

# EXHIBITION PROGRAM

**LM**  
**LAKE**  
**MACQUARIE**  
**CITY**  
**ART**  
**GALLERY**



**SUMMER – WINTER 2017**

3 FEBRUARY – 12 MARCH  
ARTIST FOCUS: BRADDON SNAPE  
SOFT CORE

17 MARCH – 30 APRIL  
FIRST CLASS 16  
FIONA HALL: A CASE STUDY

28 APRIL – 25 JUNE  
CLICK: SCHOOLS IN FOCUS

5 MAY – 25 JUNE  
SCANLINES  
WATER: THIS PRECIOUS LIQUID

## FROM THE GALLERY DIRECTOR

Welcome to a new year at the gallery – it's shaping up to be as fun and thought-provoking as the last, while we work towards our mission to provide intelligent and accessible pathways to contemporary art. We aim to encourage and inspire people to engage with the changing world and each other.

Last year's successes were most obvious in the areas of programming and visitation. We welcomed 50,150 people to the gallery, 1,502 of whom were school students and 6,555 attended art classes or events. Our Aboriginal program again attracted industry recognition with a 2016 IMAGinE Award for *Lore & Order*, curated by Donna Biles Fernando in partnership with the Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG).

The 2016 winter-summer period included such exhibition highlights as *Watching Clouds Pass the Moon* curated by Ineke Dane, and *Your Collection: off the wall*, curated by Rob Cleworth to mark 20 years of the outdoor sculpture collection. *Research Through Design* was the product of a great partnership with the UoN's School of Architecture and the Built Environment. We also launched the major new series *Lake Macquarie: living cultures*, in consultation with Lake Macquarie Library and the ARG, curating a space in which history, culture and local stories converge with contemporary art. This inaugural show featured working watercraft and included a traditional bark canoe made by the Aboriginal community. These, together with touring exhibitions *GLASS: art design architecture* from the JamFactory in Adelaide, and *Saltwater Country* from Gold Coast City Art Gallery, added to our stellar program.

On the collection front, we acquired 12 new works including two for the sculpture park: Richard Tipping's *Morning*; and the long-term loan, Jamie North's *Succession*. We also carried out major conservation work on the sculpture park, enhancing this welcome place to spend time by the lake.

We begin 2017 with the wondrous sculptural exhibition *Soft Core*, curated by Micheal Do in conjunction with Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, featuring work by artists such as Michael Parekowhai, Patricia Piccinini and Koji Ryui. Concurrently, we will host a suite of works by Hunter-based sculptor Braddon Snape in our first *Artist Focus* showcase.

Autumn brings the next instalment in the annual *First Class* exhibition series. Helen Willis joins Lisa Who to select a collection of artworks from a record number of 2016 HSC visual art submissions. Alongside *First Class 16*, this year's HSC case study champions the practice of leading Australian artist Fiona Hall. Next off the rank is dLux MediaArts' touring show *Scanlines: four decades of Australian media art*, an interactive new media experience featuring artists such as Kurt Brereton, Daniel Crooks and Soda\_Jerk. *Water: this precious liquid* sees Therese Kenyon, Pam Debenham, Sue Pedley and Peter Read explore the meanings of water in the contemporary world through objects and artworks.

Our community partnerships continue through *Art(ful) Futures* with Arts in Recovery and Newcastle Community Arts Centre, supporting mental health service users to establish sustainable art practices, and *Mapping the Lake*, a full-scale outdoor performance with Tantrum Youth Arts.

As always, we invite visitors to engage with the themes, materials and ideas in the exhibitions through a wide range of events, tours and activities. We look forward to seeing you this year, with your friends and family, at the Hunter's only waterfront gallery.

Debbie Abraham  
Director, Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery





## GENERAL INFORMATION

Above: Chris Langlois working alongside other artists from the community during one of the *en plein air* painting weekends in the gallery sculpture park.

Left: Jamie North  
*Succession* 2016  
 cement, steel, steel slag, coal ash, oyster, shell, organic matter  
 450 x 90cm (diam.),  
 420 x 90cm (diam.)  
 On loan from the artist and installed in the sculpture park.  
 Courtesy the artist and Sarah Cottier Gallery, Sydney.

## 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.



**3 FEBRUARY – 12 MARCH**

### **Artist Focus: Braddon Snape**

The practice of Hunter-based sculptor Braddon Snape considers steel in an entirely new way as a medium for contemporary art. Using an inflation technique, he exploits and manipulates the way in which the unique qualities of sheet steel respond to the force of air. Each time the material is inflated it is subject to an interplay of matter, pressure and aesthetics. Snape is attracting wide critical attention for his originality, respect of the material and sensitivity to the aesthetic outcome.

*A gallery project in consultation with the artist.*

Braddon Snape  
*Single Fold Propped* 2016  
welded, inflated and  
powdercoated steel  
180 x 60 x 40cm  
Courtesy the artist and  
Conny Dietzschold Gallery  
© the artist



3 FEBRUARY – 12 MARCH

## Soft Core

This exhibition presents artistic practices that explore the many facets of 'softness' – from large-scale inflatables and forms made from soft materials, to materials that simply look soft. It investigates these practices by presenting existing works and newly commissioned works by 12 Australian and international artists who question the fluctuating meaning of what it means to be soft. The installation includes works by Mikala Dwyer (AU), Michael Parekowhai (NZ), Patricia Piccinini (AU), Koji Ryui (AU/JPN), Kathy Temin (AU) and Louise Weaver (AU).

*An exhibition curated by Micheal Do, in conjunction with Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre and toured by Museums & Galleries of NSW. This project has been assisted by the Australian Government's Visions of Australia program.*

Koji Ryui  
*HAVE A NICE DAY 2014*  
unfired clay, polyethylene bag,  
dimensions variable  
Courtesy the artist and Sarah  
Cottier Gallery, Sydney  
© the artist



**17 MARCH – 30 APRIL**

## **First Class 16**

Uniquely local and now in its ninth successful year, the *First Class* series is a major event in the gallery's calendar. The *First Class 16* exhibition continues the tradition of showcasing the most outstanding work produced by Hunter and Central Coast HSC Visual Arts students from the previous year. It provides young artists with a unique opportunity to exhibit in a professional public gallery environment and encourages audiences to experience a richness of talent and the voice of youth. This year the artworks demonstrate a quiet concern for the complex environmental, cultural and scientific issues facing young people today. Sophisticated interrogation and observation of source material is transformed, revealing the vulnerability of both our environment and culture.

*A gallery project curated by Lisa Who and Helen Willis.*

Jessica Curry  
Glendale Technology High School  
*Existing, Falling, Drowning, Gone*  
(detail) 2016  
suite of four photographs,  
each 40 x 50cm  
© the artist



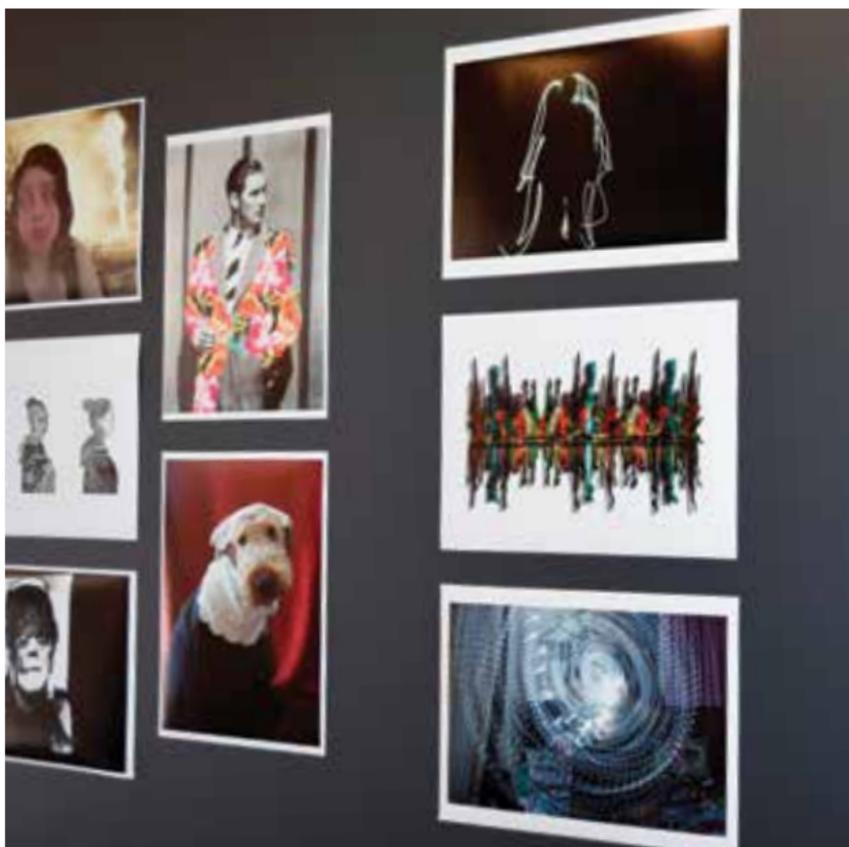
**17 MARCH – 30 APRIL**

### **Fiona Hall: a case study**

The gallery is pleased to present a fifth exhibition in the annual case-study series. Following on from very successful previous projects, featuring Anne Zahalka, Janet Laurence, Ben Quilty and Judy Watson respectively, this year the gallery has drawn together strong works by leading Australian contemporary artist Fiona Hall. To complement the exhibition, the gallery has commissioned experienced art educator Helen Willis to produce a comprehensive artist case-study publication focusing on the HSC curriculum.

*A gallery project coordinated by Meryl Ryan.*

Fiona Hall  
*Take No Prisoners* 2013  
bark cloth with earth  
pigments and plant dyes  
230 x 240cm  
Courtesy the artist and  
Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney  
© the artist



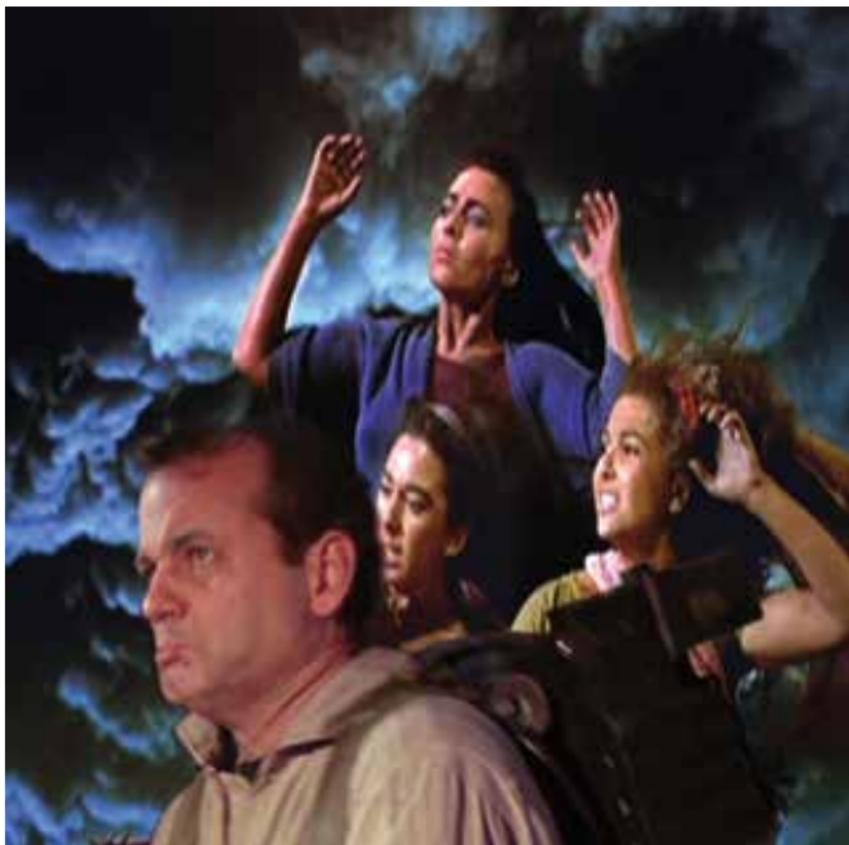
28 APRIL – 25 JUNE

### **CLICK: Schools in Focus**

CLICK is a relatively recent gallery initiative launched to showcase secondary school photographic projects from across the Hunter and Central Coast region. Each year, two exhibitions of work are selected and proudly displayed in the education room. This is the tenth exhibition in the series.

*A gallery project coordinated by Joanna Davies and Rob Cleworth.*

CLICK installation (detail)  
featuring digital media works  
by students from Swansea  
High School © the artists



5 MAY – 25 JUNE

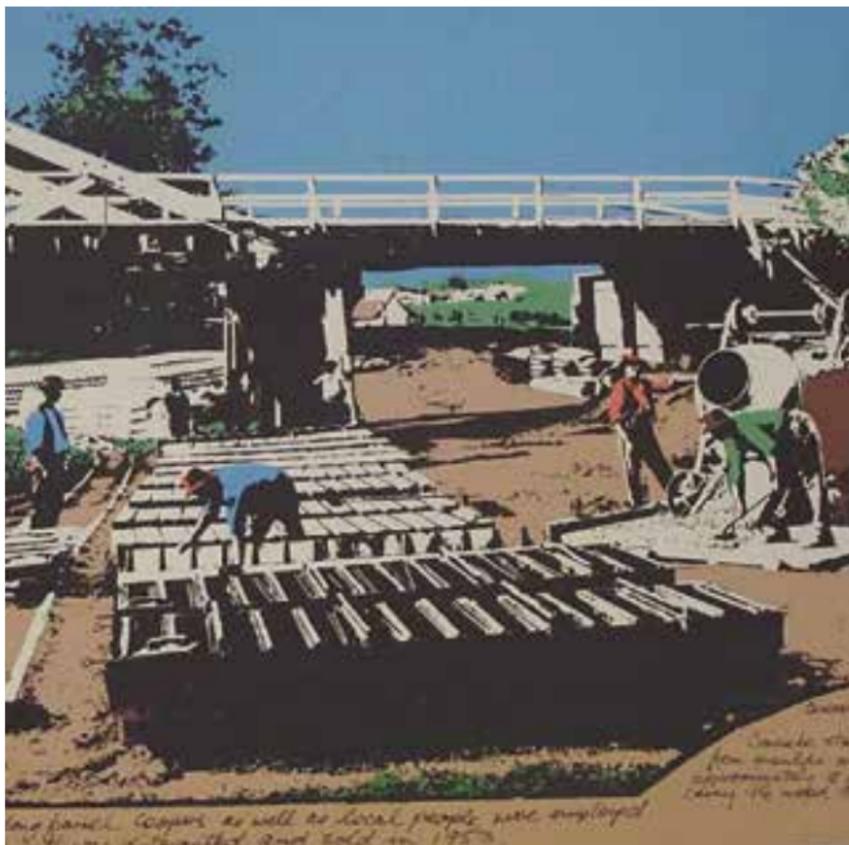
## Scanlines

This national survey exhibition from dLux MediaArts is the first of its kind: a comprehensive group show with an education focus that examines the heritage of new media art in Australia since the 1980s. An exciting journey through time, *Scanlines* includes rare early works and well known favourites by some of Australia's best known contemporary artists. The display's groundbreaking design also allows the visitor access to video studio tours and interviews with the artists.

*This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory board.*

Soda\_Jerk with Sam Smith  
Trailer for *Hollywood Burn*  
(video still detail) 2011  
digital video  
duration of trailer: 1.34 min,  
duration of *Hollywood Burn*:  
52 mins  
© the artists





5 MAY – 25 JUNE

## Water: This Precious Liquid

The idea of water – all-pervading and essential, fearsome yet controllable – is the focus of this exhibition. Artists over many decades have drawn attention to issues around global warming, water contamination, ill-judged engineering projects and the devastation of floods and storms. The historical and contemporary works in this exhibition, by Therese Kenyon, Pam Debenham, Sue Pedley and Peter Read, show some of the different ways in which these issues are visualised by artists.

*A gallery artist project in consultation with the artists, and coordinated by Therese Kenyon.*

Above: Therese Kenyon  
*Cement stands being moulded*  
 (detail) 1982  
 screenprint on paper  
 45.5 x 60.3cm  
 Collection Lake Macquarie  
 City Art Gallery,  
 donated through the  
 Ronaldo Cameron  
 collection, 1992

Left: Therese Kenyon  
*Drowned* (detail) 2015  
 synthetic polymer paint on linen  
 120 x 92cm  
 © the artist





**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
- Hunter Valley Buses** (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
- Art Gallery Assistant - Visitor Services** Anna Scobie
- Trainee Art Gallery Assistant - Visitor Services** Jordann Charter-Smith
- Art Gallery 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** 170gsm Monza Satin recycled paper

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 – 5PM  
& 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

Front cover: From Soft Core 3 Feb – 12 Mar 2017  
Michael Parekowhai Cosmo McMurtry 2006  
woven nylon substrate, pigment, electrical components  
330 x 180 x 280cm  
Private collection, Sydney © the artist