

NORTH SHORE

Sex toys the focus of new exhibition at Traffic Jam Galleries in Neutral Bay

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Rebecca Pierce with her artwork. Picture: ELENOR TEDENBORG

SEX toys and the Glasshouse Mountains don't have an immediate connection but a new art exhibition brings them together.

Neutral Bay artist Rebecca Pierce has planted sex toys in the garden for a series of photographs, inspired by the mountains.

Pierce decided that the phallic nature of some of the mountain formations could be represented by glass dildos.

So she ordered the sex toys online, arranging them in natural surrounds and photographing them, layering some of the images with patterns from her textile designs.



Artist Rebecca Pierce walking past her risqué artwork. Picture: Elenor Tedenborg

The photographs will feature in a new exhibition Solid Rock opening this Saturday at her art gallery Traffic Jam Galleries in Neutral Bay.

“There is an element of playfulness to this — you couldn’t be super serious about it,” says Pierce.

In an artist’s statement accompanying the photographs, Pierce writes:

“In an attempt to recreate these magnificent structures (the mountains) in the studio, I chose photo media to capture the phallic-like erections that appeared as rigid sentinels and at other times soft malleable mounds.”



The artworks were inspired by mountains. Picture: Elenor Tedenborg

Pierce visited and worked plein air in the Glasshouse Mountains in Queensland with fellow artist Dean Reilly who lives in the area. His paintings will also feature in the exhibition.

Inspired by the mountains and the Aboriginal legends that surround them, Pierce has also created semi-abstract landscapes.

She has incorporated mirror resin finish in the works, reflecting the name of the mountains which were christened by Captain Cook.

Pierce has also drawn on elements of the landscape to create patterns in colourful faces depicted on large canvases.

The exhibition Sold Rock will continue until February 26. Details: tjg.com.au.