Born in Germany, Professor Terstappen made her mark on the international art scene following formal fine arts studies in sculpture at Staatliche Kunstkademie Düsseldorf. Working with a range of media, her current interests focus on the areas of contemporary installation and photography. Her photographs range across many subjects ranging from the natural to the man-made and yet they are connected through a sense of the mysterious within things. Her recent exhibition at Monash University was titled ‘Places of Worship’.

‘Claudia Terstappen is seduced by rituals and magical practices. In her photographs she looks at temples, shrines and objects used in ceremonial practices, she also explores the concept of the spirit of place that is the foundation of many indigenous cultures…The big project for Claudia Terstappen is to understand how desire, belief and cultural memory are entwined.’