

# EXHIBITION PROGRAM

**LCAM**  
**LAKE**  
**MACQUARIE**  
**CITY**  
**ART**  
**GALLERY**



**WINTER 2016 – SUMMER 2017**

**10 JUNE – 25 SEPTEMBER**

**Your Collection: presence and absence**

**5 AUGUST – 25 SEPTEMBER**

**Your Collection: off the wall**

**13 AUGUST – 2 OCTOBER**

**CLICK: Schools in Focus**

**30 SEPTEMBER – 13 NOVEMBER**

**Research through Design**

**GLASS: art design architecture**

**18 NOVEMBER – 29 JANUARY**

**Lake Macquarie: Living Cultures**

**Saltwater Country**

## FROM THE GALLERY DIRECTOR

This year, our fifteenth year in the current building, has been extraordinary so far with record visitor numbers especially to *Impressions of Paris: Lautrec, Degas, Daumier* from the National Gallery of Australia and the *Archibald Prize 2015* touring exhibition from the Art Gallery NSW. Other great projects such as *Happyness*, curated by Meryl Ryan and Stephen Goddard; our annual *First Class* project, curated by Ann Caddey with Lisa Who; our HSC case study project featuring the work of Judy Watson; and most recently, Ineke Dane's project, *Watching Clouds Pass the Moon*, have contributed to more than 28,500 people visiting the gallery so far. Our Aboriginal program, developed in consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group, has again attracted awards. *(in)visible: the First Peoples and War*, curated by Yhonnie Scarce and Meryl Ryan to encompass the significance of the frontier wars and world conflicts in our shared histories, not only attracted an IMAGinE Award in late 2015 but also a Museums and Galleries National Award in May 2016. At the same ceremony, *Lore & Order*, curated by Donna Fernando to explore the complex relationship between Birabahn and Rev. Thelkeld and the realities of mission life 'under the Act' across New South Wales, also attracted an award.

During the second half of the year, we will continue working towards our vision for a vibrant region within which people engage with the changing world and each other through contemporary visual arts and culture. The first two projects, curated by Rob Cleworth, explore the gallery's holdings under the banner 'Your Collection'. The first, *presence and absence*, looks at abstraction, while the second, *off the wall*, focuses on sculptural works to mark the 20th anniversary year of the sculpture park. Celebrations incorporate the installation of a new permanent outdoor work by Richard Tipping and one on loan by Jamie North, fresh from the recent Biennale of Sydney, and performances by Tantrum's Trajectory ensemble.

For spring, we are pleased to be presenting another stunning touring project from the JamFactory, *GLASS: art design architecture*, showing in conjunction with *Research through Design*, the result of a new partnership with the School of Architecture and the Built Environment at the University of Newcastle, featuring work from the school's emerging Design Research stream.

Salt water is the focus for our summer exhibitions. The first, *Saltwater Country*, explores the diverse and potent connections for Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to the sea as presented by Museum and Galleries Service Queensland in partnership with Gold Coast City Gallery. The second represents the gallery's launch of *Lake Macquarie: living cultures*, a space where history and local stories converge with contemporary art. The first in the series, developed in consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group and Lake Macquarie Library, will present stories around the use of watercraft on the lake, and will feature traditional canoes made by the Aboriginal community.

As usual, we provide visitors access to exhibitions through events, forums and tours, and to makers through our extensive art class program – so whether you are with a school group, family, friends, or just after some quiet time on your own, we welcome you at the Hunter's only waterfront 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 award winning 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
- fabulous views.

Above: Peter Lankas talking with visitors during one of the *en plein air* painting weekends in the gallery sculpture park.

Left: Installation view from *Water Stories* exhibition (2013), featuring collection works by the late Jim Ridgeway (foreground) and Douglas Archibald.



**10 JUNE – 25 SEPTEMBER**

### **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.*

Peter Sharp  
*Old Tom* (detail) 2006  
oil and synthetic  
polymer paint on linen  
181 x 210cm  
Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery,  
Still Waters Clear Visions,  
donated through the Australian  
Government's Cultural Gifts  
Program by the artist, 2006  
© the artist



**5 AUGUST – 25 SEPTEMBER**

## Your Collection: off the wall

This exhibition celebrates the sculptural works in the collection in this 20th-anniversary year of the establishment of the Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery sculpture park. Launched with the installation of Richard Tipping's *Hear the art*, and Ted Prior's *Love boat*, the park has continued to develop and strengthen with the subsequent inclusion of significant works by such artists as Nigel Helyer, Janet Laurence, Graham Gilchrist, John Turier, and more recently, on loan, Jamie North. The exhibition comprises drawings, photographs and other archival documentation providing an insight into the history and development of the park and a window into the working processes of the artists. Additional sculptures from the gallery's collection, including recent acquisitions of works by Ian Burns and Janet Laurence, feature alongside works on loan from artists Jamie North, Braddon Snape and John Turier.

Taking celebrations into the park itself, related outdoor activities and temporary projects, including site-specific artworks and performances by Tantrum's Trajectory Ensemble, will also take place.

*A gallery project coordinated by Rob Cleworth.*

Nigel Helyer  
*Radiolarians* (detail) 2011  
corten steel, marine-grade  
stainless steel wire cable,  
stainless steel, concrete  
96.5 x 132 x 288cm  
Lake Macquarie City Art  
Gallery, purchased with  
support of Arts NSW, 2011  
© the artist



**13 AUGUST – 2 OCTOBER**

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

CLICK is a gallery initiative showcasing and celebrating secondary school photographic projects from across the Hunter and Central Coast regions. Each year, two exhibitions of work are selected and proudly displayed in the education room. This is the sixth exhibition in the series.

*A gallery project coordinated by Joanna Davies.*

Stage 6 digital media works from Lake Munmorah High School installed at the gallery.



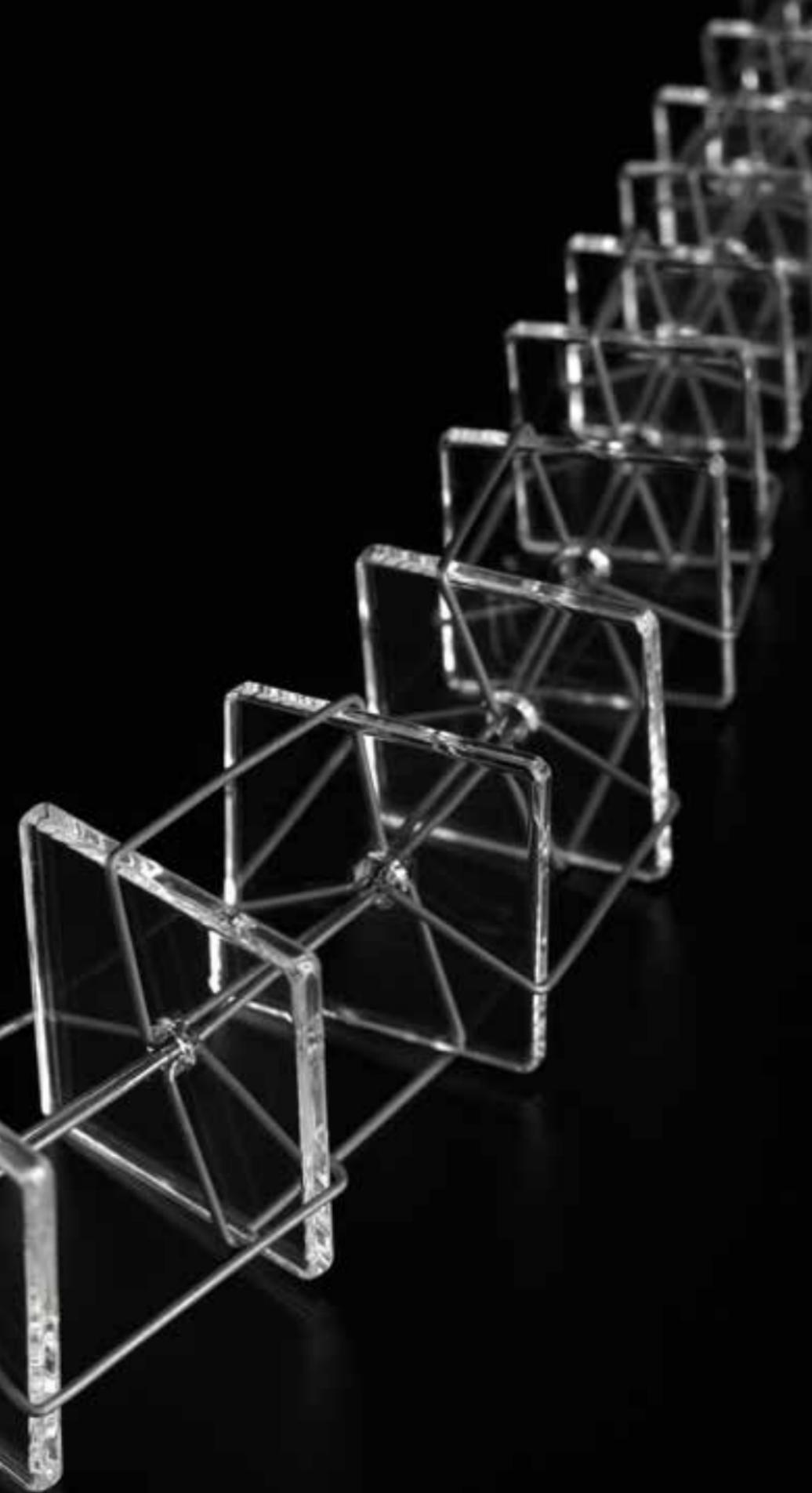
**30 SEPTEMBER – 13 NOVEMBER**

## Research through Design

This exhibition will showcase architectural projects at the creative threshold between research and practice. The selection comprises work undertaken as part of the emerging Design Research stream within the School of Architecture and the Built Environment (SABE) at the University of Newcastle, and features the work of 13 PhD candidates, as well as supervisors and associated practitioners. The design research approach sets out to use the architectural design process – in all of its diverse forms – as a mechanism for the explicit production of knowledge. This includes discreet knowledge of, amongst other things, design processes, creativity, spatiality, urbanism, landscapes, technologies, ethical positions, ideologies and theoretical frameworks that affect architecture.

*A gallery project curated by SABE in consultation with Meryl Ryan.*

Timothy Burke  
*Charnel House: Taxonomy  
of Failed Inventions*  
Throsby Creek, Carrington 2014  
120 x 100 x 60cm  
mild steel, brass, clear acrylic,  
wire, found objects  
© the artist



**30 SEPTEMBER – 13 NOVEMBER**



## **GLASS art design architecture**

This groundbreaking glass exhibition explores innovative ways that glass is being used by artists, designers and architects in Australia in the 21st century. Co-curated by JamFactory's Brian Parkes (CEO) and Margaret Hancock Davis (Senior Curator), the exhibition brings together projects, products and works of art that reflect many of the current preoccupations with glass within contemporary arts practices in this country.

*GLASS: art design architecture is a JamFactory touring exhibition. GLASS: art design architecture 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.*

Above: Jess Dare  
*Conceptual flowering  
plant series 2013-14*  
lampwork glass  
dimensions variable  
© the artist  
Photo Grant Hancock

Left: Blanche Tilden  
*Grand Palais necklace  
(detail) 2014*  
water-jet cut, cold-worked and  
lampworked borosilicate glass,  
oxidised 925 silver  
4 x 38cm diam.  
© the artist  
Photo Grant Hancock



**18 NOVEMBER – 29 JANUARY**

## **Lake Macquarie: Living Cultures**

This exhibition will launch a new and ongoing project – a museum with a difference. This new space will support local stories, artist residencies and research. Artists will be engaged to interpret and document aspects of Lake Macquarie history, culture and the environment with a combination of artefacts and artworks. The first of the series will focus on the use of watercraft in and around the lake, and will feature traditional canoes made by the Aboriginal community.

*A gallery project coordinated by Debbie Abraham with the Aboriginal Reference Group and researcher Marianne Rogers.*

John Montefiore  
*The fishing boy (detail)* 1972  
gouache, pen and ink on card  
suite of 14 prints  
27.5 x 22.3cm each  
Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery,  
Still Waters Clear Visions,  
donated through the  
Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by  
Beverley Derkenne, 2012  
© the artist's estate



**18 NOVEMBER – 29 JANUARY**

## Saltwater Country

Many exhibitions of Australian Aboriginal art have focused on the intrinsic and embedded nature of Aboriginal culture and creative expression as a reflection of the connectedness to land and place of birth. The term 'country' has come to be understood as an all-encompassing word in English to explain this relationship. What is less understood by many audiences is the equally strong cultural connectedness to the sea and how equally profound this relationship is. The exhibition *Saltwater Country* explores these diverse and potent connections as expressed by artists from Queensland and Torres Strait Islands.

*Saltwater Country is a partnership between Museums & Galleries Queensland and Gold Coast City Gallery. Curated by Michael Aird and Virginia Rigney.*

Michael Cook  
*Civilised #13* 2012  
inkjet print on paper  
123 x 109cm (framed)  
courtesy the artist and  
Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane  
© the artist

Art displayed in partnership with

**museums & galleries**  
QUEENSLAND

**GOLD COAST CITY GALLERY**

Partnership with

  
Australian Government  
Minister of Arts and Culture

  
Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

  
Australia Council  
for the Arts

  
Queensland  
Government

  
Australian Government  
Visual Arts and Craft Strategy  
Queensland

**GOLD COAST.**





**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 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
- Art Gallery Assistant - Visitor Services** Anna Scobie
- Trainee Art Gallery Assistant - Visitor Services** Jordann Charter-Smith
- Art Gallery 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 RESTAURANT & CAFE  
TUESDAY TO SUNDAY 10AM – 4PM  
T: (02) 4950 6366 F: (02) 4950 6166

Front cover: from *Lake Macquarie – Living Cultures* Nov 16–Jan 17  
Jane Lander *Sunday, Speers Point* 1988  
synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 137.5 x 163cm  
Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, *Still Waters Clear Visions*,  
commissioned by Lake Macquarie City Council, 1988  
© the artist