

EXHIBITION PROGRAM

**LAKE
MACQUARIE
CITY
ART
GALLERY**

The logo for Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery features a stylized 'L' and 'M' in white on a dark green background. The 'L' is on the left, and the 'M' is on the right. The letters 'C', 'A', and 'R' are stacked vertically between the 'L' and 'M'. The 'G' is positioned below the 'M'.

WINTER 2014 – SUMMER 2015

19 JULY – 3 AUGUST

This is Me :: Self-Identity Project

25 JULY – 31 AUGUST

Felt Presence

25 JULY – 19 OCTOBER

a very fine river: convict stories from the Hunter

5 SEPTEMBER – 19 OCTOBER

The Antipodean Steampunk Show

CLICK: Schools in Focus

24 OCTOBER – 30 NOVEMBER

Stars of the Tokyo Stage

Your Collection: Today's Paper – works on paper by Indigenous artists

CLICK: Schools in Focus

5 DECEMBER – 1 FEBRUARY

Wild Side: the animal in art

Newcastle Junior and Senior Schools: Animal Sanctuary

A Tribute: Uncle Jim Ridgeway – Djirang Birrbay, Warrimay guri-guba Djaril



The gallery continues its line-up of great exhibitions and programs that tap into community interests.

During winter, we will investigate convict history and its impact on Aboriginal cultural history through the touring exhibition *Felt Presence*, from Devonport Regional Gallery, and the gallery project *a very fine river*, curated by Rob Cleworth and Nicole Chaffey featuring emerging artists from the region. Spring brings *The Antipodean Steampunk Show*. Developed and toured by **artisan**, this playful exhibition delights in the popular subculture fascinated by science fiction and pseudo-Victorian mechanical technologies. For those who enjoy a bit of theatre, we are proud to be hosting *Stars of the Tokyo Stage* from the National Gallery of Australia featuring extraordinary woodblock prints by Natori Shunsen alongside stunning robes.

Your collection highlights will include *Today's Paper*, the official launch of the gallery's Indigenous works on paper collection. Works from the collection will also feature in our summer exhibition, *Wild Side: the animal in art* curated by Meryl Ryan in partnership with Kent Buchanan from Western Plains Cultural Centre. It will include a new body of work made by Hunter-based artist Peter Gardiner during a residency at Western Plains Taronga Park Zoo.

A key project exhibition with the Aboriginal Reference Group will pay tribute to the late, much respected Aboriginal Elder Uncle Jim Ridgeway with a showcase selection of his artworks.

These are but a few of the fun and exciting programs we have planned for the rest of the year. So far we have welcomed more than 19,500 people, and we know we will be welcoming many more to the Hunter's only waterfront gallery.

Visitors enjoying the exhibition *Chris Langlois: Points in Time* at the gallery in June 2014.

Debbie Abraham
Director Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery



19 JULY – 3 AUGUST

This is Me :: Self-Identity Project

According to the Mission Australia Youth Survey 2013, the top three issues of personal concern for young people are coping with stress, school or study problems and body image. Jesmond Neighbourhood Centre's Positive Self-Identity and Photography Program for Young Women (funded by Family and Community Services NSW), aims to provide young women with skills around maintaining positive self-identity and confident creative expression. Along with resilience building and positive relationship strategies, the program introduced a group of young teenaged girls to photography and the skills of Hunter-based artist Simone Darcy. Together they have produced this exhibition of outdoor banners reflecting on identity and confidence for an installation on the gallery's western façade.

This is Me... project artists
Lauren Austin (detail) 2014
digital photograph on
vinyl banner
120 x 100cm
© the artists



25 JULY – 31 AUGUST

Felt Presence

Curated by Dr Ellie Ray, *Felt Presence* sees eight artists interpret aspects of the lives of female convicts. Tara Badcock, Anita Dineen, Anne Morrison, Claire Needham, Rosemary O'Rourke and Sharyn Woods (from Australia), Irene Murphy (from Ireland), and Samantha Clark (from Scotland) all researched the lives and journeys faced by women banished from their homeland to Van Diemen's Land in the mid-1800s. Informed by the stories of these women, the artworks in this exhibition collectively reflect on how we make sense of our past and how we represent it in a way that is meaningful to our present.

Felt Presence is a Devonport Regional Gallery exhibition toured by Contemporary Art Tasmania.

Sharyn Woods
Between the Strands
(detail) 2013
wood, plaster, copper,
straw, string
four panels, 50 x 50cm each
© the artist



25 JULY – 19 OCTOBER

a very fine river: convict stories from the Hunter

In 1797, while searching for a boat seized in Sydney Cove by convict escapees, Lieutenant Shortland sailed into the opening of a river, which he described as 'a very fine coal river'. A convict camp called King's Town was established soon after, which became notorious as a place of incarceration and hard labour. Five Hunter-based artists, Sophia Emmett, Ruth Feeney, Carolyn McKay, Tara Standing and Ryan Williams, have each brought a highly personal and poetic response to this important period in the history of Newcastle and the region.

A gallery project curated by Rob Cleworth and Nicole Chaffey in consultation with Newcastle Museum and the Aboriginal Reference Group.

Tara Standing
Same Same – We Remain
(detail) 2014
digital photograph
100 x 197.7cm
© the artist



5 SEPTEMBER – 19 OCTOBER

The Antipodean Steampunk Show

Contemporary technology and Victorian styling join forces in spectacular fashion in this exhibition. Rapidly changing technology and an obsession with consumption have led to a habit of replacement, with today's production lines quickly becoming tomorrow's landfill. The Steampunk movement rails against this trend. Extraordinary craftsmanship is used to transform mass-produced products into unique objects of desire. The artists come from a range of backgrounds and include engineer-sculptors, artist-scientists, shoemakers, jeweller-taxidermists, writers, performers, photographers, film-makers, designers and tinkerers.

The Antipodean Steampunk Show is an **artisan** travelling exhibition.

This exhibition is supported by Visions of Australia, an Australian Government program supporting touring exhibitions by providing funding assistance for the development and touring of Australian cultural material across Australia.

artisan is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments. **artisan** acknowledges the assistance of the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

Russell Anderson
Tea bag jiggler 5 1993–94
 found objects,
 clock parts and steel
 23 x 13 x 13cm
 Photo: Rod Buchholz



5 SEPTEMBER – 30 NOVEMBER

CLICK: Schools in Focus

CLICK is a relatively recent gallery initiative launched to showcase secondary school photographic projects from across the Hunter/Central Coast region. Proudly displayed in the gallery's education room, these exhibitions will be the third and fourth in this popular series. One will be on show from 5 September to 19 October and the other 24 October to 30 November.

A gallery project coordinated by Joanna Davies and Rob Cleworth.

Year 11 students from Lake Munmorah High School (L-R): Jess Davis, Kirra King, Erinn Pettiford, Ruby Kavanagh and Amy Bruce with the installation of *CLICK: Schools in Focus*, April 2014.



24 OCTOBER – 30 NOVEMBER

Stars of the Tokyo Stage

Kabuki theatre draws on Japan's rich folklore, literature and history, as well as violent, romantic and scandalous events to present lavish performances. This exhibition reveals this dynamic world through the superb prints of Tokyo artist Natori Shunsen (1886–1960). The core of the exhibition is a set of 36 striking actor portraits. A selection of kabuki robes and ukiyo-e prints related to the Japanese theatre will supplement the fine prints. Shunsen's prints have become internationally famous as outstanding examples of the shin-hanga movement, a 20th-century revival of Japanese printmaking that included international influences.

A National Gallery of Australia exhibition.

Natori Shunsen
*Nakamura Shikaku II as
Shizuka Gozen in
'Yoshitsune and the
thousand cherry trees'* 1926
woodblock print
National Gallery of
Australia, Canberra
Gift of Jennifer Gordon 1998



24 OCTOBER – 30 NOVEMBER

Your Collection: Today's Paper works on paper by Indigenous artists

Lake Macquarie Art Gallery Society's purchase of the etching *Sarup Au Zig (Lost Man)* by Dennis Nona in 2010 launched the gallery's exciting new focus collection of Indigenous works on paper. The society and the gallery have since augmented this sub-collection with their respective purchases of contemporary works by Freddie Timms, Eubena Nampitjin, Kathleen Paddoon, Ningie Nangala and Vernon Ah Kee.

Today's Paper officially launches this growing new sub-collection, offering Lake Macquarie residents an opportunity to boast of their gallery's recent acquisitions alongside others in the collection by well-known artists such as Douglas Archibald, Jonathan Jones and Jason Wing.

A gallery project coordinated by Meryl Ryan and Rob Cleworth.

Jason Wing
Captain James Crook 2013
ed. 10/20
lithograph on paper
printer: Cicada Press
collection Lake Macquarie
City Art Gallery
© the artist



5 DECEMBER – 1 FEBRUARY

Wild Side: the animal in art

Artists have long featured animals in their work to communicate everything from domestic affection to violent life-and-death struggles. Representations of animals offer opportunities to explore daily life and symbolic – often fantastic – associations, and they also introduce important social and ethical issues. Both entertaining and thought-provoking, this exhibition will consider humankind's relationship with the greater animal kingdom. A body of work will be produced by Hunter-based artist Peter Gardiner specifically for this exhibition project during a residency at Western Plains Zoo. The exhibition will also include works from the gallery's collection and works from the Western Plains Cultural Centre's collection. A large part of the exhibition will also tour to Western Plains Cultural Centre in 2015.

A gallery partnership project curated by Meryl Ryan (LMCAG) and Kent Buchanan (WPCC).

Peter Gardiner
Jaguar man 2014
candle soot and oil on
found dinner plate
diam. 27.5cm
© the artist



5 DECEMBER – 1 FEBRUARY

Newcastle Junior and Senior Schools: Animal Sanctuary

Newcastle Junior and Senior Schools cater to the needs of local students with a moderate or severe intellectual disability. The schools believe in a quality art education program to encourage and develop students' skills. This exhibition will be selected from works the students have created throughout the year on the subject of animals and their welfare. The wealth of talent displayed in this annual project always delights audiences.

A gallery project coordinated by Jody Tydd and Rob Cleworth.

A detail of works produced by Newcastle Junior School students for their exhibition *Environmental Views* in 2013.



5 DECEMBER – 1 FEBRUARY

A Tribute: Uncle Jim Ridgeway Djirang Birrbay, Warrimay guri-guba Djarii*

Well-respected Aboriginal Elder and founding member of the Aboriginal Reference Group Clifford James (Jim) Ridgeway sadly passed away earlier this year after battling with illness. Uncle Jim achieved highly at everything to which he turned his hand. From amateur boxing and award-winning country and western vocals to the visual arts and language study, he contributed much to the fabric of the community. This exhibition has been organised in consultation with Uncle Jim's family and the Aboriginal Reference Group to acknowledge that contribution and the calibre of Uncle Jim's work. He will be much missed.

A gallery project curated in consultation with Louise Ridgeway and family and the Aboriginal Reference Group.

*A proud Birrbay, Warrimay man from Taree.

Jim Ridgeway
*The hunters and
gatherers (eagle)* 2002
stoneware, oxides
collection Lake Macquarie
City Art Gallery
© the estate of the artist



GENERAL INFORMATION

Who we are

Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery is an exceptional cultural and tourist destination, widely recognised for its exhibition 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 gallery site 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.

LMCAG and sculpture park featuring, in the foreground, Janet Laurence's *Ghost* 2009 (glass, stainless steel, concrete, approx. 500 x 140 x 80cm, supported by Arts NSW and Lake Macquarie Art Gallery Society) and John Turiér's *Aeolian tree* 2001 (steel, fibreglass, terrazzo, concrete, bronze, stones 530 x 250 x 180cm, supported by Arts NSW)



GENERAL INFORMATION

Where we are

The gallery is located at the north-west end of Lake Macquarie amidst five hectares of lakefront grounds and sculpture park. 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 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
Toronto Bus Services (02) 4959 1233
Newcastle Bus Service 131 500
CityRail Trains 131 500

Gallery Director Debbie Abraham
Curator Meryl Ryan
Education & Public Programs Officer Joanna Davies
Exhibitions & Collection Officer Rob Cleworth
Marketing & Audience Engagement Officer Laura Wilson
Visitor Services Ahn Wells, Emily Roberts and Kathryn Taunton
Administration Officer Nada Artym

Published by Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery

Template designed by Stephen Goddard

Layout by Raelene Narraway

Printed by Lakemac Print

Printed on Revive Pure 100% recycled paper Certified carbon neutral (NCOS)



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

FIRST STREET BOORAGUL NSW 2284
BOX 1906 HUNTER REGION MC NSW 2310
T: (02) 4965 8260 F: (02) 4965 8733
E: artgallery@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
W: artgallery.lakemac.com.au

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

from a very fine river...
25 July – 19 October
Ruth Feeney *Leaf chain* (detail) 2014
Banksia aemula
dimensions variable
© the artist