

# EXHIBITION PROGRAM

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**LAKE  
MACQUARIE  
CITY  
ART  
GALLERY**



**SUMMER – WINTER 2016**

**6 FEBRUARY – 13 MARCH**

**Impressions of Paris: Lautrec, Degas, Daumier  
Paris/Hunter**

**18 MARCH – 24 APRIL**

**Judy Watson: a case study  
First Class 15**

**23 APRIL – 5 JUNE**

**CLICK: Schools in Focus**

**30 APRIL – 5 JUNE**

**Archibald Prize 2015**

**10 JUNE – 31 JULY**

**Your Collection: presence and absence  
Watching Clouds Pass the Moon**

## FROM THE GALLERY DIRECTOR

The gallery has gone from strength to strength over the last year, particularly in the areas of audience development, Aboriginal programming and sustainability. Our visitor numbers have grown by at least 3% as we welcomed over 35,000 people to the gallery including over 1,600 school students.

Two significant projects in 2015 were developed in consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group; early in the year *(in)visible: the First Peoples and War*, curated by Yhonnie Scarce and Meryl Ryan, not only encompassed world conflicts but also the significance of the frontier wars in our shared histories. Later in the year we presented *Lore & Order*, curated by Donna Fernando, which explored the complex relationship between Birabahn and Reverend Thelkeld and the realities of mission life 'under the Act' across New South Wales, beautifully described by an installation of 240 ceramic ration bags made by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal school students.

Again, we gained recognition through state awards and grants. We attracted two high commendations at the Museums Australia Multimedia & Publication Design Awards for Stephen Goddard's exhibition catalogue/poster for *Wild Side: the animal in art*, developed in partnership with Western Plains Cultural Centre and curated by Meryl Ryan and Kent Buchanan. *(in)visible: the First Peoples and War* attracted a M&G NSW IMAGinE Award, as did our state-of-the-art sustainable lighting upgrade, managed by Rob Cleworth. We were also awarded a three-year grant from Arts NSW of \$330,000 – all fantastic achievements for the team and community.

Our 2016 programs continue to support our vision for a vibrant region where people engage with the changing world and each other through contemporary visual arts and culture. Many are being developed in partnership with other organisations and individuals including the Aboriginal Reference Group, Tantrum Theatre, Northern Settlement Services, Arts in Recovery, touring agents and galleries as well as curators and artists, to ensure we remain relevant to a cross-section of our community.

The year kicks off with *Impressions of Paris: Lautrec, Degas, Daumier* from the National Gallery of Australia alongside the gallery project *Paris/Hunter* – both are sure to remind us of the enduring appeal of Paris. Another crowd-pleaser will be the *2015 Archibald Prize* regional tour exhibition in May.

This year our annual *First Class* project will be curated by Ann Caddey with Lisa Who and will be accompanied by our next HSC case study exhibition and publication, this time featuring the work of Judy Watson. A curatorial partnership between Ineke Dane and Meryl Ryan will result in *Watching Clouds Pass the Moon*, a thought-provoking exhibition contemplating options for humans to spend their time in pursuits that don't necessarily lead to monetary or tangible ends.

As usual, we will be developing many classes, events and forums linked to the exhibition program and community interests – so whether you are with a school group, family, friends, or just after some quiet time on your own, there will be something for you to enjoy in our 2016 program. We look forward to seeing you at the gallery.

**Debbie Abraham**

Director, Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery

[www.artgallery.lakemac.com.au](http://www.artgallery.lakemac.com.au)





## 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.

Above and left: Visitors enjoying events in the gallery and grounds.



**6 FEBRUARY – 13 MARCH**

## **Paris/Hunter**

This exhibition project is a tribute to the city of Paris, particularly in light of its recent hardships. It acknowledges the enduring appeal of the French capital for artists and for audiences, drawing together studio studies, journals, objects, photographs and complete works made by Hunter-based practitioners who have had residencies in Paris in the relatively recent past. Featuring Michael Bell, Lottie Consalvo, James Drinkwater and Claire Martin, the exhibition will also explore the impact the residencies have made on their practices.

*A gallery project curated by Meryl Ryan.*

James Drinkwater  
*Bathers in Paris, mother  
and child (detail)* 2015  
oil on linen  
195 x 130cm  
© the artist



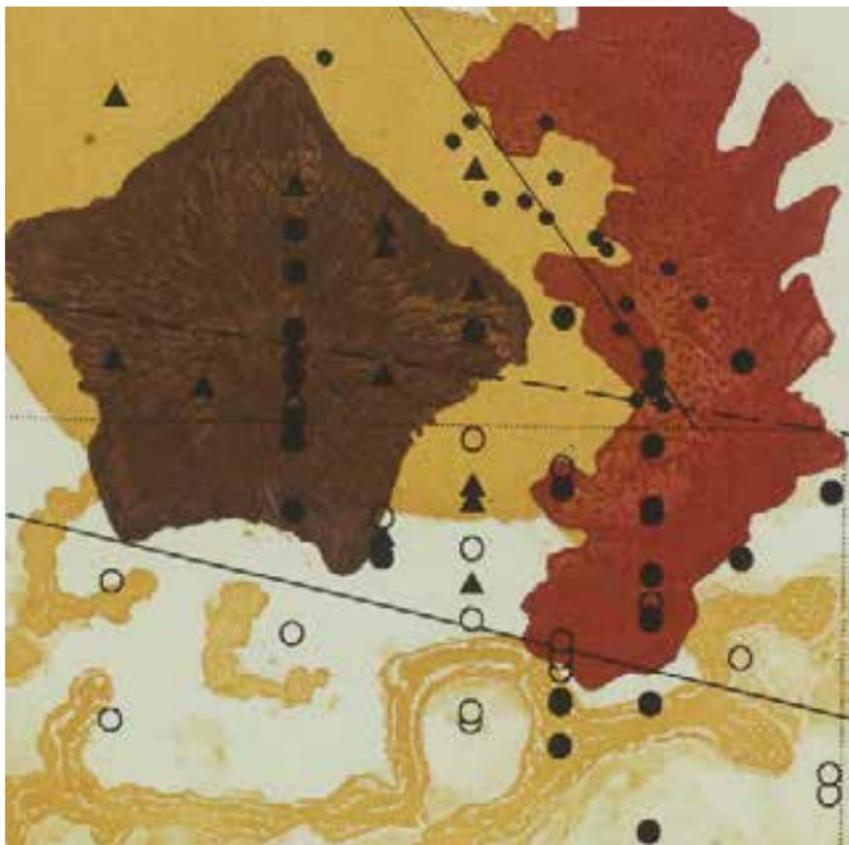
6 FEBRUARY – 13 MARCH

### **Impressions of Paris: Lautrec, Degas, Daumier**

This major international exhibition from the collection of the National Gallery of Australia provides a unique opportunity for art lovers to see the work of three of the most famous French artists of the nineteenth century. Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Edgar Degas and Honoré Daumier captured the spirit of Paris in their exquisite paintings, drawings and prints. This exhibition features over 90 of the prints, posters, drawings and monotypes made by the artists and reveals how these brilliant draughtsmen played a significant role in artistic developments in France during the 1800s.

*A National Gallery of Australia exhibition.*

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec  
*Polaire* (detail)  
from *Le Rire* 1895  
lithograph  
National Gallery of  
Australia, Canberra  
The Poynton Bequest 2012



**18 MARCH – 24 APRIL**

### **Judy Watson: a case study**

The gallery is pleased to present a fourth exhibition in the annual case study series. Following on from the success of previous years' projects, featuring Anne Zahalka, Janet Laurence and Ben Quilty respectively, the gallery has drawn together strong works by leading Australian contemporary artist Judy Watson. Curated specifically for senior school students, the selection comprises iconic pieces from the artist's practice including two major works from the gallery's collection. With the focus on the HSC curriculum, Kate Caddey has conceived a comprehensive artist case study publication to complement the exhibition.

*A gallery project curated by emerging Aboriginal curator Nicole Chaffey, in consultation with artist and educator Kate Caddey.*

Judy Watson  
*heron island suite #13 (detail)*  
2009/10  
etching on Hahnemühle paper  
collection Lake Macquarie City  
Art Gallery  
© Judy Watson/Licensed  
by Viscopy, 2016



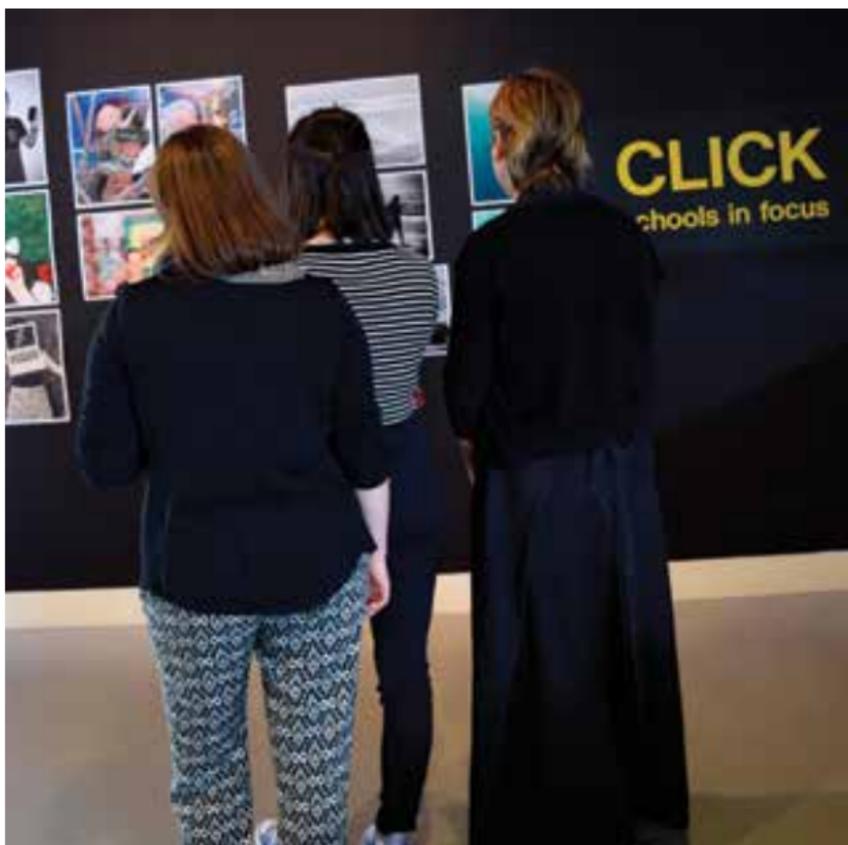
**18 MARCH – 24 APRIL**

## **First Class 15**

Uniquely local and now in its eighth year, the *First Class* series of exhibitions is a major event in the gallery's calendar. *First Class 15* continues the tradition of showcasing the most outstanding work produced by Hunter and Central Coast HSC Visual Arts students from the previous year. It gives the young artists a chance to exhibit in a professional gallery environment and encourages audiences to experience the richness of talent and the voice of youth. This year the artworks selected show the many ways the students perceive, decipher and make sense of their own worlds. Personal issues and contemporary ideas are illuminated with sensitivity, and reveal a unique understanding of the bigger picture.

*A gallery project curated by Ann Caddey and Lisa Who.*

Sophie Nichols  
St Catherine's Catholic  
College, Singleton  
*Polarities of Season (detail)* 2015  
photographs, cardboard,  
timber, tape  
installation dimensions variable  
© the artist



23 APRIL – 5 JUNE

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

*CLICK* is a biannual gallery initiative launched to showcase secondary school photographic projects from across the Hunter and Central Coast regions. Each year, exhibitions of work are selected and proudly displayed in the education room. This fifth exhibition in the series features works by selected students from Lake Munmorah High School.

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

Visitors enjoying the *CLICK* exhibition of works by students from Newcastle High School at the gallery in 2015.



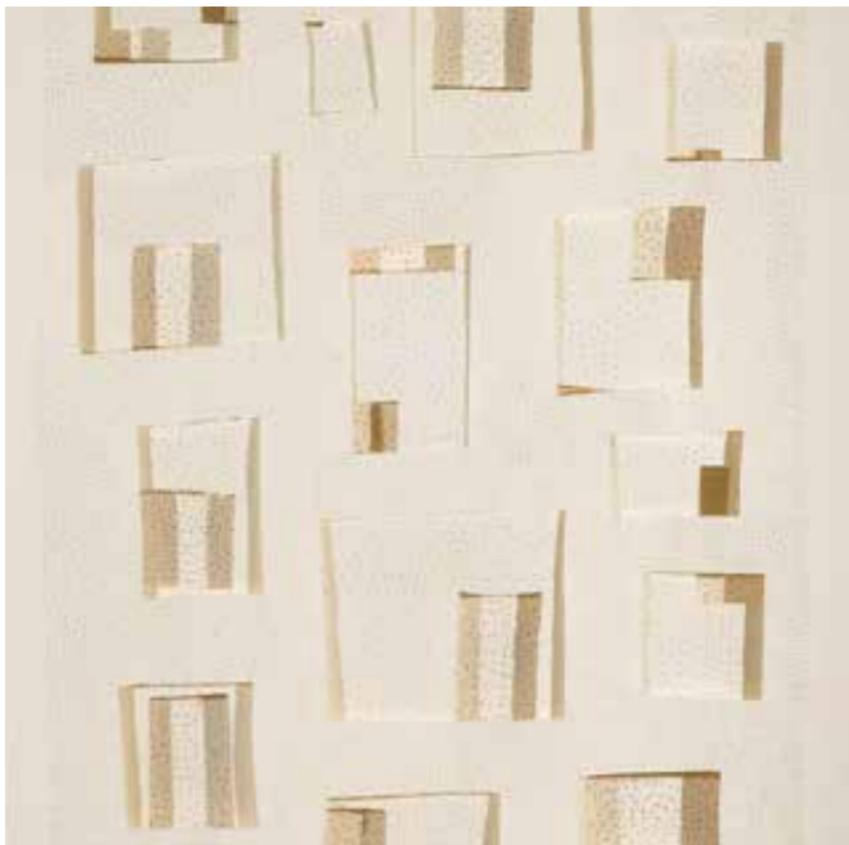
30 APRIL – 5 JUNE

## Archibald Prize 2015

The Archibald Prize, held annually at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, is a much-anticipated highlight in Australia's visual arts calendar. First awarded in 1921, it has become one of this country's most coveted and prestigious awards, drawing record-breaking interest and crowds to the exhibition of finalists. The regional tour brings the inevitably controversial yet hugely popular exhibition to Lake Macquarie with Hunter-based artist Nigel Milsom as the celebrated winner in 2015.

*The Archibald Prize 2015 is an Art Gallery of New South Wales touring exhibition.*

Nigel Milsom  
*Judo house pt 6*  
*(the white bird)* (detail)  
oil on linen  
232 x 190cm  
© the artist  
Photo: © AGNSW,  
Mim Stirling



10 JUNE – 31 JULY

## Your Collection: presence and absence

Drawn from the gallery's collection, this exhibition presents a series of works with the power to evoke ideas, memories and places without recourse to the representational image. In creating works with no discernible figurative presence, the implied absence serves to heighten our own sense of being. Each of the artists in this exhibition has created works that inhabit the spaces between the visible and imagined worlds, and in doing so encourage us into a state of contemplation, reflection and invention. Included in the selection are works by Ian Friend, Jonathan Jones, Brett McMahon and Ahn Wells.

*A gallery project curated by Rob Cleworth.*

Ahn Wells  
*Untitled III (detail) 2002*  
mixed media on  
Stonehenge paper  
80 x 60 x 5cm  
Gift of the artist through the  
Australian Government's Cultural  
Gifts Program, 2011  
Collection Lake Macquarie  
City Art Gallery  
© the artist



10 JUNE – 31 JULY

## Watching Clouds Pass the Moon

The pace of modern living is rarely generous with moments to pause. Increasingly, confusion replaces certainty on what constitutes quality of life and being satiated in the everyday. The artists in *Watching Clouds Pass the Moon* suggest or contemplate alternate methods of filling day hours, imagining a different role for the human action that satisfies non-monetary rewards, in contrast to the human action propelled towards the infinite accumulation model. Contemporary DIY techniques and modern versions of hunting and gathering are mined and explored in artistic ways to form an exchange in tandem with the passive viewer experience. Artists: Benjamin Gallagher (Australia), Valentina Karga (Greece/Germany), Nicole Monks (Australia), Eiko & Koma (Japan/USA), Glenn Barkley (Australia), Izabela Pluta (Australia), and Diego Bonetto (Italy/Australia).

*A gallery project curated by Ineke Dane, in consultation with Meryl Ryan.*

Valentina Karga  
30 Days in the Garden /  
15 Days on Mars (detail) 2014  
photo documentation  
from project residency,  
Mars Desert Research  
Station, Utah, USA  
© the artist





**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 overlooking Marmong Marina. 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** Anna Scobie
- Administration Officer** Nada Artym

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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 – 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

Front cover: from *The Archibald Prize*  
30 April – 5 June 2016  
Julian Meagher *Daniel Johns*  
oil on linen, 122 x 91cm  
© the artist  
Photo: © AGNSW, Mim Stirling