

2016 Artist or Curator Residency (ACR) Program

The Artist or Curator Residency program, funded with the assistance of the Copyright Agency Limited's Cultural Fund and managed by Museums & Galleries of NSW, was assessed on 6th November 2015 by a three member panel consisting of:

- Paul Brinkman, Director, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre
- Michelle Newton, Deputy Director, Artspace
- Michael Rolfe, CEO, Museums & Galleries of NSW

The panel assessed 13 applications from regional galleries and arts centres nationally. A diverse and competitive round of high quality proposals for established artists or curators to undertake a residency activity were received. Three grants were awarded to applicants who demonstrated clearly the tangible benefit to the artist or curator's work as well as defining the contribution the resident would make to the host gallery's education and public program activities.

The panel commented that proposals which focused on providing artists or curators with the time and space to research, create and/or develop new work were favoured above those which aimed to support already planned or developed exhibitions where the outcome was already defined.

2016 Artist or Curator Residency recipients

The three successful Artist or Curator In-Residence programs will be awarded with \$11,250 each:

- Burrinja Gallery (Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre), Vic.

Emerging artist Jessie Boylan will collaborate with established artist Linda Dement during a two-week residency at the Gallery. The artists will develop a responsive installation for a major exhibition *Black Mist Burnt Country* curated by Burrinja's JD Mittman. Burrinja will provide studio space for the two artists and organise, publicise and facilitate two open studio events.

Boylan and Dement's proposed work, *15,695*, references the number of nuclear weapons now held globally, an unseen but oppressively present threat and has its grounding in significant previous research and artmaking in survivor communities of atomic fallout in the Marshall Islands and Yalata Aboriginal Community; beginning in 2014 for the Nuclear Futures program and including exhibitions at the Adelaide Fringe and at The Block QUT 2015.

- Mildura Arts Centre Regional Gallery, Vic.

Curator Sven Mehzoud, Senior Lecturer at Monash Art, Design and Architecture, Monash University, Melbourne, will undertake a residency in early 2016 to design, curate and implement an exhibition and related public programs at Mildura Arts Centre Regional Gallery and Rio Vista Historic House as part of the gallery's 60th anniversary program. Titled *Constructed Geography*, the project seeks to develop and implement curatorial and participatory exhibition design strategies based on inter-cultural mappings of

country (North-West Victoria and South-West NSW). The intention is to juxtapose art works with traditional cartographic mappings and to highlight Mildura Arts Centre's contemporary (c.1966) and historic (c.1890) exhibition spaces as 'constructed geographies'.

- The Barn (Clarence City Council), Tas.

Dr Jane Deeth will undertake an eight-month residency in 2016 to research an exhibition which aims to 'decode' contemporary art for local audiences. The exhibition, to be held at The Barn, will challenge the audience to engage with art in new ways. Dr Deeth will work with frequent visitors to develop local advocates and champions for the project. She also plans to involve council alderman and staff in workshops building their capacity to appreciate more discursive and ideas-based forms of contemporary art practice, as well as developing training for teachers and encouraging audiences from the broader community to engage with sometimes challenging and confronting art by a wide range of artists including some from Tasmania.



Ngurini, Jessie Boylan collaboration with Linda Dement and Nuclear Futures, The Block QUT, 2015, Immersive 360° video installation.

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