

# ADHERENCE

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**“Morbid adherence of the placenta to the uterine wall is a potentially life threatening obstetric complication that frequently requires interventions such as caesarean hysterectomy and high volume blood transfusion. (...) Placenta accreta is a serious but rare complication in pregnancy. It occurs when the placenta invades more deeply than normal into the muscle in the wall of the uterus, and sometimes even growing through the full thickness of the wall to the outside of the uterus.”<sup>1</sup>**

My practice is informed by the uncomfortable, recurring and unconscious aspects of personal experience and perception. I draw on recorded dream sequences, unlikely associations, the grey area between memory and imagination and the evolution of experience as revised through contemplation. I am particularly interested in thoughts or mental images that punctuate logical thought processes; that disrupt our daily personal narratives. Many of these are derived from traumatic experiences, which are replayed and become entwined with everyday activities and interactions. Generally, I utilise these experiences to create artists' books, small-scale works on paper or zines.

In *Adherence*, I refer directly to the trauma associated with the birth of my second son and the further implications of these events. Following the birth, I have kept extensive accounts of the conscious and unconscious effects of these experiences as they continue to pervade my thoughts, dreams, actions, conversations and being. Through these works I recount memories of emergency medical procedures, massive blood loss, intensive care, vulnerability, dependence, phobias and impaired consciousness. I aim to investigate the convergence of dreams and conscious revision, and in doing so, create a visual representation of traumatic experience as it punctuates my everyday narrative.

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<sup>1</sup> Women's Health Committee: The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RANZCOG), *Placenta Accreta* 2015, 3<sup>rd</sup> edn, viewed 6 January 2018, <[https://www.ranzcog.edu.au/RANZCOG\\_SITE/media/RANZCOG-MEDIA/Women%27s%20Health/Statement%20and%20guidelines/Clinical-Obstetrics/Placenta-Accreta-\(C-Obs-20\)-Review-March-2014,-Amended-November-2015.pdf?ext=.pdf](https://www.ranzcog.edu.au/RANZCOG_SITE/media/RANZCOG-MEDIA/Women%27s%20Health/Statement%20and%20guidelines/Clinical-Obstetrics/Placenta-Accreta-(C-Obs-20)-Review-March-2014,-Amended-November-2015.pdf?ext=.pdf)>.