

EXHIBITION PROGRAM & INFORMATION

LCAM
**LAKE
MACQUARIE
CITY
ART
GALLERY**



SUMMER – WINTER 2013

8 FEBRUARY – 24 MARCH
Bungaree: The First Australian
Project: Birabahn (and Threlkeld)

8 FEBRUARY – 5 MAY
Water Stories: as selected by the Aboriginal Reference Group

30 MARCH – 5 MAY
Contemporary Australian Drawing: 20 years of the Dobell Prize for Drawing
An intimate view: William Dobell

10 MAY – 16 JUNE
First Class 12: local 2012 HSC works

10 MAY – 28 JULY
Anne Zahalka: a case study

21 JUNE – 28 JULY
William Yang: Australia Now
Made in China Australia

FROM THE GALLERY DIRECTOR

Welcome to 2013 at the gallery – it is shaping up to be a fantastic year for programming, in particular for exhibition projects, artist residencies, community engagement and education.

We will be building on the great successes of last year. During the latter part of 2012 we were proud to present two exemplary gallery projects – *Look closely now* curated by Meryl Ryan and *Big Scope: painting and place*, curated by Rob Cleworth – both exhibitions featuring stunning and thought-provoking work, attesting to the calibre of the professional staff at the gallery.

One of the gallery's other major projects, *Life in Your Hands: art from solastalgia*, curated by Robyn Daw, is currently touring the eastern states and was a highlight of the recent Regional Arts Australia Conference in Goolwa (SA).

The gallery continues to support the community through such award-winning projects as *Stencils Past, Stencils Last*, a street art project with artists Mini Graff and Jason Wing working with members of the local Aboriginal Community, staged at the gallery from July–October 2012. Local makers are also supported through exhibitions, the shop and through our annual commitment to the Autumn Art Bazaar, planned for 10 March this year.

We continue supporting the education community through the Newcastle Junior School (formerly Glendon) annual project. *BIG* saw fantastic large-scale works by the students based on the work of the masters, and we very much look forward to their next exhibition in December this year.

Our annual *First Class* project, curated by Tatiana Barisa and Ann Caddey, and presenting selected HSC artworks from Hunter and Central Coast schools, will also celebrate the artistic achievements of young artists in the region through education. Support will be given to secondary and primary school teachers through a series of professional development sessions during the year.

This year kicks off with a trio of Indigenous projects – Mosman Art Gallery's *Bungaree: the First Australian*, curated by Djon Mundine; *Water Stories* selected from the gallery's collection by the Aboriginal Reference Group; and the first phase of a long-term project, *Birabahn (and Threlkeld)*, again by the Aboriginal Reference Group.

Two popular touring exhibitions, *Contemporary Australian Drawing: 20 years of the Dobell Prize for Drawing*, from the Art Gallery of NSW, and *Made in China Australia*, from CAST Touring Tasmania, will be supported by gallery projects. With the latter, *Anne Zahalka: a case study* will feature with the installation *Australia Now* by well-known Chinese-Australian artist, William Yang. All of these projects promise to provide memorable experiences for gallery visitors with many interactive components for families and school students.

We look forward to welcoming you to the gallery throughout 2013; and remember to visit www.artgallery.lakemac.com.au for more information about the gallery and our programs.

Debbie Abraham

Director Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery
Chair Regional & Public Galleries Association NSW



WELCOME TO THE BEACH



GENERAL INFORMATION

Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery

Located on the foreshore of Australia's largest coastal saltwater lake, the gallery is an exceptional cultural and tourist destination.

Innovative and relevant programming ensures every visit is a visual treat. The gallery is widely recognised for its relevant community projects, and finely curated exhibitions featuring nationally significant contemporary artists, many of whom share a link with the Hunter region. Respectful Indigenous projects are also a strong and important component of the program as is the strategic selection of outstanding touring shows and educational programs.

Alongside the award-winning exhibition facility, the waterfront site comprises leafy spacious grounds, a sculpture park, and the popular Awaba House Cafe.

left: aerial view of the sculpture park featuring Richard Tipping *Hear the art* 1996, brick, native trees, 2646cm radius, supported by EnergyAustralia;
above: Janet Laurence *Ghost* 2009, glass, stainless steel, concrete, 500 x 140 x 80cm, supported by Arts NSW and Lake Macquarie Art Gallery Society. Both works are part of the collection of Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Sustainability and the Environment

The gallery is committed to minimising its carbon footprint and has successfully implemented the first phase of its sustainability plan. In 2011, Council installed 162 photovoltaic cells and a voltage reduction unit at the gallery, representing 20% less energy use over the past two years. This not only considers the environment, but also the gallery's budget.

The next major strategy is designed to save energy and to meet new legislation prohibiting the manufacture and importation of the inefficient incandescent lamps currently used in many specialist gallery light fittings. The gallery is installing a lighting system in 2013, which should represent a further 10% saving in overall energy usage. The gallery is also researching energy-effective air-conditioning systems and levels, which will again lower energy consumption while maintaining industry standards.

Other strategies are ongoing, including the exclusive use of environmentally friendly harvested, manufactured and/or recycled papers for publications. This has not affected the quality of gallery publications: on the contrary, we still attract national publication design awards annually.

We are proud to be contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting future generations through sustainable and ethical practices.

Recently installed photovoltaic cells on the gallery roof



GENERAL INFORMATION

Award-winning Art Gallery

The gallery has won many local, state and national awards in the tourism and local government sector for excellence in education, cultural development and programming, in particular Aboriginal programming. This last year has been no exception. The gallery and Aboriginal Reference Group won an IMAGinE Award for the *Stencils Past, Stencils Last* project. Our publications have also been regularly acknowledged with the presentation of Museums Australia Multimedia and Publication Design Awards (MAPDA). In 2012, the *(re)vision* exhibition catalogue took out our 13th MAPDA award in seven years.

- 2012 MAPDA Best Catalogue (under 64 pages) *(re)vision*
IMAGinE Award for Education and Public Engagement *Stencils Past, Stencils Last*
- 2011 MAPDA Best in Show with *Carnival* exhibition catalogue
MAPDA Best Poster – Level A *Carnival* exhibition catalogue
NSW Local Government and Shire Association Cultural Award (LGSACA) for Aboriginal Cultural Development for *A Possum Skin Cloak by the Lake*
- 2010 MAPDA Best Catalogue (under 64 pages) *The Museum Effect*
MAPDA Corporate – Level A for Gallery Promotional Look
- 2009 IMAGinE Award for Education and Public Engagement for *Yapang Marruma: making our way (stories of the Stolen)*
MAPDA Best Catalogue (under 64 pages) *Adam Geczy: Concerts*
MAPDA Best Catalogue (under 64 pages) High Commendation *Cold Front*
- 2008 NSW LGSACA for Aboriginal Cultural Development
- 2007 MAPDA Gallery Program and Corporate Branding
MAPDA Best Catalogue (under 64 pages) High Commendation *Earth cry*
MAPDA Best Catalogue (under 64 pages) High Commendation *Found out*
- 2006 MAPDA Best in Show with *colour(less)* exhibition catalogue
MAPDA Best Catalogue (under 64 pages) *colour(less)*
NSW LGSACA for Aboriginal Cultural Development
- 2005 National LGSACA (Commendation) for Strengthening Indigenous Communities
NSW LGSACA for Aboriginal Cultural Development
MAPDA Best Catalogue (under 64 pages) High Commendation *Traverse*
- 2004 NSW LGSACA for Best Practice in Managing a Cultural Institution
Hunter Regional Award for Excellence in Heritage and Cultural Tourism
- 2003 Tourism NSW Award for Business Excellence in Heritage and Cultural Tourism
Hunter Regional Award for Excellence in Heritage and Cultural Tourism

Members of the *Stencils Past, Stencils Last* team receive the 2012 IMAGinE award in Sydney in November
Photo: Mimi Kelly



8 FEBRUARY – 24 MARCH

Project: Birabahn (and Threlkeld)

The Aboriginal Reference Group in collaboration with the gallery is launching a project to be developed over the next 18 months. As a starting point, the project will draw on the relationship between the Aboriginal leader Birabahn and the Reverend Threlkeld in the early nineteenth century. Between them, Birabahn and Thelkeld interpreted some of the local Aboriginal language and culture into written English, forming the basis for much current research.

This display features an excerpt of the film of the performance of *Ngarrama: lakeside dialogue between Birabahn, Threlkeld and ...*, written by Ray Kelly with Brian Joyce in consultation with the community, and filmed by John Kirk for The University of Newcastle. The play explores the first contact history of Lake Macquarie through historic and contemporary research and relationships.

A gallery project directed by the Aboriginal Reference Group.

Performance of *Ngarrama*
at Lake Macquarie City Art
Gallery, November 2006
Left to right: Brian Joyce,
Rod Smith and Ursula Yovich



8 FEBRUARY – 24 MARCH

Bungaree: The First Australian

Curated by Djon Mundine (OAM), *Bungaree: the First Australian* offers, for the first time, a contemporary perspective on the impact of early colonial society through the personality and history of Bungaree, providing an opportunity for his life and story to be acknowledged and critically re-interpreted. Featuring the work of emerging and established Aboriginal artists, the exhibition also addresses the continuing and current dilemma of living between conflicting world views. Artists include: Mervyn Bishop, Fiona Foley, Warwick Keen, Danie Mellor and Jason Wing.

A Mosman Art Gallery exhibition toured by Museums & Galleries NSW. *Bungaree: The First Australian* is supported by Visions of Australia, an Australian Government program, and the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory governments. Mosman Art Gallery is supported by the NSW Government through Arts NSW.

Warwick Keen
*The many faces of
Bungaree (detail)* 2012
digital print on metallic
paper, 188 x 100cm,
image courtesy the artist
© the artist



8 FEBRUARY – 5 MAY

Water Stories

Artworks from the gallery's collection around the theme of water as selected by the Aboriginal Reference Group including work by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artists. The exhibition will also feature display of the work *A Possum Skin Cloak by the Lake* (2011).

A gallery project curated by the Aboriginal Reference Group.

Peter Sharp
Old Tom (detail) 2005
oil and acrylic on linen
182 x 210cm
collection Lake Macquarie City Art
Gallery, gifted by the artist as part
of the Australian Government's
Cultural Gifts Program
© the artist



30 MARCH – 5 MAY

Contemporary Australian Drawing: 20 years of the Dobell Prize for Drawing

This exclusive touring exhibition celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the respected Dobell Prize for Drawing. The exhibition showcases winning drawings from the past 20 years of the award, as well as selected additional entries acquired for the permanent collection of the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

An Art Gallery of New South Wales exhibition toured by Museums & Galleries NSW.

An intimate view: William Dobell

To pay tribute to the prize's namesake, the gallery is presenting an exhibition of drawings and paintings selected from its own and local private collections. These small-scale works reveal aspects of Dobell's approach to subject matter and materials in his art practice.

A gallery project coordinated by Meryl Ryan and Rob Cleworth.

Nicholas Harding
Eddy Avenue (3) 2001
black ink on two sheets
of torn and abraded paper
132.4 x 149cm
© the artist
Photo: Mim Stirling,
Art Gallery of New South Wales



10 MAY – 16 JUNE

First Class 12

Now in its fifth year, *First Class* is an established annual exhibition project celebrating the high calibre of work produced by students from the Hunter and Central Coast regions. The exhibition is selected from nominated Higher School Certificate submissions produced in the previous year. In 2013, the selected artworks show the student artists' serious involvement in the development of their own art practices.

A gallery project curated by Tatiana Barisa and Ann Caddey, in consultation with Meryl Ryan.

Blue Case: Technology

This travelling suitcase project presents artworks with a focus on function, innovative design and construction. Featuring the work of six contemporary Australian artists, including Lionel Bawden and Matt Harding, the *Blue Case: Technology* is designed specifically for use by school students.

The Elaine and Jim Wolfensohn Gift is a project toured by the National Gallery of Australia as part of the Travelling Exhibitions program.

Kiera Campbell
Phantasmagoria (detail) 2012
photomedia
installation dimensions variable
© the artist



10 MAY – 28 JULY

Anne Zahalka: a case study

In line with the themes of cultural diversity and education, the gallery has drawn together an exhibition featuring works by leading Australian artist Anne Zahalka. Curated specifically for senior school students, the selection includes pieces from several important series alongside works from the gallery's collection. To complement the exhibition, Kate Caddey has conceived a comprehensive artist case study informed by the HSC curriculum.

A gallery project coordinated by Meryl Ryan in consultation with artist and educator Kate Caddey.

Anne Zahalka
Stockton Shore,
Lower Hunter (detail) 2004
type C photograph
120.6 x 155cm
first commissioned by the
gallery for *Hunter Art 1* 2004
collection Lake Macquarie City
Art Gallery, donated by the
artist 2004
© the artist



21 JUNE – 28 JULY

William Yang: Australia Now

To fully engage children and families, and to extend the viewer's experience of the themes explored in *Made in China Australia*, the gallery has negotiated to re-present William Yang's *Australia Now*. This interactive educational project was first commissioned by GoMA in 2009 for *The China Project for Kids*, and was shown at Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation in 2011. The work intelligently encourages children to connect with Yang's interest in autobiography by drawing self-portraits, writing stories from their lives and discovering their Chinese zodiac animal sign.

The piece was first commissioned by GoMA, Brisbane, for *The China Project for Kids* in 2009, and shown at Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney, in 2011.

William Yang
Australia Now (detail) at
Sherman Contemporary Art
Foundation, Sydney, in 2011



21 JUNE – 28 JULY

Made in China Australia

This exhibition reflects on the complexity of the Chinese diaspora in Australia. Curator Greg Leong explores how the different and individual processes of cultural adjustment have impacted in various ways on the work of a diverse group of Chinese-Australian artists. Includes William Yang, Lindy Lee, Liu Xiao Xian, John Young and Jason Wing.

This exhibition is supported by the Contemporary Touring initiative, an Australian Government program, and the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian Government and the state and territory governments. The project is also supported by the Australia Council and through Arts Tasmania by the Minister for the Arts.

John Young
Flower Market
(Nanjing 1936) #3 2010
digital print and oil on linen
160 x 160cm
Image courtesy of the artist and
Anna Schwartz Gallery
© the artist



ON TOUR: 2012 – 2013

Life in Your Hands: art from solastalgia

Solastalgia is a phenomenon identified, by Professor Glenn Albrecht, as a form of homesickness you have when you haven't left home. It can arise from a variety of causes and changes, brought on by technology, ecological, economic and population shifts, and political decisions. This touring exhibition looks at the causes and effects of solastalgia, and the potential for contemporary visual art, craft and design practice to contribute to debate and healing. Artists from across Australia – Douglas Archibald, Selena Archibald with Donna Fernando, Allan Chawner, Michelle Hamer, Barbara Heath, GhostNets Australia, Janet Laurence, Jeff Mincham and Melinda Young – were asked to consult and work with communities to create works specifically for the exhibition.

A gallery project curated by Robyn Daw and toured by Museums and Galleries NSW with support from Visions of Australia and the Contemporary Touring Initiative.

Tour dates:

1 June – 29 July 2012
6 October – 28 October 2012
17 November – 22 December 2012
28 March – 11 May 2013
1 June – 27 July 2013
9 August – 6 October 2013

Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Vic
 Signal Point Gallery, SA
 Object: Australian Centre for Design, NSW
 Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre, ACT
 Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum, Qld
 Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Qld

Detail of the *Life in Your Hands* installation at the gallery in May 2012, featuring works by Allan Chawner and Douglas Archibald



GENERAL INFORMATION

Contemporary Craft Outlet

Situated in the foyer, the gallery shop provides a unique service to the region by offering a selection of the highest quality handcrafted ceramics, glass, jewellery and textiles, as well as books, catalogues, cards, novelty items and exhibition-related merchandise.

Craftspeople from the Hunter and Central Coast regions are featured along with a changing selection of work by established and emerging craft practitioners from further afield.

The shop also stocks a selection of Australian art journals for those who want to keep up with what is happening in the art world and art materials for those who want to dabble.



GENERAL INFORMATION

The Sculpture Park

The gallery's collection has many strengths, including the sub-collection driven by the *Still Waters Clear Visions* theme. The sculpture park was originally part of this group of works and continues to develop within the gallery's extensive grounds. Visitors can enjoy a leisurely walk while viewing works by established artists such as Richard Tipping, John Turier and Trevor Weekes.

Two of the most recent sculpture park installations are by foremost contemporary Australian artists Janet Laurence and Nigel Helyer, both acquisitions supported by Arts NSW. Laurence's *Ghost* (2009), was inspired by the *Eucalyptus citriodora* that stood nearby until 2007. Layered elements of glass, imprinted with the tree's image, and mirror-like steel evoke a memory of the tree and echo the immediate environment. Helyer's *Radiolarians* (2011) reflects the artist's ongoing interest in the symmetry and morphology of microscopic marine organisms. The complex beauty of such organisms is as fascinating as their scientific history.

John Turier
The Aeolian Tree 2001
glass, steel, fibreglass, terrazzo,
concrete, bronze, stones
530 x 250 x 180cm
collection Lake Macquarie
City Art Gallery, supported
by Arts NSW
© the artist



GENERAL INFORMATION

Your Collection

The collection began in the early 1970s with the periodic acquisition of artworks by Lake Macquarie City Council. With the establishment of the gallery in 1980, the collection has evolved through purchase, acquisitive prizes, donations and commissions. Comprising a strong core group of two-dimensional works by established contemporary Australian artists acquired through the Charlestown Square Acquisitive Art Prize (1986–91) and the Ronaldo Cameron Collection (1992), holdings also include a number of key works by Sir William Dobell (bequeathed by Ruth Spenser Komon).

In 2010 the gallery launched a new sub-collection, focusing on Indigenous works on paper, with Lake Macquarie Art Gallery Society's purchase of Dennis Nona's etching *Sarup Au Zig (lost man)* (2007). The society and the gallery have since augmented this sub-collection with their respective purchases of significant contemporary works by Jonathan Jones, *Untitled (salt) 6* (2010) and *Untitled (white poles) 1–3* (2004).

The gallery continues to develop its collection through support from Lake Macquarie Art Gallery Society, the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program, and various funding bodies.

John Montefiore
The fishing boy (detail) 1972
suite of 14, gouache,
pen and ink on card
27.5 x 22.3cm
collection Lake Macquarie
City Art Gallery, donated by
Beverley Derkenne 2012
© the artist's estate



GENERAL INFORMATION

Schools at the Gallery

The gallery caters for school excursion groups from K–12. Our education programs are designed to make original works of art accessible to a wide range of audiences. Visits to the gallery provide an opportunity for students to engage with new exhibitions, the sculpture garden and the permanent collection.

The gallery offers schools:

- guided tours of the exhibition and sculpture park
- education kits for selected exhibitions
- stage 3 exhibition activity sheets for all exhibitions
- activity sheets based on the collection, including the sculpture park
- teachers' professional development days
- practical workshops for students including intensive HSC clinics
- access to artists in residence.

Teachers may bring groups of students to the gallery for the day and rotate activities between the gallery and the grounds, practising drawing and utilising our various worksheets. Tours are free of charge but must be booked two weeks in advance if possible. Our School Excursion Form, on our website, can be used as a basis for risk assessment procedures.

Senior secondary students enjoy one of the engaging HSC clinics at the gallery with artist Jane Lander



GENERAL INFORMATION

Art Classes and Activities

Lake Macquarie City Council confirmed its commitment to culture and education with the construction of the gallery's purpose-built education room in 2008. Designed by Colin Still, the room features state-of-the-art seminar facilities and equipment for a wide range of purposes from art classes, lectures and residencies by visiting artists and academics, to community and corporate events.

There are many great ways for you to explore the gallery, enjoy our exhibitions and learn about art. Our innovative education program includes practical classes for children of all ages and regular sessions for adults. Short courses, for both beginners and experienced artists, feature throughout the school term, giving residents and visitors to the region the chance to explore their creative side.

Young gallery visitors and their families also find fun things to do in our Family Activity Corner where inspiration and materials are provided all year round. The gallery also has a program of self-guided tours for families following the sculpture park trail and using exhibition-related Family Exhibition Activity Sheets.

Contact Visitor Services on (02) 4965 8260 or artgallery@lakemac.nsw.gov.au for information and bookings.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Lake Macquarie Art Gallery Society & Volunteers

The gallery society aims to:

- stimulate interest in the gallery
- promote the use and enjoyment of the gallery and the site
- support the development of the gallery's collection through fundraising activities.

To succeed in achieving these aims, the gallery society organises social activities involving society members and members of the wider community. Visit www.artgallery.lakemac.com.au for a full list of upcoming events.

The annual membership fee starts at \$25 for singles, renewable at the beginning of each financial year.

The gallery also has a group of trained volunteers who assist with reception, public programs, events and functions. New volunteers are welcome and can join by contacting the gallery.

Contact Visitor Services on (02) 4965 8260 or artgallery@lakemac.nsw.gov.au for further information.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Corporate Venue

The gallery provides a venue for corporate hire: please contact Visitor Services for details.

How to get to the gallery

The gallery has a carpark adjacent to Hunter Rowing Club, but can be reached via the cycleway, the lake or public transport. Catch a train to Booragul Station and enjoy a 10-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 F3. 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

Toronto Bus Services (02) 4959 1233

Newcastle Bus Service 131 500

CityRail Trains 131 500

Gallery Director Debbie Abraham

Curator Meryl Ryan

Education & Audience Development Officer Astrid Kriening

Collection & Exhibitions Officer Rob Cleworth

Visitor Services Joanna Davies, Carla Feltham and Marlene Houston

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**LAKE MACQUARIE CITY ART GALLERY
OPEN TUESDAY TO SUNDAY 10AM – 5PM
& SELECTED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 11AM – 4PM
(TELEPHONE FOR DETAILS)
ADMISSION IS FREE**

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

From Anne Zahalka: a case study
Anne Zahalka Droogs, Stockton Shore 2007
vinyl banner, archival inks 247 x 300cm
collection Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery,
donated by the artist 2007 © the artist