

# Artist in Focus

By Rebekah Butler

Deb Gillett is an Ingham-based artist and long time resident of North Queensland.



'the Spirit', Deb Gillett.

Growing up in northern New South Wales, she sailed to Townsville in the late 1970's on a yacht her father built in the back yard of the family's Grafton home. She is a self-taught artist who works in

acrylic, pastels and clay, and more recently has extended her practice to include bronze sculpture.

Gillett speaks passionately about her work and love of art, 'I like the fact that if someone is having a [bad] day, they will look at my work and feel better!'

Based on the human form, Gillett says her work is obsessed by sensual beauty, emotion and the sheer joy of living.

Gillett strives to capture a feeling of tenderness in her paintings and sculpture, an emotion she says that is

best described in the lyrics of a Billy Bragg song, that read, 'I thought about her hair, and the curve of her breast, and the point where their bodies met'. She also draws inspiration from artists such as Norman Lindsay and Brett Whitely.

Throughout October, a selection of Deb Gillett's bronze sculptures and paintings are being exhibited at Flinders Gallery, 693 Flinders Street, Townsville. Her work can also be viewed online at CWM Galleries website [www.cwmgalleries.biz](http://www.cwmgalleries.biz)



'Caress', Deb Gillett.