

EXHIBITION PROGRAM

**L
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**LAKE
MACQUARIE
CITY
ART
GALLERY**



SUMMER – WINTER 2018

10 FEBRUARY – 25 MARCH
RESOLUTION: CONTEMPORARY INDIGENOUS PHOTOMEDIA
YOUR COLLECTION: LOOK OUT

10 FEBRUARY – 2 APRIL
ARTIST FOCUS: SALLY BOURKE

31 MARCH – 20 MAY
FIRST CLASS 17

26 MAY – 15 JULY
HUNTER RED: RE(A)D EARTH

FROM THE GALLERY DIRECTOR

Welcome to a new year at the gallery – the weather is hot and so is the program!

This year will build on the great successes of 2017. Our visitors continue to stream in with over 42,000 people engaging with our exhibition and public programming last calendar year. Over 9,300 visitors participated in arts classes and/or events, with 1,566 of those being school students.

Major projects included *Book Club*, curated by Meryl Ryan and *Diane Arbus* travelling from the National Gallery of Australia, both captivating audiences. We also hosted *David Fairbairn: Drawn to Print* and *Of the Mind*, the culminating exhibition from our mental health project, *Art(ful) Futures*, in partnership with Arts in Recovery and Newcastle Community Arts Centre.

We attracted industry recognition with a 2017 IMAGinE Award for *Lake Macquarie: Living Cultures* (working watercraft) developed in consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group, Lake Mac Libraries and local historical societies. *Living Cultures* was also displayed at Lake Macquarie's newest exhibition space, SEEN@Swansea.

On the collection front, we acquired 73 works into 'Your Collection', including Jamie North's *Succession* (2016) in the sculpture park and 30 black-and-white photographs of New Guinea (c. 1950, reprinted 2016) by the late William Dobell, donated by the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation.

The 2018 program continues with our major summer exhibition *BOARD*, curated by Meryl Ryan, alongside *Living Cultures* (surf life saving) and *At the Beach*. The projects were launched at the 'All A Board' festival day on 10 December with over 750 people by the lake for a day of skating, eating and art while the sun shone and the water sparkled.

The new program will engage audiences through exhibitions, education and partnership projects. *Resolution: new Indigenous photomedia*, made possible through our ongoing relationship with the National Gallery of Australia, brings together established and critically acclaimed artists with emerging talent reflecting the diversity and dynamism of contemporary practice.

Your Collection: Look Out is the tenth in our series of popular thematic collection shows presented under that banner, while the work of Hunter-based artist Sally Bourke will be presented in the third of our *Artist Focus* series.

This year marks 10 years since we began our uniquely local and esteemed *First Class* series of exhibitions. The key to the success of this series is it showcases outstanding artwork selected under a curatorial theme. This year's exhibition has been selected by Lisa Who and Helen Willis to reflect the questioning nature of young artists' work.

Our winter exhibition is *Re(A)d Earth*, developed with the Aboriginal Reference Group to explore contemporary connections to Country through the work of Aboriginal artists. It sits under the banner *Hunter Red*, a group of exhibitions developed through an exciting new strategic partnership between Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Newcastle Art Gallery, Newcastle Museum and The Lock-Up, devised to strengthen the cultural offer in the Lower Hunter.

As usual, we invite visitors to engage with the themes, materials and ideas in the exhibitions through a wide range of events, forums, tours and art classes. We invite you to join us at the Hunter's only waterfront gallery.

Debbie Abraham
Director, Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery





GENERAL INFORMATION

Who we are

Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery is an exceptional cultural and tourist destination, widely recognised for its award-winning program and work with the community.

Every visit is a visual treat. Touring shows alternate with gallery-curated exhibitions featuring nationally significant artists, many of whom share a connection with the Hunter. Contemporary art practice is the focus of many of our exhibitions and respectful Aboriginal projects are integral to the program.

The Hunter's only waterfront gallery is welcoming with:

- state-of-the-art exhibition space
- helpful, knowledgeable and friendly staff
- free family activity area
- well-equipped seminar facilities for a wide range of purposes, from art classes, lectures and residencies by visiting artists, to community and corporate events
- retail outlet for contemporary craft and books
- easy ramp access to the gallery for wheelchairs and prams
- baby-changing facilities and disability access to toilets
- ample car parking, accessible jetty and bicycle path
- the historic Awaba House Restaurant Cafe
- extensive sculpture park
- fabulous views.

Left and above: The gallery sculpture park during the *BOARD* exhibition opening festival in December 2017 featuring Poppy Starr Olsen demonstrating skateboarding skills; and Jamie North's *Succession* 2016, cement, steel, steel slag, coal ash, oyster, shell, organic matter, 450 x 90cm (diam.), 420 x 90cm (diam.), now in the gallery's collection.





10 FEBRUARY – 25 MARCH

Resolution: new Indigenous photomedia

This National Gallery of Australia travelling exhibition celebrates some of the most significant work made by Indigenous photographers, video and multimedia artists in the past five years. It brings together established and critically acclaimed artists with exciting emerging talent reflecting the diversity and dynamism of contemporary practice.

Resolution: new Indigenous photomedia is a National Gallery of Australia Exhibition. The National Gallery of Australia acknowledges funding support from the Visions touring and the National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Programs, both Australian Government programs aiming to improve access to the national collections for all Australians.

Above: Christian Thompson
Gods and kings 2015, from the series *Imperial relic*
chromogenic colour photograph
National Gallery of Australia,
Canberra
Purchased 2016
Courtesy of Michael Reid, Sydney
© the artist

Left: Brook Andrew
Possessed I 2015
gelatin silver photograph
National Gallery of Australia,
Canberra
Purchased 2016
© the artist



10 FEBRUARY – 25 MARCH

YOUR COLLECTION: Look Out

This exhibition looks out on the landscape through a diverse group of contemporary artworks from the collection. Each of the artists projects a unique lens onto the landscape, reflecting various social, cultural and political identities. It marks the tenth in our series of popular thematic collection shows presented under the banner 'Your Collection'. The series not only acknowledges the community's pride in the collection but also celebrates the collection's evolving breadth and quality.

A gallery project curated by Rob Cleworth and Meryl Ryan.

Ian Friend

*A precipitation of fallen angels,
(blue), no.2 (detail) 2011-12*
watercolour, gouache and crayon
on Khadi paper

77 x 57cm

Still Waters Clear Visions

Collection Lake Macquarie City

Art Gallery

Donated through the Australian

Government's Cultural Gifts

Program, 2014

© the artist



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10 FEBRUARY – 2 APRIL

ARTIST FOCUS: Sally Bourke

The gallery is pleased to present the third exhibition in the now established *Artist Focus* series. Following on from popular previous projects, featuring Braddon Snape and Pablo Tapia respectively, this showcase spotlights the practice of another leading Hunter-based artist, Sally Bourke. Outspoken and focused, Bourke has maintained a studio in the Hunter for more than 20 years and become well known for the gestural psychological landscapes that are her riveting portraits.

A gallery project coordinated by Meryl Ryan in consultation with the artist.

Sally Bourke
House devil, street angel (detail) 2017
oil and acrylic on archival mountboard
102 x 82cm
courtesy the artist
© the artist

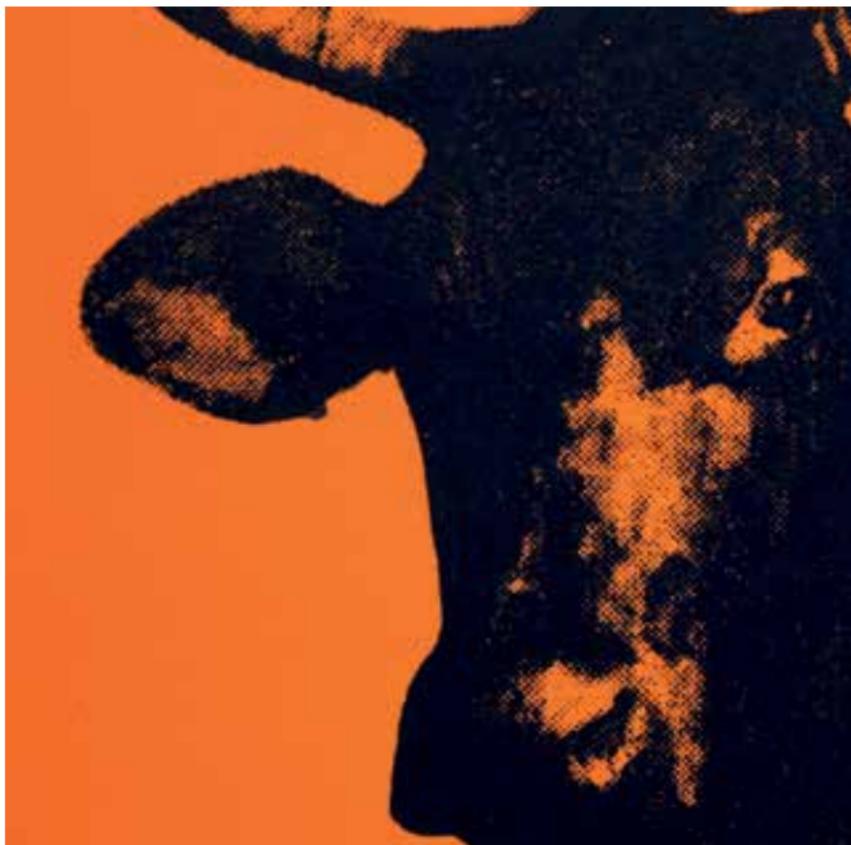


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...art has the ability to identify with, and therefore change, an individual and their ideals.





31 MARCH – 20 MAY

First Class 17

As 2018 is the tenth year of the uniquely local and esteemed *First Class* series of exhibitions, we are going to celebrate! The series maintains a tradition of curating around a theme from outstanding work produced by Hunter and Central Coast HSC Visual Arts students from the previous year. Giving young artists a chance to exhibit in a professional gallery environment, the exhibition encourages audiences to experience the richness of talent and the voice of youth. Former *First Class* curators Kath Grushka, Jody Robinson, Ann Caddey, Tatiana Barisa and Belinda Howden will be invited to the special anniversary opening alongside current *First Class* curators Lisa Who and Helen Willis. The selected artworks in *First Class 17* demonstrate a questioning nature – ‘where are we going?’ We are seeing emerging trends of anxiety, displacement and vulnerability creating a darker malaise in today’s youth. Through the avenue of visual arts, these students are revealing sophisticated observations of topical issues including urban and environmental chaos, gender conformity and unrealistic social expectations.

A gallery project curated by Lisa Who and Helen Willis.

Above: From *First Class 17*
Mikayla Pope
Warners Bay High School
Blue Cow 1.129 (detail) 2017
fake fur, acrylic paint
on paper and board
dimensions variable
© the artist

Left: Installation details and opening images drawn from the annual *First Class* project over the past 10 years.



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26 MAY – 15 JULY

Hunter Red

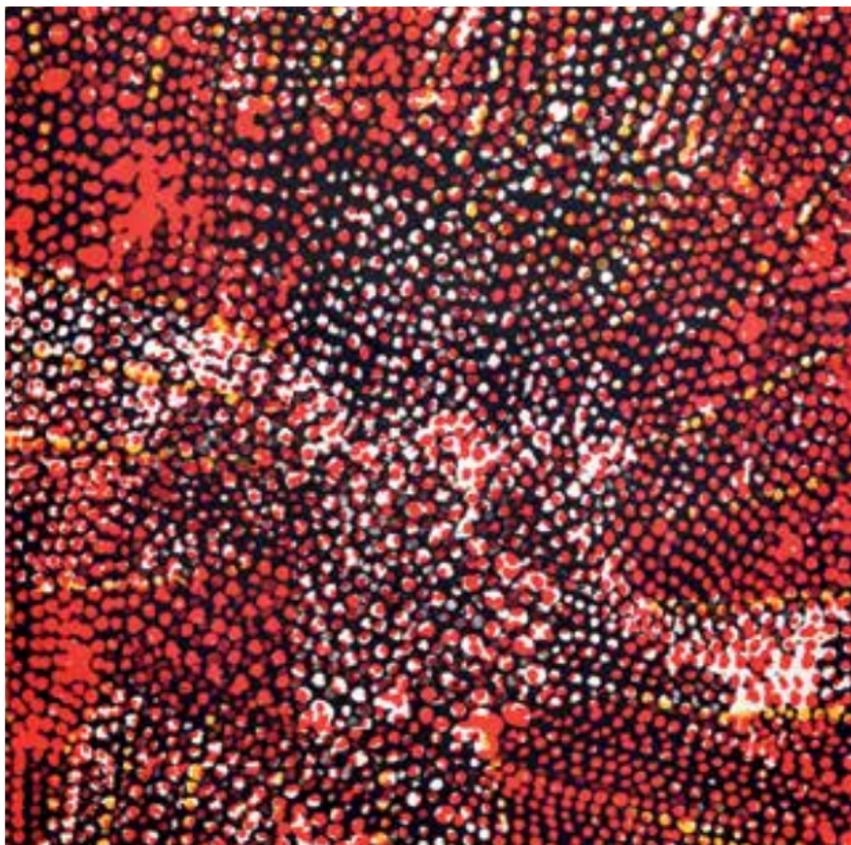
The *Hunter Red* suite of exhibitions represents a collaborative vision shared by Hunter-based cultural institutions: Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Newcastle Art Gallery, Newcastle Museum and The Lock-Up Contemporary Art Space. It has encouraged the group to examine how they cooperate, collect, create, and communicate to a broader audience. Using a popular tourist drawcard as a springboard, the project subverts commonly held misconceptions and examines the present-day motivation of the region's cultural institutions. A diverse narrative encompassing mutual support, collection sharing, and outstanding cultural practice, *Hunter Red* takes us to the core of examining identity and belief systems to represent a region that is multifaceted and rich.

A strategic partnership supported by each partner venue through their respective funding bodies.

Megan Cope, one of the artists working with community members during the *Re(A)d Earth* artist camps in the region.
Photo Nicole Chaffey.



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26 MAY – 15 JULY

Re(A)d Earth

Re(A)d Earth presents perspectives on contemporary connection to Country for Aboriginal artists and acknowledges the notion of ‘reading’ the earth as elemental in Aboriginal culture. Building on the strength of existing cultural connections and knowledge in the region, the exhibition comprises two components: a formal exhibition and a series of ‘artist camps’ and workshops. The exhibition will be selected from the oeuvre of artists with a pre-existing relationship with the region: whether through commissions, exhibitions or community engagement. Among others, this group includes Jonathan Jones, Archie Moore, Yhonnie Scarce, Judy Watson, Megan Cope, Amala Groom and Chico Monks with artworks drawn from a range of disciplines and practices. By way of knowledge-sharing and mentorship, workshops preceding the exhibition encourage participating artists to make work in response to local stories and the environment for display in the exhibition.

A gallery project curated by Donna Biles Fernando and developed in consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group.

Kathleen Paddoon Napanangka
Nakarra Nakarra (detail) 2007
Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander
Works on Paper Collection
Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery
Donated by Lake Macquarie
Art Gallery Society, 2013
© Kathleen Paddoon/Copyright
Agency, 2018



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GENERAL INFORMATION

Where we are

The gallery is located on the north-west shore of Lake Macquarie amidst five hectares of lakefront grounds and sculpture park overlooking Marmong Marina. The gallery has a carpark adjacent to Lake Macquarie Rowing Club, but can be reached via the cycleway, the lake or public transport. Catch a train to Booragul Station and enjoy a 15-minute walk down Fourth Street into First Street and along the waterfront; or alight at Fassifern or Teralba Stations and catch a bus or taxi/hire car. If driving from Sydney, take the Toronto exit on the M1 Pacific Motorway. Turn left at Toronto Road (signposted Newcastle) and turn right at the roundabout at Booragul. Continue along First Street to the end.

Google Maps: search for 'Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery'.

Taxi Services Co-op 133 300

Toronto Hire Cars (02) 4950 4111

Bus and Train information

www.transport.nsw.gov.au

Cycle paths and more www.visitlakemac.com.au

Gallery Director Debbie Abraham

Curator Meryl Ryan

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Exhibitions & Collection Officer Rob Cleworth

Marketing & Audience Engagement Officer Laura Wilson

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Left: Aerial view of the gallery and sculpture park featuring Richard Tipping's *Hear the art* 1996 brick, native trees, 2646cm radius, supported by EnergyAustralia and Arts NSW, Collection Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery

LAKE MACQUARIE CITY ART GALLERY
OPEN TUESDAY TO SUNDAY 10AM – 4.30PM
& SELECTED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 11AM – 4PM
(TELEPHONE FOR DETAILS)
ADMISSION IS FREE

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AWABA HOUSE RESTAURANT & CAFE
TUESDAY TO SUNDAY 10AM – 4PM
T: (02) 4950 6366 F: (02) 4950 6166

Cover: From *Resolution: new Indigenous photomedia*
10 Feb – 25 March 2018
Danie Mellor *Natura naturata (the twenty first century)* 2015
chromogenic colour photograph
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
Purchased 2016



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