

WORDS & PICTURES

Discover a fresh perspective on the Australian Collection with Words & Pictures, an ongoing project that invites local artists and writers to respond to artworks in the Australian Collection. Take inspiration, and use the pencils and paper provided at the stations to create your own response through drawing or writing.

Woman with Blossoms

*For those who can't see, even in places
where touch is forbidden, there are ways
to journey into art...*
(Perceval's Angel)

As she stands in the doorway
Feel her face - unwrinkled
Smell the flower in her hair - frangipani
Carry the basket in her hands- useful.
Go through the open door behind her
Feel warm sand
Sun beams tingle
Hear ocean ebb and flow.
Hear her mother or her older sister?
Just behind her handing her more flowers - singing
What is their story?
Head back inside
Feel the table now
Chunky, functional?
Now face of man
Soft, unlined, young, unworried?
Is he father, uncle, brother? Is he artist?
His elbows feel the table - by them fruit bowl, maybe green mango,
Cut the mango- taste it, share it.
Colours of earth skin
Colours warm skin
Skin soaks in a Tropical world.
Now add you . . .



June Perkins (Brisbane-based poet and children's author)