JANET LAURENCE

Ghost 2009
glass, stainless steel, concrete,
approx. 500 x 140 x 80cm

Supported by Arts NSW and Lake Macquarie Art Gallery Society (Detail opposite, photo Dean Beletich)

About Ghost
This monumental sculpture was inspired by the Eucalyptus tree that stood by the art museum until 2007 when it had to be removed. The height of the sculpture echoes the tree’s trunk and leaves. Layered elements of glass, feature the tree’s image, and mirror-like steel invite us to remember the eucalypt as well as reflect on the other beautiful trees in the park. The artist Janet Laurence creates works that connect us with our feelings about the living world and draws attention to the fleeting character of nature.

Artmaking
1. Find a plastic bottle to cut into three rectangles and remove the stickers.
2. Draw tree branches with a permanent marker on to each piece.
3. Place on a baking tray stacked on top of each other.
4. Get a big person to turn on the oven.
5. Place in a preheated oven on 180°C for 5mins or until they become curly.
6. Get a big person to take them out of the oven and let cool (be careful).
7. Arrange the pieces into a sculpture.
8. Explore the different shadows it created.
9. Draw the shapes you see around the pieces then add the details to your drawing.
10. Share your artwork with family and friends in person, on FaceTime or using social media
#artwithmac

MAC
Museum of Art and Culture
Lake Macquarie
Exploring the World

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How would you capture on paper, the memory of looking at a tree?

Go into your backyard or walk around your neighbourhood and sit and draw a beautiful tree. You can also do rubbings of leaves and bark using a lead pencil or crayons on their side. If you are in a park think about leaving an artwork made of leaves to bring joy to the next passer-by.