

## 2016 Dobell Exhibition Grant

The inaugural round of the Dobell Exhibition Grant was assessed on 16 October 2015 by a three member panel consisting of:

- Michelle Belgiorno, Trustee, Sir William Dobell Art Foundation
- Paula Latos-Valier, Art Director, Sir William Dobell Art Foundation
- Michael Rolfe, CEO, Museums & Galleries of NSW

The panel assessed nine applications from regional galleries and arts centres across NSW. A diverse and competitive round of high quality group and solo exhibition proposals were received. The \$40,000 grant was awarded to an exhibition proposal and accompanying public and education program which embodied the aims of the program - to support artists, extend public appreciation and engagement with the visual arts and expand curatorial skills and creativity.

The panel commented that proposals which had significant and innovative public engagement and education strategies were prioritised as well as those which included clear, accurate and detailed budgets. It was also noted that the applicant's in-kind contribution should be included and itemised in the overall budget. In addition the panel found it helpful to have the status of any artwork loan requests as up to date as possible.

### 2016 Dobell Exhibition Grant Recipient

Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest was awarded the inaugural Dobell Exhibition Grant of \$40,000 in support of their exhibition *Gravity (and Wonder)* scheduled for 28 August–21 November 2016.

*Gravity (and Wonder)*, curated by Penrith Regional Gallery in collaboration with the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), aims to explore this fundamental law of the universe through a diverse program which combines the history and philosophy of gravity and its wondrous elements through contemporary art and related objects, instruments and papers held within the MAAS collection. One of the proposal's strengths was the involvement of partner organisations such as Western Sydney University and its creative collaboration in a series of outwardly focussed public programs.

Through contemporary art - on loan and commissioned - the exhibition aims to introduce new ways of thinking about the multi-dimensionality of matter, time and space through a range of largely sculptural and kinetic works. Exhibiting artists will include Michael Parekowhai, Nicholas Folland, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Richard Serra, Timothy Cook, Amy Joy Watson, Sandra Selig, Marley Dawson, Mira Gojak, David Haines and Joyce Hinterding.



Amy Joy Watson, *Floating Sequence*, 2012, balsa wood, watercolour, gouache, polyester thread, lead weights, balloons, helium, dimensions variable. Courtesy the artist and Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide.

For more information about the Dobell Exhibition Grant please contact:

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