

## Artist in the Spotlight: Dottie Telford

### WHERE were you born?

I grew up on a small farm in rural Saskatchewan.

Surrounded by eight brothers and two sisters, life in a small town on the vast prairies of Western Canada was busy, fun and interesting.



### WHAT jobs have you done other than being an artist?

I have been involved in the food and hospitality industry. Eventually I turned those skills into teachable experiences, and taught Home Economics in a public school in the Adelaide Hills.

### FAVOURITE or most Inspirational place?

My favourite place is about 12m deep on a coral reef with a scuba tank on my back.



I'd like to be  
Under the sea  
In an octopus's garden  
In the shade

The weightlessness of flying through the gardens of the sea is my happy place. There is plenty to inspire as well - the vibrancy of colors, the swaying of grass, the shoals of fish, and the patinas of the water provide wonder and contentment.

I try to bring this wonder to my work.

**WHAT'S your medium and why do you choose to do what you do?**



I like to play with clay.

There is something organic, and fluid, and forgiving about creating with dirt.  
If

something is not working, simply remove the offence with a swipe of knife.

Reshape. Replace. Or recreate. Nothing is precious.

I like getting my hands muddy.

**Name 3 artists you would like to meet and have a drink with...**

Frida Kahlo - great inspiration and wonderful foresight.

Michelangelo - lunch with the best. Discover his secrets and his tricks. Fascinating.

Picasso - thinking outside the box.

**Art inspired by her trip to India**

