Girl at a Winter's Beach

Oil on Canvas

80 x 45cm

2017

This is my daughter Maggie at West beach, late winter, 2016. After one of the many storms experienced that year, Maggie wanted to go to the beach, as the beach is one of her favourite places. We arrived mid-morning, by which time the storm had cleared enough that there was a little sunshine poking through the general winter pall. Although I admittedly did not prepare Maggie adequately for the eventuality, Maggie decided that such conditions were just fine for a paddle in the sea. The storms had washed a lot of seaweed up onto the beach, and the prospect of playing with it in the water was too enticing, outweighing the fact that the temperature was still quite "robust," or that we hadn't brought a change of clothes for her. This painting was originally composed for a Royal Society for Arts South Australia (RSASA) member's exhibition entitled "Wet, Wild and Woolly"; I thought Maggie at the beach that day was a perfect subject for such an exhibition.

Award of Merit Winner, 2018