\$80.00
92.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Pooh goes visiting Rabbit (Winnie the Pooh 1942), 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 22 x 22 cm	\$80.00
93.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Eeyore finds his tail, 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 21 x 13.5 cm	\$80.00
94.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Nest, 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 28 x 15 cm	\$80.00
95.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Remnants, 2026</i> Monotype on dress making tissue 24.5 x 13 cm	\$80.00
96.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Empty Nest, 2026</i> Fallen branches, roadside, suburban gardens, paper mache remnants from 4 generations, dressmaking tissue, methyl cellulose, community notes, string	NFS
97.		Margaret Ambridge <i>Nursery, 2026</i> Vintage clothing, earthenware	NFS



"Margaret's work is both art and science, indeed it is described in her overview as a kind of social science. However, it is always poetic before it is forensic, and it is distinguished by an unfailing sense of compassion that tempers objectification." Godwin Bradbeer artist.

Rod Taylor AM (Co-founder of the Adelaide Central School of Art and Patron of Central Studios), has said Margaret's work "...is unusually substantial - it is rigorous, powerfully socially relevant, original, and both conceptually and formally sophisticated. And, if these qualities were not enough, her work is often also beautiful. In fact, it is this latter, relatively rare quality, that makes her work so outstanding."

Exhibition Dates:

Thursday 19 February - 20 March 2026

The exhibition will be accompanied by an artist talk and forum.

Opening Event

Thursday 19 February 2026 | 6:00-8:00pm

Guest speaker Christopher Orchard – Artist, Arts Educator

Artist Talk and Forum

Thursday 5 March | 6:00pm

With *Empty Nest* Margaret Ambridge continues her exploration of the human condition's profound experiences and confrontations. The Forum has been a feature of Margaret's previous exhibitions providing an opportunity to contemplate and share those aspects of human experience that are, so often, not openly discussed.

The Forum will be presented in conversation with Margaret Ambridge, along with participants Rebekah Clarkson PhD (Creative Writing), Clinical Psychologist Annie Hopkins and Palliative Care Professor Greg Crawford; facilitated by Dr Gabrielle Cehic AM.

All works available for sale can be purchased through Praxis Artspace
Contact us on praxis@praxisartspace.com