

## Art work by Stella Davis on the Book of Ruth

*Monoprint 2019*

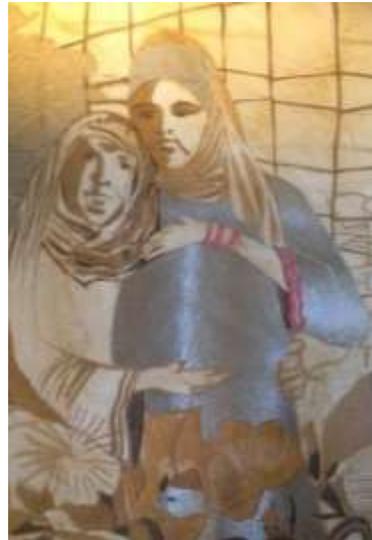
This was a Commission to produce a piece of art for midwife, Jo Elgar, Australian by birth, who married Geoff 30 years ago , and to use a



reading from their wedding - the Old Testament book of Ruth Ch1 v16/17 . I read the whole story and was struck by the many blessings which came after loyal Ruth separated herself from all that was familiar to her.

This echoed the work of a midwife, a baby must leave the mother's body in order to begin a new life.

During my own trip to Australia several years ago I had been enthralled by the beauty of Eucalyptus flowers. The flower forms in a cup and cone which must separate to allow blooming, and the cup becomes the seedpod for the next generation. The tree is there as a symbol of blessing and maturity and the background is based on an aboriginal pattern.



Ruth was not pregnant at this point in the story, but she later became the mother of the ancestors of King David, a lineage which continued to Christ himself. I have depicted her as pregnant with her promise.

The image therefore relates to *mid-wife* in both senses of the word.

### **Midwife**

- A person who is trained to assist women in childbirth.
- One who assists in or takes a part in bringing about a result.

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