



In February 2015, I went on a voyage to the forgotten islands of the Sub – Antarctic to experience the power of nature, pure and uncut.

Now free of invasive and introduced species, including humans, their wilderness is fiercely guarded by the animals, birds and flora that thrive there.

The symbolism of crossing the unkempt Southern Ocean to get there is not lost on the traveller – It is like running a gauntlet and crossing a threshold, then disappearing down the rabbit hole.

The beaches are patrolled by thousands of fur seals, penguins, petrels, shearwaters and black backed gulls. Clinging to the wind lashed ground are massive tussocks and Mega Herbs, succulent flowers that are so surreal and beautiful, it is like wading through a dreamscape.

But it was the wandering albatross with their 4 metre wingspans that most mesmerized me. The mythical bird that haunts the poet and seduces the sailor. It is a knowing bird, innately connected to the wind, the currents, the ocean and the weather that dictates its world.

On the Campbell Islands, I watched them soar into the valleys to find their nesting mate, communicating, playing together, surfing the wind. I sat beside the stillness of the giant lone nesters, whose calm resembled a Buddha where the only movement was their snow white feathers blowing in the wind and their deep blinking eyes.

It was a rare glimpse into a parallel world, a great and unforgettable privilege. This exhibition is my homage to the soul of the albatross.

**With special thanks to Heritage Expeditions. Nettie Lodge 2015**

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**ANNETTE LODGE**

**'53 DEGREES SOUTH'**  
EXHIBITION  
Contemporary  
Narrative Paintings  
Launch night  
November 14, 6-8 pm

Exhibiting November 7 to December 3

Gallery Hours  
Tuesday to Sunday  
12-6pm

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**exhibitions 2015**

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