**BOLD - ELLIE NIELSEN**

**TRANSCRIPT**

Ellie - When you've lifted the paper and looked at it and it's come out right, it's just, it blows your mind. In the beginning, I was doing huge, softly abstract work. Big paintings. And then I had a fall off a horse and I had no use in my left hand at all, a bit in my right. And I got a friend to drive me up to Rockhampton to tell the guy who had been tutoring me. And he handed me a piece of zinc with the blockout on it. And I drew into the bitumen, I was gone. I was a printmaker from that minute on. When I heard that some of the universities were cutting etching right out of their curriculum and putting digital in its place, that's when I thought I've got to teach the old methods because otherwise they'll be lost.

Trudy - Hi Ellie.

Ellie - Hi Trudy. Come on in. I've got the press ready.

Ellie - It's put together perfectly. So we'll start with putting the salt together.

Ellie - When this is dry

Neen - Right...

Ellie - You are going to run a thin coat

Ellie - of bitumen over it.

Neen - All over it.

Ellie - And then you are going to draw into that.

Neen - Beauty. Okay, so that's okay, I can go down...

Roseann - My mother was making computer pictures before I was really good at using a computer. So she was able to move with the times very quickly and she was always a little bit ahead of the times.

Trudy - She's very generous and caring. I'm going to get upset now. But because she's older, a lot of people, you can tell sort of assume that she's not quite catching on but she always knows exactly what you're talking about. And her knowledge about art is never-ending. About design, about colour. And about all the techniques of etching. And I'm lucky enough to be able to learn a little bit of it.

Ellie - It's just the joy of seeing their face when they suddenly have found this thing, that there's this skill that I didn't know they had.

Neen - Going into the studio is always an exciting experience. When you come up with an idea, Ellie is so encouraging. She's never said a negative thing to me, never. She just doesn't know what that is.

Ellie - If I find myself looking on the negative side, I try to immediately think, "Oh well, you know, that part's bad but this over here is really good." If your attitude is good and you are intending to enjoy life, you will. When I let my hair go grey, the difference was that when you walked into a shop and there were six people there waiting to be served, you always got left to last because you looked old. As soon as my daughter put the red stuff in, I've been treated like I'm 20 years younger. It's strange, isn't it?

Roseann - I truly believe that if you go around saying that you're 80 or 90, people will treat you that way.

Trudy - When I'm here with her, I don't even think about our ages and it's all about the art. It helps me to realise that it doesn't have to be, "Oh, I'm too old to do this," because Ellie's never let that affect her that way.

Ellie - If you're going to be old, you might as well enjoy it.