

**Museums
& Galleries
of NSW**

IMAGINE

AWARDS 2023

inspiring museums and galleries in excellence



Acknowledgement of Country

Museums & Galleries of NSW acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation and all the other Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live and work. We pay respect to them as First Nations people with continuing connection to land, place, waters and community.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this booklet contains reference to deceased persons.



IMAGinE Awards 2023

Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the 2023 IMAGinE Awards.

Museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural spaces are vital components of community life. With close to 500 organisations representing this sector, the Awards recognise the commitment by the staff and volunteers working in these facilities to support the cultural needs of New South Wales residents, whether they live in metropolitan Sydney, Western Sydney, or in regional or remote areas of the state.

The Awards encompass large cultural institutions, through to small, volunteer led organisations and everything in between. Each, however, plays an essential role in telling important local stories, preserving cultural heritage for

future generations, acting as launch pads for artists and supporting local economies through cultural tourism and job creation. This all happens alongside these organisations being safe spaces for diverse communities to come together.

The strength of the sector is evidenced in this publication with over 140 case studies of activity from more than 70 organisations.

This year continues to see cultural spaces deliver programs for communities still living with the aftermath of natural disasters. The growing sophistication of these programs, will, sadly, be a permanent feature of cultural delivery as communities continue to live with a changing climate.

I would like to recognise the increasing number of organisations working closely with NSW Aboriginal communities and First Nations artists. These projects play a crucial role in developing relationships, deepening understanding and valuing the contribution of Indigenous knowledge on contemporary life.

The Awards acknowledge the achievements of individuals, with nominees for the Aboriginal Culture, Heritage & Arts Association (ACHAA) Award for Excellence by an Aboriginal Curator highlighting the incredible work and professionalism of First Nations curators in New South Wales.

The Volunteer Achievement Award is a chance to pay tribute to the many volunteers working in the sector. These individuals tirelessly offer

their service to their communities, and institutions, often in the face of extremely limited budgets and resources.

For the second year, Museums & Galleries of NSW has continued to partner with NSW Health Infrastructure to deliver the NSW Health Infrastructure Arts and Health Award. This funded award offers a NSW cultural facility, in partnership with a Local Health District, the ability to deliver a cultural project supporting health outcomes for NSW residents.

I would also like to thank our Major Sponsor, International Conservation Services, who are again supporting the Awards.

On behalf of the Board and staff of Museums & Galleries of NSW, I

offer my congratulations to all the nominees and winners.

Brett Adlington
CEO, Museums & Galleries of NSW



Major Sponsor *International Conservation Services*

Since ICS was founded more than 35 years ago, we have continuously worked with communities and regional museums and galleries across NSW. In fact, regional cultural hubs are one of the reasons for our very existence.

In the lead up to Australia's 1988 Bicentenary it became clear that although major museums were well serviced, smaller museums and galleries did not have the same access to museum standard conservation services.

This led to ICS working alongside Museums Australia (NSW) and the Regional Galleries Association of NSW (RGA) to bring conservation services direct to local communities. The Bicentenary Mobile Conservation Lab, developed by RGA and later run

by ICS, was a real highlight of this period, taking us from Eden to Tweed Heads, Deniliquin to Dubbo. We have continued since then to value our close relationship with regional galleries and museums across the state. Lately working with the Lismore Regional Gallery after the devastating 2022 floods in the recovery and conservation of their collection has been a particular privilege.

The past two years have brought very significant environmental threats to many communities, with collections and cultural heritage bearing the brunt of some of these events. Most working within the cultural sector are not only very aware of the current and looming impacts of climate change but also understand the role that some of our activities have in adding to our carbon footprint.

To that end, ICS is a Supporting Partner of the Australian Museum's Climate Solutions Centre, and recently, with the support of Museums & Galleries of NSW, hosted the Roadmap to Net Zero workshop. This program was designed as a first step to help smaller cultural institutions in NSW develop a net zero strategy. Learnings from this workshop will assist in the development of effective resources and strategies for the small to medium sector with our sector partners.





NSW Health Infrastructure Arts and Health Award

Through a unique partnership with NSW Health Infrastructure, this award is designed to foster strong partnerships between cultural organisations and their Local Health Districts to develop meaningful programs that contribute to better health outcomes in local communities.

The inaugural award in 2022 enabled Gosford Regional Gallery to work in partnership with Gosford Hospital and Central Coast Local Health District to hold 20 weaving workshops led by Aunty Daniella Chedzey, for patients and staff. Weaving works will be displayed throughout the hospital.







The winner of the 2023 NSW Health Infrastructure Arts and Health Award receives \$10,000 to further develop the capacity of both the cultural and health sectors in working together to boost the wellbeing of their communities.



Exhibition Projects Award

Nominations in the Exhibition Projects Award demonstrate excellence and innovation in exhibition practice, permanent or temporary exhibitions, exhibition design, exhibition publications and resources, and exhibition partnerships.

One award is given in each of the following categories:

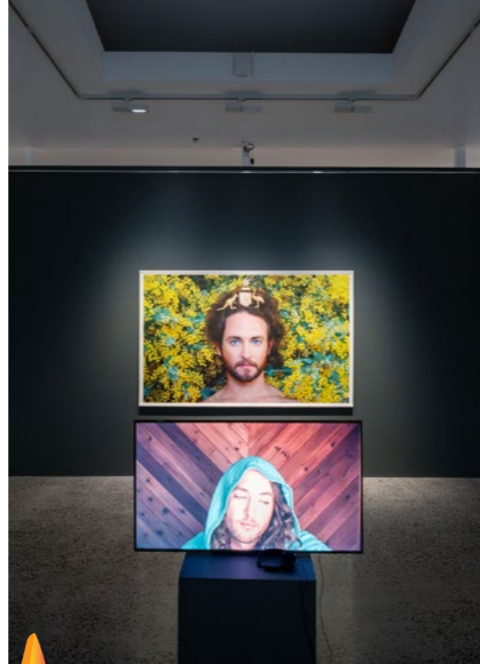
-  *Small gallery or visual arts organisations*
-  *Medium gallery or visual arts organisations*
-  *Volunteer museum or heritage organisations*
-  *Small museum or heritage organisations*
-  *Medium museum or heritage organisations*
-  *Major metropolitan institutions*

Galleries and Visual Arts Projects Small or Volunteer Organisations



ART SPACE ON THE CONCOURSE
Inner Edge Drifting

Curated by Willoughby City Council, *Inner Edge Drifting* explored the cultural experiences of people living in Western cultures with Asian roots. The exhibition delved into the nuances of 'third culture' experiences, presenting diverse artistic expressions of what it means to negotiate multiple traditions, influences, and values.



BATHURST REGIONAL ART GALLERY
Liam Benson: Virtue Without Stain

Virtue Without Stain was a career survey of multidisciplinary artist Liam Benson, spanning nearly twenty years of practice across photography, performance, video, embroidery and community work. Queering and subverting patriarchal archetypes, Benson interrogates significant historical and contemporary systems of power, posing important questions about what defines contemporary Australian masculinity.



BONDI PAVILION GALLERY
Rainbow, Mermaid, Fireworks

Rainbow, Mermaid, Fireworks, created by Rosie Deacon and Emily Crockford (Studio A), transformed the gallery into an immersive mermaid-themed wonderland. Paying homage to Bondi's history of mermaid sculptures, this family-focused exhibition invited visitors to explore an undersea disco, don artist-made garments, and snap selfies with a new 'big rock' in the mermaid's garden.

BONDI PAVILION GALLERY

The Air is Electric – David McDiarmid in America

Presented for Sydney WorldPride, *The Air is Electric* showcased never-before-seen photographs and postcards by esteemed gay artist David McDiarmid. The exhibition, a partnership between Waverley Council and the Australian Queer Archives, explored McDiarmid's journey to the United States in 1977 and its influence on his creative practice and activism. As such, visitors were transported to a time where a gay public was only beginning to emerge in Australia.





BONDI PAVILION GALLERY
Liquid Mountains

Liquid Mountains celebrated Bondi Beach's status as a National Surfing Reserve and its significant role in Australian surfing history. This summer exhibition brought together contemporary artists who surf to explore its spiritual, social, and environmental aspects. Depictions of surfboards and surfers were excluded or minimised, instead the experience focused on the intangible, omnipotent, and otherworldly qualities of the ocean.



BONDI PAVILION GALLERY
Bondi Story Room

Bondi Story Room, designed and developed in partnership with Tonkin Zulaikha Greer Architects and Grumpy Sailor, is a space currently hosting over 325 stories that span topics like First Nations heritage, surf history, and migration. A pioneering digital heritage space, it boasts the largest interactive radar touch screen in the world alongside other leading technologies. An integrated online portal makes this growing archive of stories accessible to a global audience.



DRAW SPACE
LOCUST JONES / MAGIC SAUCE

DRAW Space's debut exhibition *MAGIC SAUCE* featured a dynamic three-hour drawing performance by Locust Jones, complemented by drummer Tim Bruniges. The source of inspiration for Jones's drawing was a notebook of collected headlines and stream-of-consciousness statements. The resulting large-scale drawing and the accompanying audio recording were displayed throughout the exhibition – an echoing residue of what came before.



FAIRFIELD CITY MUSEUM & GALLERY
We Eat This Bread

We Eat This Bread by Marikit Santiago was a deeply personal exploration of 'The Last Supper,' expanding the story to reflect the artist's cultural traditions, particularly the impact of growing up as a child of migrants in Western Sydney. This significant solo exhibition featured two large installations, commissioned works, and community engagement components.



GOULBURN REGIONAL ART GALLERY
All light, all air, all space

Curated by Yvette Dal Pozzo, *All light, all air, all space* united six prominent artists exploring their connections with the natural world. The exhibition featured diverse works utilising natural, found, and recycled materials, some evolving throughout the duration of the exhibition. Inspired by Rosalie Gascoigne's quote, the show celebrated the region's landscapes while addressing the broader climate emergency.



HAWKESBURY REGIONAL GALLERY
Dyarubbin

Dyarubbin took its name from the ancient waterway, also known as the Hawkesbury River. Inspiration for the exhibition came after Dharug place-names for distinctive features and landmarks along the river were unearthed in a handwritten list compiled by a Presbyterian minister in 1829. In an act of cultural revitalisation, Dharug knowledge holders, artists, and educators came together to celebrate this discovery through soundscapes, installation art, animation, and storytelling.



MANLY ART GALLERY & MUSEUM
Fair Play

Curated by Ben Rak, *Fair Play* challenged the notion that sport and art are natural enemies. Ten artists, drawing upon their lived experience and sporting motifs, helped engage audiences in discussions around contemporary Australian issues like post-colonialism, environmentalism, belonging, masculinity, and mental health. Five of the artists were commissioned to create ambitious new work which contrasted displays of collection objects from early sporting history.



MULTI-ARTS PAVILION, MIMA
WildLife by James Price

WildLife by James Price was an immersive 360-degree video projection artwork that explored the concept of emotions creating their own environment. Bubbles transformed into birds, stars merged into fish, and feelings bloomed like flowers in this playful and family-oriented experience. In conjunction, local ceramic artist, Holly Macdonald, created and exhibited a new body of work called *Feeling Objects* which responded to Price's theme.



PARI
Mixed Business 3

Mixed Business is an annual exhibition celebrating the people who sustain and run Pari – an artist-run space in Parramatta, Western Sydney. In this third rendition, gallery keepers and co-directors curated an exhibition which featured twenty-one artists, including both emerging talents and experienced artists. It provided a platform for gallery keepers to curate, exhibit, and facilitate workshops, fostering connections within the community itself after years of pandemic-related impacts.



PARI
Open World

Open World explored storytelling and world-building through various mediums, including gaming, role play, fandom, simulation, and spirituality. The exhibition featured twelve artists, a majority of whom were emerging artists from diverse backgrounds in Western Sydney. It highlighted the use of new technology as a tool for storytelling and world creation – that an escape from ‘reality’ might also create opportunities for better futures.



SHOALHAVEN REGIONAL GALLERY
Plant Your Feet

Plant Your Feet, curated by artist Glenn Barkley, was a unique exhibition blending local history, art, and community engagement. Visitors explored narratives of place through this rich tapestry of stories, historical objects, contemporary artworks, and over eight-hundred community-created terracotta tiles. Adorning the gallery with these tiles ultimately helped foster a deeper connection between the gallery and its community.



SINGLETON ARTS + CULTURAL CENTRE
Spirit of Place

Spirit of Place showcased the collaborative efforts of Wonnarua Elder Uncle Warren Taggart, along with photographers Carol Carter and Allan Chawner. The exhibition highlighted vital and fragile Aboriginal sites in the Hunter Region, blending captivating photographs with cultural objects from Uncle Warren’s collection. By allowing visitors to respectfully experience significant sites without risking damage, this exhibition successfully raised awareness about the importance of their preservation.



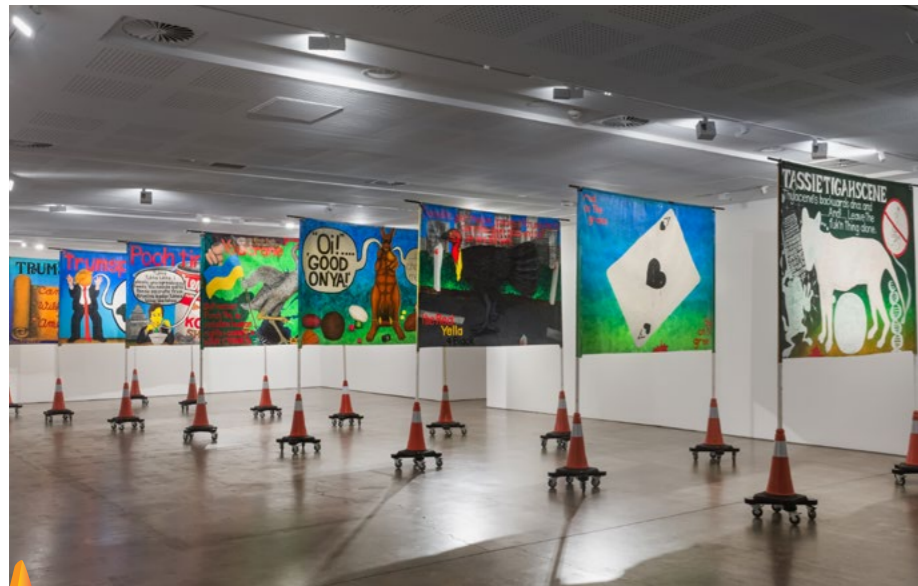
THE LOCK-UP
Loud Sky

Developed with extensive community input, *Loud Sky* was a contemporary art exhibition exploring the individual and societal impact of institutional child sexual abuse. The Hunter-based artists drew from three decades of survivor narratives, activism, media coverage, and the 2016 Australian Royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Newcastle. The creative healing at the centre of the project was supported with additional public programming and art therapy workshops.



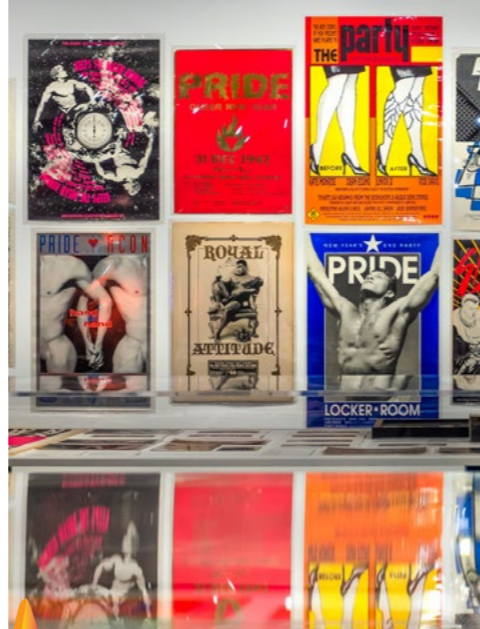
THE LOCK-UP
The Bender

Launched in 2015, *The Bender* is an annual interdisciplinary arts event. In 2022, guest curator Zana Kobayashi prompted artists to reflect on the pandemic’s impact, resulting in 19 projects featuring over 40 participants. These immersive projects spanned various mediums, including DJ sets, installations, fashion runways, spoken word, dance, interactive performances, and projection mapping. The event transformed The Lock-Up into a party, a riot, and a celebration of art and community.



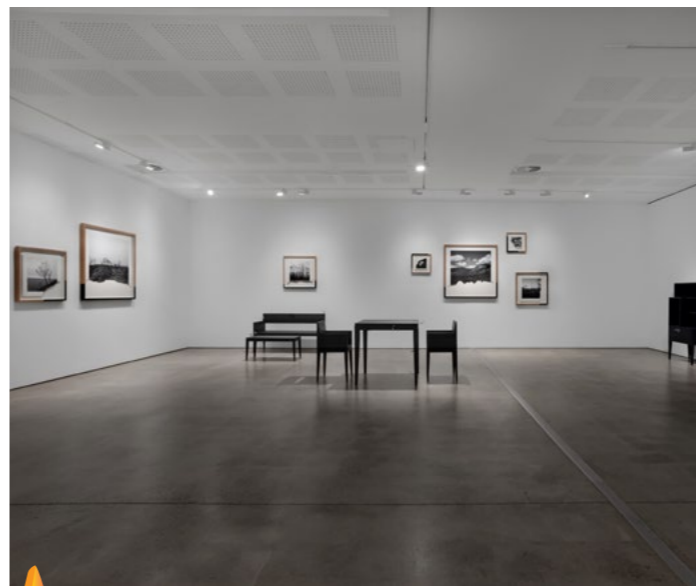
UNSW GALLERIES
Gordon Hookey: A MURRIALITY

A MURRIALITY, the first survey of Waanyi artist Gordon Hookey, spanned three decades of his practice. This ground-breaking exhibition showcased Hookey's artistry and activism, featuring sculpture, printmaking, video, and large-scale paintings that explored historical and contemporary issues faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The project united twenty-eight significant works, including an ambitious new commission of protest banners, inviting audiences to reconsider Australia's history through Hookey's perspective.



UNSW GALLERIES
THE PARTY

Presented by UNSW Galleries and Sydney WorldPride, *THE PARTY* was a landmark exhibition celebrating LGBTQI+ party culture in Sydney from 1973 to 2002. The exhibition, curated by José Da Silva and Nick Henderson, engaged with this defining period of social and sexual freedom in Australia, featuring documentation and ephemera from events and venues alongside the works of 64 Australian artists, writers, and designers.



UNSW GALLERIES
James Tylor: Turrangka...in the shadows

Turrangka...in the shadows presented a decade of work from multidisciplinary artist James Tylor, marking his first institutional solo exhibition. The comprehensive survey featured over two hundred pieces, including unique daguerreotypes, digital photographic series, and hand-made Kurna cultural objects. The exhibition explored Australia's colonial histories and their impact on Indigenous cultures, delving into cultural identity and place relationships from an Indigenous perspective.

UTS GALLERY & ART COLLECTION
She Speaks in Sculpture

She Speaks in Sculpture, curated by Diana Baker Smith, explored the relationship between public art and urban development by delving into the history of Sydney's built environment through the lens of Australian-American sculptor, Margel Hinder (1906-1995). The project incorporated a new video installation, choreographed performances, and archival materials related to Hinder's work alongside restoring her iconic sculpture, *Growth Forms*.





Galleries and Visual Arts Projects

Medium Organisations



AUSTRALIAN DESIGN CENTRE

GOOD NATURED: design art architecture

GOOD NATURED celebrated environmentally conscious creatives through works that were both beautiful and good for the planet. Curated by Liane Rossler and Lisa Cahill, it spotlighted designers, artists, and architects working toward a sustainable future. From curation to materials, the entire exhibition minimised its carbon footprint as part of a call to action for visitors to join the movement for a healthier, safer planet.



AUSTRALIAN DESIGN CENTRE

Unravelling Queerly

Developed as part of the Sydney WorldPride Arts Program, *Unravelling Queerly* was a textile exhibition featuring ten LGBTQIA+ makers from Australia, New Zealand, and Britain. It was produced by the ADC team alongside a curatorium of LGBTQIA+ arts and community advisors. Amplified by programs including a street market, opening celebrations, tours, and talks, it showcased a mix of prominent, lesser known, and underrepresented practitioners.



BLUE MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTRE

Vicky Browne: work / play

Vicky Browne's solo exhibition, *work / play*, was a celebration of more than a decade's worth of the local artist's exploration into materiality. Filled with playful, innovative installations, and interactive works, the exhibition showcased her ability to reimagine and untether everyday objects from their original function in ways that captivate audiences of all ages.

CASULA POWERHOUSE ARTS CENTRE WITH NSW REGIONAL ARTS NETWORK

Artists in Volatile Landscapes

What does the future look like in your region? This was the question posed to twenty eight contemporary regional artists for *Artists in Volatile Landscapes*. Works spanning sculpture, weaving, projection, video, photography, and painting, all centred around human impacts on the environment – emphasising an urgent need to address a post-carbon future. Across two years, this collaborative project fostered intra-regional exchange while reflecting current concerns, challenges, and hopes for regional





CASULA POWERHOUSE ARTS CENTRE
FLIGHT

FLIGHT was developed in anticipation of the take-off of the Western Sydney International Airport in 2026. A suburb set to transform, the story of Liverpool is already tied to flight with 40% of residents born overseas. Through an exhibition of new and existing artworks, local histories, artefacts, talks, and performances, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre became a hub where diverse community perspectives could be dissected, discussed, and deconstructed in one place.



CASULA POWERHOUSE ARTS CENTRE AND TAMWORTH REGIONAL GALLERY
LOOKING AT GOLD

LOOKING AT GOLD showcased artists from across NSW who have an enduring fascination with gold as a material, colour, and symbol. Developed through curatorial exchange, the exhibition featured artworks from both collections alongside newly commissioned pieces. By delving into the conceptual potential and recurrence of gold throughout global art histories, this exhibition was able to bring together artists from Green Valley to Tamworth and beyond.



GRAFTON REGIONAL GALLERY
InlandSee

InlandSee brought contemporary NSW art to the Clarence Valley region through an engaging residency and exhibition program. First, six artists were invited to craft unique pieces through a residency program which informed the exhibition itself. Then, twenty-six emerging and mid career NSW-based artists from diverse backgrounds were gathered to create and showcase work highlighting their current practice. As such, *InlandSee* removed distance barriers for regional audiences and nurtured local artists.



MAITLAND REGIONAL ART GALLERY
Upriver Downriver

Flowing from the Mount Royal Range's babbling brooks, meandering through Wonnarua Country, the Upper Hunter, Maitland, and down to the bustling Port of Newcastle, *Upriver Downriver* featured 52 artists with strong connections to the Hunter region. Celebrating the work of some of the Hunter's most established and award-winning artists alongside young and emerging creatives, the exhibition will now become a permanent biennial in Maitland Regional Art Gallery's artistic program.



MUSEUM OF ART AND CULTURE YAPANG
SEAM: Coming together for World Pride '23

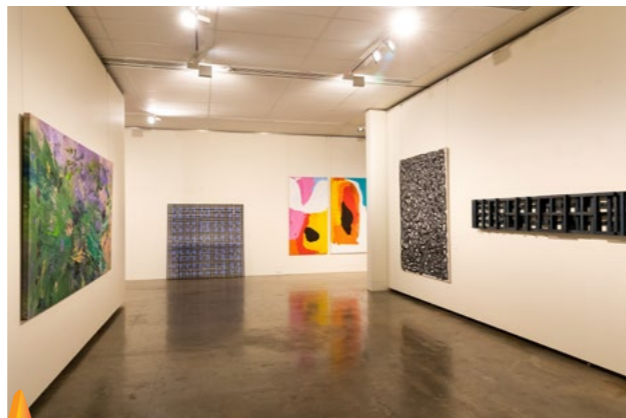
SEAM aligned with WorldPride 2023 to celebrate five LGBTQIA+ artists discussing the empowerment and disquiet of Queerness in contemporary society. Through work spanning textiles, neon, poetry, photography, video, and performance, these artists created vibrant and evocative works that used colour and language to engage with social and gender politics.



NATIONAL ART SCHOOL

Captivate: The National Art School and Darlinghurst Gaol

Captivate unveiled the incredible stories 'behind the walls' of Darlinghurst Gaol and the National Art School. It delved into a 200-year history of infamous inmates, like the bushranger Captain Moonlite, alongside the remarkable legacy of artists and alumni who have influenced the school.



NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL ART MUSEUM
STRONG

STRONG celebrated five women artists who pursued or continued their careers later in life, showcasing their powerful, large-scale artworks. Featuring artists like Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori and Emily Kame Kngwarreye, the exhibition acknowledged the long overlooked contributions of women in Australian art. While each artist has been the subject of significant surveys or retrospective exhibitions, *STRONG* brought them together for the very first time, accompanied by a publication featuring intergenerational women writers.



NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL ART MUSEUM WITH UNE
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
The Art of Nature

Echoing the spirit of a curiosity cabinet filled with wonders, *The Art of Nature* explored the intersection of art and science in a compelling display of art and natural history. A collaboration with The University of New England's Natural History Museum, the exhibition drew links and parallels between the Museum's specimens – which included skeletons, seashells and taxidermy animals - and artworks from NERAM's collections.

NEWCASTLE ART GALLERY
TITAN ARUM: Justin Shoulder

Newcastle Art Gallery, in partnership with Newcastle's New Annual Festival, presented Justin Shoulder's *TITAN ARUM*, a major site-specific installation of exotic and dangerous plant forms. Captivating audiences of all ages through a sensory performance of dance, sound, and light, the immersive installation invited spectators to landscapes both familiar and alien, capturing the imagination of the city.





NGUNUNGULA

Spring Collection with Ken Done & Rosie Deacon

Spring Collection with Ken Done & Rosie Deacon brought together the vibrant worlds of two iconic Australian artists. Showcasing new and existing artworks, the exhibition merged their unique styles of bold and colourful Australiana to create an interactive, all-ages experience. A rare encounter between two colliding worlds, their artworks expressed a shared passion for coral reefs and 1980s nostalgia to experience visually, aurally, and physically.



NGUNUNGULA

Video Commission

Keeping an open brief, *Video Commission* paired Australian contemporary artists to create new collaborative video installations during a two week residency supported by the Shark Island Institute. Each pair pushed the boundaries of their practices in performance, installation, animation, filmmaking, and painting. From playful explorations of nature to deep reflections on motherhood and identity politics, the artists offered a range of self-portraits that captured the essence of their collaboration.



ORANGE REGIONAL GALLERY

Catherine O'Donnell: Beyond the Shadow

Developed in partnership with Grafton Regional Gallery, *Beyond the Shadow* was the first survey exhibition of Catherine O'Donnell's practice across drawing, sculpture, and installation. The exhibition investigated the suburban architecture of mid-century social housing in Western Sydney and Regional NSW. Presenting this era of architectural style in all its glory, O'Donnell celebrated the role it continues to play in social history, memory, and culture.

Museums and Heritage Projects Volunteer Organisations



MISS PORTER'S HOUSE
Series of Audio Stories

Based on volunteer research into their UNESCO listed collection, Miss Porter's House produced fifteen engaging audio stories about the Porter family and the house itself. Accessible online and via QR codes throughout the space, these recordings bring history to life and are conveyed by professional voice over artists.



Museums and Heritage Projects Small Organisations



FAIRFIELD CITY MUSEUM & GALLERY

Who are you wearing?

Celebrating local talent, *Who Are You Wearing?* platformed ten Western Sydney fashion designers who explored forward-thinking fashion as a vehicle to discuss issues of identity, cultural heritage, and marginalisation. By putting the focus on slow fashion and sustainable practice, this exhibition considered the impact of the fashion industry on the world around us.



GEORGE HANNA MEMORIAL MUSEUM AT MASCOT LIBRARY

Swimming in Botany and the Bay

Swimming in Botany and the Bay revealed the story of the Botany Municipal Olympic Swimming Pool, which opened after a 75-year campaign by local Botany residents. With the perennially popular facility set for redevelopment in 2024, this social history exhibition contextualised this saga as part of Australia's broader fascination with swimming as a pastime.



JERVIS BAY MARITIME MUSEUM & GALLERY

Gumara Barranargn, Possum Skin Cloak

For generations, Aboriginal infants born in south-eastern Australia were wrapped in possum skins sewn together and painted with ochre symbols explaining family, clan, and Country. *Gumara Barranargn, Possum Skin Cloak* was an opportunity for Truth Telling through showcasing a commissioned cloak made by Aunty Julie Freeman and her daughter, Markeeta. The exhibition celebrated the significance of this cultural practice while revealing the ongoing impact of colonisation.

LA PEROUSE MUSEUM

Talking Sport: members of the La Perouse Aboriginal Community share their sporting memories

Curated by Panthers Aboriginal Sporting Association together with Elders and community leaders of the La Perouse Aboriginal community, *Talking Sport* featured thirteen interviews conducted with selected community members alongside archival film, photographs, and objects from the museum collection. Through telling the stories of local sporting heroes and their achievements, this First Nations-driven exhibition presented a legacy of community inclusion, resilience, and dedication to sports.





NSW HALL OF CHAMPIONS
Champions of the Commonwealth Games

Coinciding with the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games, *Champions of the Commonwealth Games* celebrated the eighty-five honourees who have competed since 1930 while exploring the political landscape of the Commonwealth throughout that time. Uniforms worn by competitors, the medals they won, and other sporting paraphernalia came together to highlight iconic athletes like Dawn Fraser, Betty Cuthbert, Ian Thorpe, and Matthew Mitcham.



OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PARRAMATTA
The River: Burrumatta to Cockatoo

The River: Burrumatta to Cockatoo explored the history of the Parramatta River over its centuries of use as a transport route, food source, and gathering place, as well as a site of industrialisation. Featuring objects from multiple collections, the exhibition weaved between the River's colonial history and stories of the local Burrumatta people.

ORANGE REGIONAL MUSEUM
Mulaa Giilang: Wiradjuri stories of the night sky

Showcasing Wiradjuri skylore, this Indigenous-led exhibition featured dramatic large-scale night sky photography, impactful graphics, film sequences, digital interactives, and an immersive soundtrack. *Mulaa Giilang* presented ancient astronomical knowledge while drawing on the living culture of local First Nations talent.



TWEED REGIONAL MUSEUM
Cure All

From lurid live leeches to the scariest surgical syringes, *Cure All* showcased more than two hundred delightful and horrific objects relating to Tweed's local medical history. Previously unseen collection objects were used to tell the captivating stories of fundraising, which founded the region's early ambulance and hospital while connecting the community with its own history of health and medicine.

Museums and Heritage Projects Medium Organisations



HURSTVILLE MUSEUM & GALLERY

Guraban: where the saltwater meets the freshwater

Guraban presented stories associated with the Georges River, highlighting Aboriginal connections to the river, its people, and places. Combining historical material with the work of First Nations artists – Dennis Golding, Nicole Monks & Jenine Boeree, Djon Mundine, Marilyn Russell, and Jason Wing – the exhibition was developed in collaboration with local community and the Gujaga Foundation.



MUSEUM OF THE RIVERINA

Semi-permanent exhibition

With a focus on making a sustainable display guided by Wiradyuri consciousness, the new semi-permanent galleries reopened to the public in March 2023. In taking the Murrumbidgee River as a starting place, the exhibition uses a thematic approach that is grounded in Truth Telling. Now, multiple voices – sometimes dissenting – occupy the galleries and tell local stories of connection, resilience, and community.



NEWCASTLE MUSEUM

FIRST

FIRST was a collective community exhibition celebrating the abundance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives who have a connection to Newcastle and the Hunter Region. Through exhibiting the work of sixteen First Nations creatives, the exhibition was able to visualise the diversity of practices within the community, including work from contemporary musicians, glassmakers, filmmakers, architects, animators, and drag performers.

NEWCASTLE MUSEUM

Shralp

Shralp is an exploration of the Newcastle skateboarding scene from 1985 to today. Curated and designed by local skateboarder and academic, Jim Turvey, the exhibition is a rich narrative about an often-maligned urban youth culture. The exhibition celebrates Newcastle's significant role in the history of Australian skateboarding and highlights the lives of local skaters who have gone on to national and international success.





SYDNEY JEWISH MUSEUM
Reverberations: A Future for Memory

Reverberations took visitors on a journey through a high-definition gallery of recorded footage presenting the thoughts and experiences of forty-three Holocaust survivors. The three simulated conversation booths with Olga Horak, Yvonne Engelman, and the late Eddie Jaku allowed for people to ask questions directly to these survivors and receive answers through cutting-edge artificial intelligence – a glimpse into the future of survivor testimony.



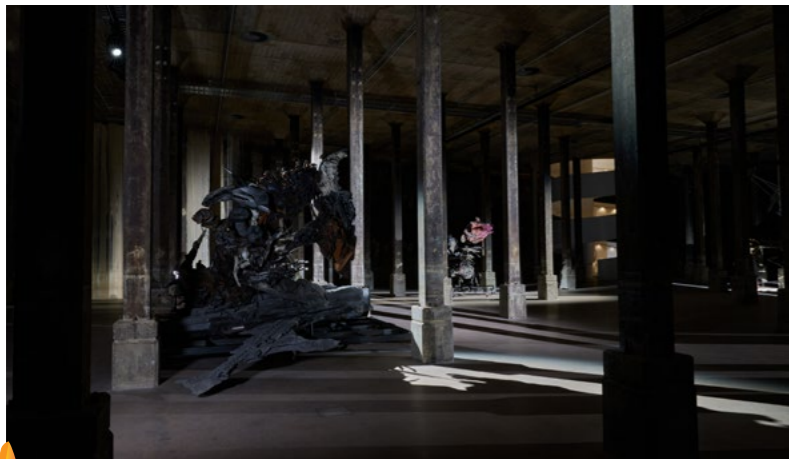
UNSW LIBRARY
Sonus Maris

Sonus Maris was the outcome of an artist residency undertaken by Dr Nigel Helyer at UNSW Water Research Laboratory. The exhibition included satellite imagery, historic maps, diagrams, and scientific data alongside audio-visual artworks, including a musical score that charted the changing coastline of NSW. Aiming to spark conversations around conservation policy and climate change, the exhibition explored how art can reconceptualise scientific research to reach new audiences.



Exhibition Projects

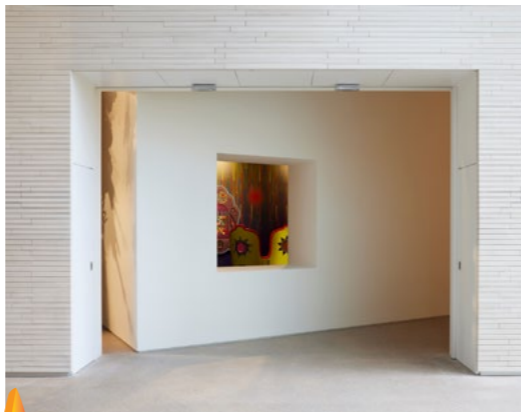
Major Metropolitan Institutions



ART GALLERY OF NSW

Adrián Villar Rojas, The End of Imagination

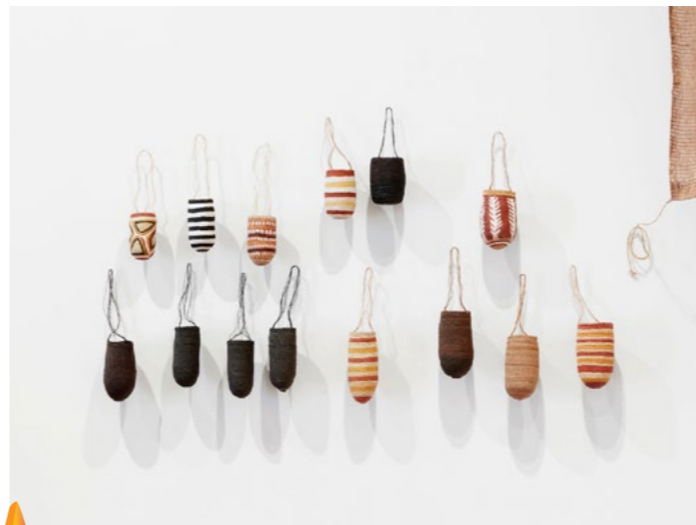
The End of Imagination was the inaugural exhibition in the Tank, a vast repurposed wartime fuel bunker. Over five years of engagement with the gallery and its team, Adrian Villar Rojas choreographed lights to unveil his astonishing installation of 'survivor objects' within the oil-stained space. Through this epic speculation on environmental change and human history, Villar Rojas transformed the Tank into a space of profound reflection.



ART GALLERY OF NSW

Dreamhome: Stories of Art and Shelter

Presented as part of the opening program for the AGNSW's new North Building, *Dreamhome* brought together 29 Australian and international artists to explore the complexities of a familiar yet profound idea – home. Ranging from intimate woodcut prints to a dazzling mirror room, the collection of recent acquisitions and ambitious new commissions formed a house of dreams where the 'chaptered' curatorial narrative could unfold.



ART GALLERY OF NSW

Yiribana: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collection exhibition

Newly relocated to the AGNSW's North Building, *Yiribana Gallery's* inaugural display is inspired by 'burbangana,' meaning to 'take hold of my hand and help me up.' Featuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, new acquisitions are displayed alongside collection highlights – including works by Richard Bell, Emily Kame Kngwarreye, Reko Rennie, Yhonnie Scarce and Rover Thomas – showcasing the diversity of practice across the country, and across time, media and art styles.

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

Burra Learning Place

Burra takes visitors on a fascinating learning journey through Country while immersing visitors in Western science and First Nations knowledges. This innovative learning and playspace traces the incredible migration of burra (eel) along estuaries and rivers, across rockpools, and out to sea. Embracing a 'many-ways' learning approach, *Burra* is dedicated to child and family learning while challenging traditional museum practices.





MUSEUMS OF HISTORY NSW

Murmurations: MHNSW Hyde Park Barrack's Art Commission 2023

Murmurations was the fourth iteration of the annual Hyde Park Barracks art commission, a program which invites a contemporary artistic response to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed site and its collection. Created by First Nations artist, Tony Albert, and Sāmoan-Australian artist, Angela Tiatia, the collaborative digital artwork told the migration story of two separate groups through the lens of indigeneity.



STATE LIBRARY OF NSW

Imagine... the Wonder of Picture Books

Imagine... the Wonder of Picture Books celebrated the enduring magic of Australian children's literature. The exhibition paid homage to classic and contemporary picture books, showcasing original artwork from beloved authors and artists like May Gibbs, Pamela Allen, and Maxine Beneba Clarke. Visitors, both young and old, entered a world where stories came to life and could be shared in dedicated reading nooks and activity areas.



STATE LIBRARY OF NSW

Kill or Cure? A Taste of Medicine

Kill or Cure? A Taste of Medicine took visitors on a 500-year journey through the history of Western medicine. From ancient humors to modern science, the exhibition delved into the evolution of medical practices, trust in medical experts, and notions of wellness. The design focused on creating a theatrical story-world, allowing the visitor to explore as the patient of a contemporary medical centre populated with evocative, historical 'treatment' rooms.



STATE LIBRARY OF NSW

Koori Knockout 50 years

Koori Knockout 50 Years celebrated the rich history of the annual Rugby League competition, which has become one of the largest gatherings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in NSW. The exhibition showcased the cultural, social, and political significance of the event through an extensive collection of memorabilia, photographs, and videography. *Koori Knockout* highlighted the competition's origins, development, and the people who contributed to its enduring success.



STATE LIBRARY OF NSW




Pride [R]evolution

Developed in collaboration with the LGBTQI+ community as part of Sydney WorldPride 2023, *Pride (R)evolution* presented local historical perspectives on coming out, fighting for change, and seeking acceptance. Drawing from – and expanding – the Library's rich LGBTQI+ archive, this multimedia exhibition explored centuries of queer experience in Australia through a non-linear structure of connected stories related to disruption, diversity, and emotion.

Engagement Programs Award

The Engagement Programs Award is assessed across the museum and gallery sector. It celebrates best practice in ongoing programs such as public programs, education resources, websites and social media, community engagement and participation.

One award is given in each of the following categories:

-  *Small and volunteer organisations*
-  *Medium organisations*
-  *Large organisations*

Engagement Programs

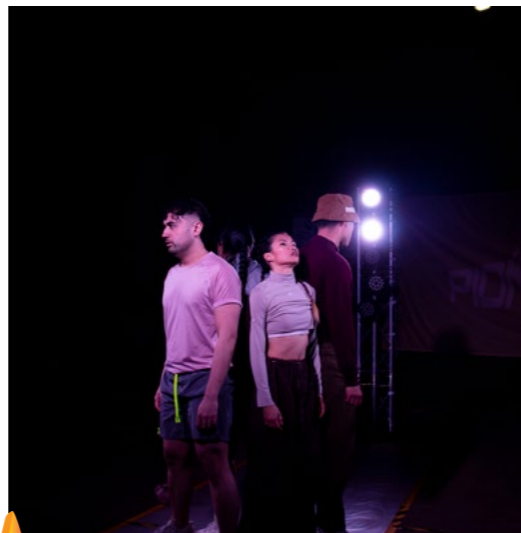
Small and Volunteer Organisations



BANKSTOWN ARTS CENTRE

Jungle Jam: A festival celebrating trees

Bankstown Arts Centre held *Jungle Jam*, a festival celebrating trees, together with the exhibition *Arboreal Narratives*. The festival celebrated the environment and ecology through accessible play and live activations, and included a tree parade, performances, creative making workshops, and the *Arboreal Narratives Forum* led by Costa Georgiadis.



FAIRFIELD CITY MUSEUM & GALLERY

Tick the Box

Tick the Box was a creative development program and pop-up event that invited artists and writers from different disciplines to be critical of cultural institutions' practices of engaging with diverse creatives. New works in the forms of interactive art, performance, and poetry were presented and exhibited at the event, sprawling across the Museum and Gallery's historic site.



GROSSMANN & BROUGH HOUSES

Artist in Residence 2023: History Hides in Quiet Corners by Vicki Cornish

Grossmann and Brough Houses' *Artist in Residence* program encourages textile artists to re-interpret and re-imagine the history of the twin properties. In 2023, textile artist Vicki Cornish took inspiration from the Grossman and Brough House collections and used ancient spinning, weaving, lacemaking and stitching skills to create unique contemporary artworks that went on display.



HAWKESBURY REGIONAL MUSEUM

Bangadyi Nawi Making a Canoe

Bangadyi Nawi was a community engagement project between Hawkesbury Regional Museum, the Darug community, and Brewongle Environmental Education Centre. The project provided a transformative experience for local Aboriginal high school students who created a traditional canoe during an Elder-led, inter-generational camp on Country. As a new exhibit at the Museum, the canoe will shape learning opportunities for the whole community.



ORANGE REGIONAL MUSEUM

Sharing music of the Dunera boys, Orange

Orange Regional Museum collaborated with Orange Regional Conservatorium to deliver a meaningful public program of music performances linked to the exhibition *Enemy Aliens: The Dunera boys in Orange, 1941*. The project included community participation and shared original music composed by Dunera internee Max-Peter Meyer during his internment in Australia, including works never performed outside the camps.



PARI & ARAB THEATRE STUDIO

Lumbung will continue: practices and reflections from documenta fifteen

Lumbung will continue was an event held by members of Western Sydney collectives Pari and Arab Theatre Studios to share experiences and reflections from their participation in Sekolah Temujalar, a 50-day residential collective studies program by Indonesian collective Gudskul during documenta fifteen.



PORT MACQUARIE MUSEUM

Past Port Tool Kit

Past Port is a teachers' tool kit that provides suggested classroom and offsite activities including a visit to the Port Macquarie Museum to support learning outcomes in the NSW Syllabus. The tool kit's content was developed by retired school teachers on the Museum's Programs Subcommittee, with additional support from the Port Macquarie Museum curator.

RON HORAN MUSEUM

Fortunae Program – Once a Fortian...

Fortunae Program - Once a Fortian is an engagement initiative that connects the success of public education to students' own self-worth and identity as public school students. Students are presented with a brief history of Fort Street High School, before exploring the Museum's exhibition *Twenty Fortians that Shaped the Nation*, encouraging students to reflect on their own legacy.



SINGLETON ARTS + CULTURAL CENTRE

Spirit of Place

A program of activities was organised to coincide with *Spirit of Place*, an exhibition of photography and cultural objects documenting important and fragile Aboriginal sites in the Hunter region. Activities included a launch event with a Smoking Ceremony by Wonnarua Elder Uncle Warren, a performance by the Puwampi Unti Kunarr Aboriginal dance group, an artist talk, school visits, and professional development sessions.



SUGAR VALLEY LIBRARY MUSEUM
Sugar Valley Saturday Series

Sugar Valley Saturday Series is a unique monthly history series that brings together industry experts, museum and heritage practitioners, museum volunteers, and history enthusiasts to deliver workshops and talks on topics ranging from caring for home collections, to hands-on conservation experience.



THE LOCK-UP
CREATION

Presented at The Lock-Up, *CREATION* was accompanied by an ambitious engagement program that enlisted local artists and participants. A local choir was developed, a poem was commissioned, a song was composed, and collage and choreographic artworks were created. Extensive public workshops developed elaborate costumery, which accumulated in the gallery as part of an evolving display.



TWEED REGIONAL MUSEUM
Capturing Nature Street Party

Capturing Nature Street Party was a free event to celebrate community and resilience in the aftermath of the devastating 2022 floods, COVID-19, and border closures. The Museum expanded into surrounding streets, delivering an afternoon of engaging and dynamic activities thematically linked to the Museum's exhibition program, exploring the environment, natural history, community and museology.

WOODFORD ACADEMY
Artist in Residence: Naomi Oliver

Woodford Academy's *Artist in Residence* program invites artists to re-interpret and re-imagine the past. In its 2022 iteration, artist Naomi Oliver utilised creative coding and video projection to explore the history and purpose of the interior decoration features of Woodford Academy, delivering an exhibition on site that offered new ways of seeing the historic property.



Engagement Programs Medium Organisations



4A CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ASIAN ART
Art in the Heart of Haymarket

Art in the Heart of Haymarket was a month-long festival celebrating Asian arts and culture through a pulsating program of music, performance and visual art. It platformed a selection of the brightest Asian voices today through a transformative and connective program that explored the creative beat of Haymarket.



AUSTRALIAN DESIGN CENTRE
Strategic Framework: First Nations Engagement

Australian Design Centre developed the *Strategic Framework: First Nations Engagement (2023-2027)* with consultants Donna Biles Fernando and Debbie Abraham. The framework provides practical and ethical guidelines to support the Centre's commitment to First Nations art, craft and design, formalising the commitment to ongoing partnerships, collaborations and consultation across governance, operations and programming.



AUSTRALIAN DESIGN CENTRE
Sydney Craft Week 2022

Sydney Craft Week 2022 was a vibrant ten-day annual contemporary craft festival produced by the Australian Design Centre. Contemporary craft practice, local makers, galleries and retailers were celebrated and promoted across Sydney through an array of exhibitions, markets, workshops, indoor and outdoor activations, and online programming.

BLUE MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTRE
WATER TRAIL

Initiated by the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, *WATER TRAIL* was a collaboration with Penrith Regional Gallery, Home of the Lewers Bequest and Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, creating a 'trail' of exhibitions and public programs focused on planetary and water health. Engagement programs were delivered across three Local Government Areas, in five locations over a four-month period, connecting the Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury and Penrith regions.





GOSFORD REGIONAL GALLERY
Drawn to the Core

In the lead up to William Kentridge's exhibition, *I Am Not Me, The Horse Is Not Mine*, Gosford Regional Gallery commissioned artist Todd Fuller to produce an animation program, *Drawn to the Core*. Adaptable across all age groups, the program invited participants to take part in learning stop motion animation, using charcoal, paper, erasers and pieces of fruit to create an individual short animated video.



GOULBURN REGIONAL ART GALLERY
The Window

The Window is an engagement and exhibition project designed to collaborate meaningfully with the community and provide access to Goulburn Regional Art Gallery's significant permanent collection. An individual, such as an artist, arts supporter or community member, is selected to pick works from the collection and invited to lead a public program, elevating a diverse range of voices and providing access to the collection in a unique way.



GRAFTON REGIONAL GALLERY
Inland Seekers

Inland Seekers connected families visiting the Grafton Regional Gallery with First Nations stories, histories, and the natural environment of the Clarence Valley in an interactive activity space. The project paired an Elder from each of the Clarence Valley nations – Bundjalung, Gumbayngirr and Yaegl – with a local First Nations artist to create content for the *Inland Seekers* space.



MAITLAND REGIONAL ART GALLERY
The Maitland Archive

Artist Luke Thurgate engaged with the Maitland community in *The Maitland Archive*, an epic wall drawing that responded to much-loved objects offered up by residents. These objects were displayed in the space, creating an archive of personal narratives and cross-community connections, mnemonically held within the collection of objects and acknowledged in the evolving drawing.



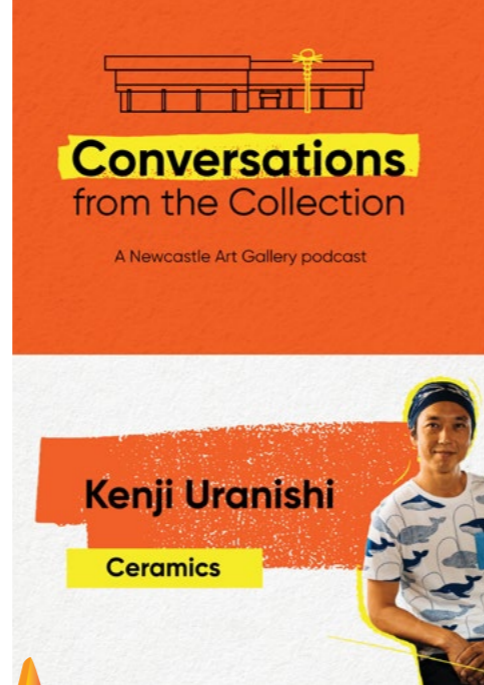
MUSEUM OF THE RIVERINA
RETURN: Reconnecting objects and collections with people and places

The *RETURN* symposium brought together First Nations peoples, museum professionals, and academics from across the globe to discuss the past, present and future of the return of cultural artefacts. Conversations led by First Nations voices explored successful returns, changing dynamics and a way forward built on relationships and collaboration.



NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL ART MUSEUM
Winter Blooming Festival

The *Winter Blooming Festival* was a bold and inclusive program of visual arts, literature, spoken word, music, and public forums that celebrated Indigenous, multicultural and LGBTIQ+ arts, culture, people, and allies. The festival was a vital regional event that promoted diverse cultures, communities, and voices.



NEWCASTLE ART GALLERY
Conversations from the Collection: Podcast Series

Conversations from the Collection celebrated Newcastle Art Gallery's nationally significant collection through the personal stories of six Australian artists. Each episode delved into a different collection area of the Gallery to uncover hidden stories and connect with practising artists who have contributed to the Gallery collection.



NGUNUNGGULA
MIDWINTER FESTIVAL 2023

MIDWINTER FESTIVAL was a site-responsive three-day arts festival at Ngununggula that brought together nationally acclaimed artists and the community to celebrate the cultural and social voice of the Gundungurra region. The festival featured live music, local food and wine producers, family art-making activities, and two epic installations of light and fire.



ORANGE REGIONAL GALLERY
I Am Me, SPARKE Project

I Am Me is the 2023 SPARKE project, a collaborative art-making program developed by Orange Regional Gallery, Orange Regional Museum, and the SPARKE network of local public primary schools. *I Am Me* invited students to consider themselves and their place in the world through an imagining exercise and self-portrait activity designed to capture their special interests, abilities, and interpersonal relationships.



PARRAMATTA ARTISTS' STUDIOS (PAS)
Movers and Makers 2022

Movers and Makers 2022 was a symposium for practising artists, featuring critical discussions and networking opportunities to increase industry accessibility, and cultivate sustainable artists' careers. It was co-curated by PAS and Wajarri Yamaji artist and curator Nicole Monks, and placed First Nations voices and ideas first.



PENRITH REGIONAL GALLERY, HOME OF THE LEWERS BEQUEST
Ancher Points Emerging Artist Intensive

Ancher Points was a professional development program designed to support emerging artists from Western Sydney. The in-depth engagement opportunity aimed to provide skills, experiences and professional networks for practitioners to ground – or 'anchor' – their practice in Western Sydney, unlocking a new channel for communication between emerging Western Sydney artists and the Gallery.



TAMWORTH REGIONAL GALLERY
Trans Day of Visibility

Tamworth Pride and Tamworth Regional Gallery partnered on a *Trans Day of Visibility* event to celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the LGBTQIA+ community from the region. The event provided opportunities to acknowledge the LGBTQIA+ community, tell regional stories, spark important conversations, and provide a safe and inclusive space for socialising.

UNSW GALLERIES
Mixed Company

Mixed Company was an expansive community engagement program celebrating the ongoing legacy of Sydney's LGBTQIA+ party culture. Presented in conjunction with Sydney WorldPride and landmark exhibition *THE PARTY*, the program brought together creative practitioners, historians and cultural thinkers for a series of panel discussions, reading groups, walking tours and community parties.



Engagement Programs Large Organisations



ART GALLERY OF NSW
State Of The Art

The *State Of The Art* experience was developed to celebrate the opening of the new North Building, creating a memorable and engaging offer for local, interstate and international audiences. The one hour guided cultural tour educates guests on the art commissions for the new building and showcases the incredible architecture of the Gallery.



AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM
WorldPride at the Australian Museum

WorldPride at the Australian Museum was a vibrant and inclusive program of events and activations that took place during Sydney WorldPride 2023. Designed to pay homage to and empower LGBTQIA+ and First Nations communities, the program was tailored to amplify content and messages relevant and significant to those audiences.



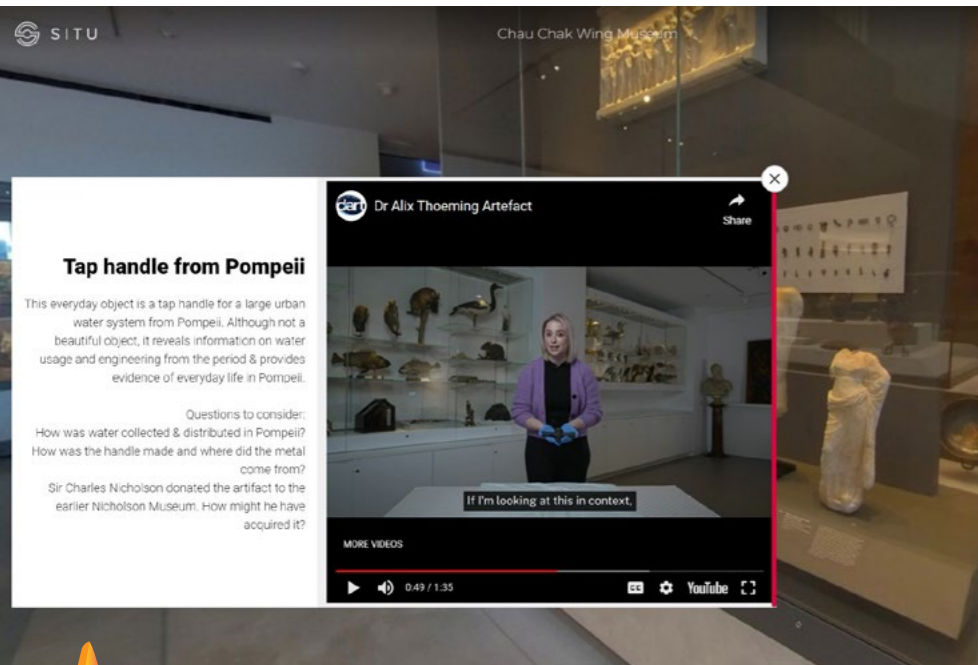
BLACKTOWN ARTS
Songlines & Sightlines

Songlines & Sightlines was an interactive exhibition mapping Darug songlines with Blacktown's streetscapes and histories onto the walls of The Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre. Visitors were invited to contribute their own stories and knowledge of the area, considering its complicated and traumatic histories, as well as its spirit and its heart.

CAMPBELLTOWN ARTS CENTRE *COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE*

COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE is a new initiative by Campbelltown Arts Centre to enrich the collective understanding of artworks in the Campbelltown City Council Art Collection. The inaugural *COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE* looked at renowned Western Sydney artist Khaled Sabsabi's artwork, *Wonderland*. A decade after its making, the project reflects on community culture and influence in Western Sydney.





CHAU CHAK WING MUSEUM

Museums, History and Future Careers

Museums, History and Future Careers is a curricular designed, education resource that invites school students and teachers to take a digital tour of the Chau Chak Wing Museum. Museum and university experts explain collection items, including associated ethical issues, approaches to learning more, and discuss their own career pathways in history, archaeology, museum studies and conservation.



CHAU CHAK WING MUSEUM

The hidden is tantalising: cross-disciplinary learning tools

The hidden is tantalising was a series of videos providing insight into the behind-the-scenes work involved in the research, engagement and conservation of museum objects. Each video explores research through the eyes of a different museum stakeholder, including curators, conservators, researchers, custodians and analytical scientists. The series celebrates the understandings that can be gleaned through the combined expertise of culturally specific knowledge, chemistry, optics and analysis, history, and photography.



MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART AUSTRALIA

Ultra Unreal

Ultra Unreal featured works by six artists and collectives whose world-building practices are connected to nightlife ecosystems across the globe. An innovative website was created in collaboration with the MCA Digital Media team, curatorial team, and artists that mirrored the energy and imagination of the physical exhibition, bringing an immersive gallery experience to life online.



MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART AUSTRALIA & PARRAMATTA ARTISTS' STUDIOS (PAS)

Being Together: Parramatta Yearbook

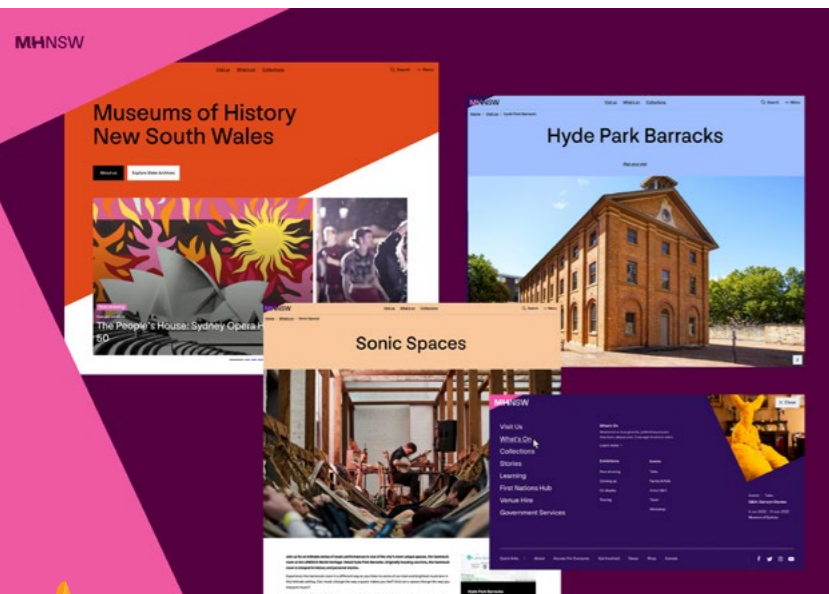
Being Together: Parramatta Yearbook saw artist Cherine Fahd engage with Parramatta's long-time and new residents, workers, students and visitors in the creation of a collective portrait of the city's diverse citizenry during a moment of momentous change at a scale unprecedented in its civic history.



MUSEUMS OF HISTORY NSW

Murmurations

Murmurations was a digital artwork by First Nations artist Tony Albert and Samoan-Australian artist Angela Tiatia, commissioned to respond to the history of the Hyde Park Barracks as a site representing the forced migration of people. The suite of allied public programs was inspiring, emotional, and uplifting, engaging a wide and diverse audience.



MUSEUMS OF HISTORY NSW
Website design

In late 2022, Museums of History NSW was created, bringing together two of NSW's most significant historical institutions, Sydney Living Museums and NSW State Archives. An entirely new online presence was created in mhnsw.au, which brought a large number of assets, systems, interfaces and audiences into one new platform.



MUSEUMS OF HISTORY NSW
The Weaving Room

The Weaving Room celebrated the history and diversity of First Nations weaving practice in NSW by providing artists, visitors, and museum staff the opportunity to make meaningful connections and gain a greater understanding of Indigenous culture. The project shared cultural and creative traditions, knowledge and experiences with diverse visitors during artistic residencies in a dedicated programming space.



POWERHOUSE MUSEUM
Powerhouse Late

Powerhouse Late is an annual program of free, weekly events that run after-hours, bringing Ultimo to life with live music, food and drinks, workshops, and performances. This unique program is curated in collaboration with communities and organisations across the creative industries to enable each industry partner to bring their audiences into the museum for programming designed for them, by them.



SYDNEY JEWISH MUSEUM
Lotte Weiss Intercultural Day

Holocaust survivor Lotte Weiss was committed to standing against hate and discrimination. To continue to impart her inspiring message, the *Lotte Weiss Intercultural Day* brought together 120 students from diverse Sydney schools. This program was designed around object-focused teaching to enable collective storytelling, increased empathy, and understanding.



WESTERN PLAINS CULTURAL CENTRE
Dubbo Art Fair




The *Dubbo Art Fair* provided connection between the community and local artists whereby artists could talk directly about their art and expose their creative skills to a new audience, opening prospects for future commissions and sales. 46 local artists collectively sold over \$42,000 worth of art in 2022.



Innovation and Resilience Award

The Innovation and Resilience Award recognises the outstanding efforts of museums, galleries, and Aboriginal cultural spaces to overcome challenges and celebrates excellence and innovation in exhibition practice, resilience-building projects, and engagement programs.

One award is given in each of the following categories:

-  *Projects with a budget of \$10,000 or less*
-  *Projects with a budget of between \$10,001 and \$100,000*
-  *Projects with a budget of \$100,001 or greater*

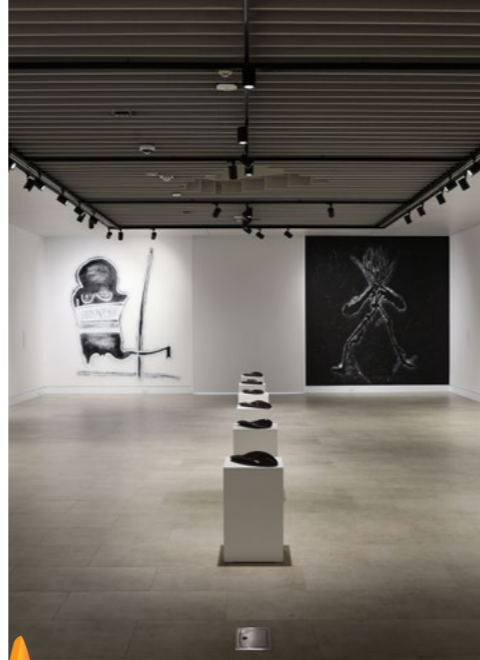
Innovation and Resilience Award

Projects with a Budget of \$10,000 or Less



MAITLAND REGIONAL GALLERY
The Young Architects

The Young Architects was an innovative STEAM program that gathered kids aged 12 to 16 after school and during holidays to learn and create together. Combining science, technology, engineering, arts and math, it was led by an artist and architect to nurture kids' architectural creativity and critical thinking.



MUDGE ARTS PRECINCT
Ngayirr Ngurambang: Sacred Country

Ngayirr Ngurambang: Sacred Country, curated by Wiradjuri woman Aleshia Lonsdale, featured Wiradjuri artists exploring their connection to the Goulburn River and The Drip Gorge. The exhibition united First Nations and non-First Nations artists in a combined creative tribute to the cultural, environmental, historical and social values of the landscape and its cultural significance to the local Wiradjuri community.



TAMWORTH REGIONAL FILM AND SOUND ARCHIVE
Relocation Rush

The Tamworth Regional Film and Sound Archive faced unexpected safety issues, prompting a move from its Ray Walsh House location. The dedicated volunteer team collaborated with Tamworth Regional Council staff to organise a new premises, preserving the valuable collection. The Archive's continued cataloguing and digitisation efforts ensure that regional stories are available for future generations.

Innovation and Resilience Award

Projects with a Budget of \$10,001 - \$100,000



ALBURY LIBRARY MUSEUM
Murray Digitisation Hub Year 2

In its second year, the *Murray Digitisation Hub* continued to digitise over 250 objects, sustaining the partnership model with Albury City, Greater Hume, seven volunteer museums and collections, and Museum & Galleries of NSW. The hub aligns with the Murray Digitisation Strategy, established in 2021 to meet the cultural heritage digitisation needs of the region.



BANKSTOWN ARTS CENTRE
SubTerrains Bankstown Biennale 2022

SubTerrains Bankstown Biennale 2022, co-curated by Nicole Monks and Vandana Ram, explored First Nations narratives of land, water and historical truths in Bankstown. Over 50 artists, including Abdul Abdullah and Jason Wing, contributed installations, performances and more. Public programs, like weaving workshops, history presentations and a forum on sovereignty and Country, enriched the experience.



EUGOWRA HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND BUSHRANGER CENTRE
Eugowra Disaster Response Team and Project

Eugowra faced severe flooding on November 14, 2022, nearly wiping out the village. A Disaster Response Team comprised of local volunteers, museum staff, consultants, and conservators came together. In just two weeks, over 30 individuals dedicated more than 500 hours to clean, pack and salvage the museum and its collections in challenging conditions, providing crucial support to the community.



GOULBURN REGIONAL ART GALLERY
Jenny Bell Life Forms

The *Life Forms* exhibition celebrated Jenny Bell's 40-year artistic journey. The largest display of her work in a public institution, the exhibition showcased her commitment to exploring nature and encouraging discussions on sustainability and regenerative farming. A high quality publication complemented the exhibition, demonstrating Goulburn Regional Art Gallery's investment in unique regional projects.



HAY MUSEUMS
Visit Hay Application

The *Visit Hay Application* was designed for museum visitors and offers free access to engaging content like audio, images, videos and text. It features volunteer stories, historical moments, drone footage, and maps of four museums in Hay, encouraging bicycle use to visit. Despite pandemic challenges and a small volunteer demographic, the project expanded to support all of Hay's museums, showcasing innovation and resilience under challenging circumstances.



LISMORE REGIONAL GALLERY
Creative Program 2022 - 2023

Lismore Regional Gallery displayed exceptional innovation and resilience in its 2022–2023 *Creative Program*, despite the challenges of not having a functioning gallery. The program included innovative exhibitions, events, community engagement activities and off-site projects. The Gallery also contributed to the city's revitalisation through the Creative Fencing Project and LRG Nights, which brought experimental art and sound to venues across Lismore.



MOSMAN ART GALLERY & PARRAMATTA ARTISTS' STUDIOS (PAS)

Keeping Score/Tracing Time

Keeping Score/Tracing Time explored the profound impacts of the recent pandemic on our perception of time. A joint curatorium between Mosman Art Gallery and Parramatta Artists' Studios, *Keeping Score/Tracing Time* brought together artists who dissect public and personal memory, observe cerebral and emotional sensations of temporality or conflate past and future to find new vocabularies to measure time.



NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL ART MUSEUM
HOME

HOME was a collaborative project between several Armidale cultural institutions to provide an integrated arts and cultural program for 14 remote primary schools affected by the Black Summer bushfires in the region. *HOME* fostered the skills of rural teachers and integrated visual arts, music, and Indigenous culture around the theme of 'home'.

NORTHERN RIVERS COMMUNITY GALLERY AND IGNITE STUDIOS

Commemorative Flood Recovery Project

The *Commemorative Flood Recovery Project* delivered free creative workshops to flood-affected community members in the Ballina Shire. Led by professional artists, the workshops culminated in a community art exhibition, engaging 150 participants. The project garnered wide-spread community support, fostering social cohesion, resilience and wellbeing through arts-based activities.





ORANA ARTS
enCounter

The *enCounter* program fostered collaboration between artists, writers and museums in regional NSW. It resulted in two installations, nine published works, and engaged 11 museums and 13 creatives. This initiative aimed to diversify narratives in small regional museums, offering fresh perspectives to engage audiences, providing opportunities for museums to build capacity and community connections.



TWEED REGIONAL MUSEUM
Museum on Wheels

The *Museum on Wheels* is a retrofitted caravan that brings the Museum to different locations and events, engaging new audiences in unexpected places throughout the region. It partners with festivals, schools, and landmarks, expanding the Museum's presence and contemporary collecting methodologies. The *Museum of Wheels'* achievements are notable, with an expected audience of over 80,000 in its first nine months.



TWEED REGIONAL MUSEUM
Up Late at Tweed Regional Museum

Up Late was a series of free community centred events that brought the Museum to life after hours. These events aimed to inspire, engage, and connect communities through arts, culture and heritage. Each event was themed around an exhibition, offering activations, tours, workshops, performances, games, live music and refreshments in collaboration with local businesses, experts and creatives.

WAGGA WAGGA ART GALLERY
Grace + Ewington Residencies

In 2022, the gallery hosted three two-week residencies for senior Australian cultural practitioners, Helen Grace and Julie Ewington, as part of its Regional Artists Development program. This initiative aimed to address the lack of critical attention and professional opportunities for regional creatives. Each residency produced a distinct artefact, with the strategic purpose to critically support the Gallery's development program.



Innovation & Resilience Award

Projects with a Budget Over \$100,000



AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM
Future Now

Future Now used captivating dioramas to showcase the benefits of living sustainably, building community and regenerating nature. Designed to capture the interest of everyday Australians, the exhibition effectively spoke to wide-spread core values: cost-savings, clean air, health, safety and nature preservation. It employed accessible design and educational resources, including translated content in multiple languages.



**BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
MUSEUMS BATHURST**
Central Tablelands Collections Facility

The *Central Tablelands Collections Facility* is a 2,500-square-metre repository and learning space that opened in 2022. It provides state of the art collection storage, including climate control, specialised racking and security for the Bathurst Regional Council's collections, regional collection groups and larger state operated institutions. The project originated from many years of identified needs and secured funding through various plans and business cases.



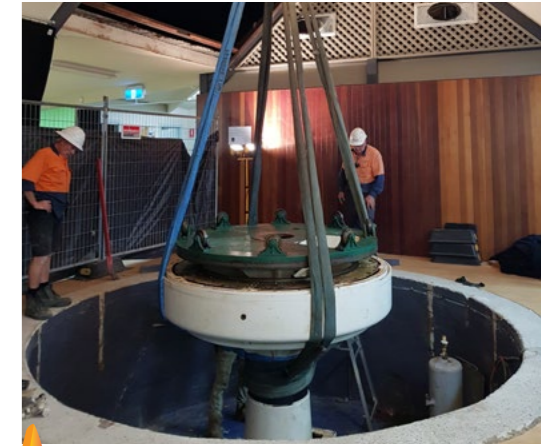
MUSEUM OF THE RIVERINA
*Museum of the Riverina
Redevelopment*

The *Museum of the Riverina* reopened in March 2023 after a six-year redevelopment focusing on innovative display, new engagement spaces and sustainability. It explores local stories with a Wiradyuri perspective, guided by a reference group. The project involved heavy machinery collection assessment, improved storage, and mentorship for staff, and showcased the impact of a well resourced regional museum.



SUGAR VALLEY LIBRARY MUSEUM
Sugar Valley Library Museum

Sugar Valley Library Museum, kirantakamyari, in Lake Macquarie was created through a partnership between the Council and the community. It is a unique space combining a museum and library and tells the history of West Wallsend with immersive experiences and objects, appealing to both new and long-time residents. Opened in April 2023, it has already attracted over 20,000 visitors, demonstrating successful community collaboration and celebrating local history.



YARRILA ARTS AND MUSEUM
*South Solitary Island Lighthouse
Optic Relocation*

The *South Solitary Island Lighthouse Optic* is one of the most significant objects in the Yarrila Arts and Museum collection, made inaccessible to the public due to floods in 2009. After two years of effort, including conservation and relocation, the optic is now on public display again. It provides historical context and connection with the ocean and South Solitary Island, showcased in a purpose built structure and a new exhibition at the Museum.



The Volunteer Achievement Award

The Volunteer Achievement Award acknowledges the outstanding contribution of an individual who has demonstrated leadership in the completion of a significant project for their organisation in the previous 12 months, or through developing creative solutions to address challenges faced by the organisation.



ANNABEL MARGARET SENIOR - MISS PORTER'S HOUSE (NATIONAL TRUST)
UNESCO Memory of the World Listing (UNESCO MoW)

As the Chair of Miss Porter's House, Annabel Senior has played a pivotal role in the *UNESCO Memory of the World Listing (2023)* and its enabling projects. Her leadership has ensured high standards of museum practice, leading to partnerships with Newcastle Museum for offsite storage and long-term preservation initiatives in the Hunter region, benefiting Miss Porter's House listing. Her inclusive, supportive, and proactive leadership has been instrumental in the successful completion of these projects.



KEVIN WINTLE - WOLLONDILLY HERITAGE CENTRE AND MUSEUM
Blacksmith Shop and Restoration of the Bennet Wagon

Kevin Wintle played a crucial role in transporting and restoring the *Bennet Wagon*, bringing it undercover for the first time since 1977. As Wollondilly Heritage Centre and Museum's Program Manager, he oversaw the project to ensure the Wagon's high quality restoration and led the design and setup of the *Blacksmith Shop* to authentically display blacksmithing history and preserve Ray Lincoln's blacksmith artefacts. Wintle's contributions have greatly enhanced the Museum's exhibits.





MELINDA HUNT - DRAW SPACE

Inaugural Exhibition: Locust Jones / MAGIC SAUCE

Melinda Hunt's leadership was pivotal in establishing DRAW Space, a contemporary drawing center in Newtown. Overseeing the space's renovation for 18 months, Hunt shaped the vision for DRAW SPACE based on international drawing organisations. Her energetic support, advocacy for emerging artists, and dedication to board operations contributed to the successful launch of the space's inaugural exhibition, *Locust Jones / MAGIC SAUCE*, an event that drew significant attention.



MYF THOMPSON - BATEMANS BAY HERITAGE MUSEUM

Crossing The Clyde

Myf Thompson, an honorary curator at Bateman's Bay Heritage Museum, played a pivotal role in the repurposing parts of Batemans Bay's beloved town bridge for a maritime-themed exhibit. Thompson collected stories and objects, creatively honouring the bridge's spirit, and transitioning the museum towards its maritime themes. This transformation, known as *Crossing The Clyde*, showcases the region's history and marks a shift towards distinctive mari-time presentations.





RAY AGUSTIN - EUGOWRA HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND BUSHRANGER CENTRE

Eugowra Disaster Response Team and Project



Ray Agustin, chairman of the Eugowra Historical Museum & Bushranger Centre, demonstrated exceptional dedication during Eugowra's catastrophic flooding event, doing all he could to protect the museum. Following the flood, he coordinated the disaster recovery team and ensured the safety of the collection, leading clean-up efforts, engaging volunteers and museum experts and overseeing work to recover Eugowra's artefacts.



ACHAA Awards

ACHAA (Aboriginal Culture, Heritage & Arts Association) is the Peak Body for Aboriginal community-controlled cultural spaces across NSW. Its 21 member centres comprise cultural centres, knowledge centres, language centres, galleries, museums and Keeping Places.

Museums & Galleries of NSW has supported ACHAA since its foundation in 2014 through the provision of staffing and other resources. ACHAA is grateful to M&G NSW for the opportunity each year to present two IMAGinE Awards:

-  *One that acknowledges the lifetime contribution, knowledge and experience of Elders*
-  *One which encourages younger generations as a Curator excellence award.*



The ACHAA Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contribution to NSW Aboriginal Culture, Heritage and Arts Dr Uncle Stan Grant Senior AM

Uncle Stan Grant Sr has been crucial to the reconstruction, revival and teaching of Wiradjuri language, enriching the lives of countless thousands of students and Wiradjuri people.

Born in 1940, he learnt to speak Wiradjuri from his grandfather Wilfred Johnson (known as Budyaan). When Uncle Stan was only seven or eight years old, his grandfather was arrested and detained overnight after a policeman overheard him speaking in language.

From the next day on, Budyaan refrained from speaking Wiradjuri in public. But he continued to speak it in the bush, which was where young Stan learnt his language along with hunting and other skills. Language, his grandfather told him, was

important because “it is who you are and where you belong”.

He honoured his grandfather’s memory in his 1999 short story collection *Stories told by my grandfather and other old men*. Then In 2005, with the late Dr John Rudder, he published the nearly 600 page *A New Wiradjuri Dictionary*. The following year his work was recognised with the Deadly Award for Outstanding Achievement in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education. Uncle Stan has since produced numerous publications, recordings and teaching resources, including children’s books, song books and university texts, alongside being a teacher, lecturer, course developer and passionate advocate himself.

Over the past decade, he has successfully collaborated with Wiradjuri/Gamillaroi multi-disciplinary artist

Jonathon Jones, with language and concept informing each other. As a result, their collaborations can be found in the collections of the National Gallery of Australia, the Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art, and the Art Gallery of NSW. Additionally, their works have appeared at the Powerhouse Museum, the Art Gallery of South Australia, in triennials, festivals and public art commissions, including the permanent *Wagga Wagga weaving welcome* at Wagga Wagga Regional Airport. Uncle Stan has also been cultural advisor to other exhibitions, including for the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery and the Art Gallery of NSW.

Uncle Stan was named a Member of the Order of Australia in 2009 for ‘service to Indigenous education and the preservation and promotion of the

Wiradjuri language and culture, as a teacher and author, and to youth’. He was granted an Honorary Doctorate of Letters in recognition of his work in education and language revival by Charles Sturt University in 2013.

He has also been recognised with Lifetime Achievement Awards from the National NAIDOC Committee and the NSW Aboriginal Languages Trust and now joins the roll call of ACHAA IMAGinE Award recipients for his Lifetime Contribution to NSW Culture, Heritage and Arts.



ACHAA Award for Excellence by an Aboriginal Curator



STEVEN ROSS
 Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative

Steven Ross curated Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative's Mardi Gras exhibition *Baya - Ngara - Banga*, showcasing First Nations LGBTQIA+ artists and poets during Sydney WorldPride 2023. Ross' role in developing the exhibition concept, along with his curation and facilitation efforts, ensured a powerful synergy between poetry and visual art. The exhibition celebrated the power and resilience of the black LGBTQIA+ community and achieved record visitation and attention during Sydney WorldPride.



KEITH MUNRO
 Museum of Contemporary Art Australia

In the *MCA Collection: Artists in Focus* exhibition, Keith Munro curated the *Kevin Gilbert Artist Room*, showcasing the work of the Wiradjuri artist, activist, and writer. His collaborative approach with the artist's family ensured the inclusion of impactful elements, like the inclusion of the seminal poem *Kiacatoo* (1988) as an immersive wall display and rare linoleum plates. This unique exhibition shed light on the rich history of Aboriginal printmaking and offered a platform for truth-telling to a wider audience.





CHERIE JOHNSON
Newcastle Museum

Cherie Johnson is the founder and CEO of Speaking in Colour, which offers programs to Aboriginal students and community members to engage in Aboriginal cultural practices, such as weaving and making of possum skin cloaks. Led by Johnson, *Cultural Resurgence* featured artworks made by over 600 program participants from across the region. The exhibition was a timely reminder that Australia has one of the oldest cultures in the world and that the practices on show are techniques handed down through many generations.



RONALD BRIGGS
State Library of NSW

Koori Knockout: 50 Years celebrated a significant milestone in First Nations sporting history. Ronald Briggs, a curator with over 30 years of experience, realised the exhibition. Briggs engaged with Aboriginal Elders, community leaders, and donors to the State Library to explore and showcase the Knockout's social and sporting history. Through his trusted community relations, vast networks and expertise, he was able to bring together historical and contemporary voices, weaving together a bright, moving and extremely well received exhibition.





TESS ALLAS AND ALINTA MAGUIRE
Wollongong Art Gallery

Curated by Tess Allas with curatorial assistance from Alinta Maguire, *Coomaditchie: The Art of Place* celebrated the 30-year history of the Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation and its profound community impact. Allas and Maguire brought together over 170 artworks from public and private collections, photographic documentation of Coomaditchie's extensive public art projects and archival material from local and state institutions. The exhibition contributed significantly to recognising NSW Aboriginal culture, art, and history and will tour to the Museum of Sydney in 2023.



Credits

Special thanks to this year's IMAGinE Awards and ACHAA Awards judges: **Jasmin Stephens** (Freelance Curator and Educator), **Rebecca Turnbull** (Curator, Hawkesbury Regional Museum), **Penny Edwell** (Historian and Curator), **David Hampton** (Head of Exhibitions and Cultural Collections, City of Newcastle), **Rachael Parsons** (Director at New England Regional Art Museum and President, Regional Public Galleries NSW) **Paul Howard** (Curator and Collection Manager, Blacktown Arts) **Brittany Nguyen** (Engagement Coordinator, Penrith Regional Gallery), **Brett Adlington** (CEO, Museums & Galleries of NSW), **Emily Cullen** (Sector Development Manager, Museums & Galleries of NSW), **Aunty Jeanette Crew OAM** (Chair, Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre), **Alison Williams** (Creative Director, Wadjar Regional Gallery), **Di Smith** (Chair, Wungunja Cultural Centre), **Peter White** (Head of First Nations Cultural Engagement, Programming, Production and Audience, Museums of History NSW).

IMAGinE Awards branding designed by **Kerri Kennedy**.

The IMAGinE Awards 2023 logo features images from **Newcastle Art Gallery**, **Bondi Pavilion Gallery**, **Ngununggula**, **The Lock-Up**, **UNSW Galleries**, **Lake Macquarie Multi Arts Pavilion mima**, **UNSW Library** and **New England Regional Art Museum**. See pages 101 - 102 for image credits.

Image Credits

Foreword / Brett Adlington. Photo: Vanessa Low.

International Conservation Services / Images courtesy of International Conservation Services.

NSW Health Infrastructure Arts and Health Award / Participants from Central Coast Local Health District as part of Gosford Regional Gallery's program *Weaving for Wellbeing*, 2023. This project is proudly supported by Museums & Galleries of NSW and Health Infrastructure through the NSW Health Infrastructure Arts and Health Award. Photo: Lisa Haymes.

Exhibition Projects Award /

3 / Left: *Inner Edge Drifting* (2023), installation

view at Art Space on The Concourse, with works by Sai-Wai Foo, Hyun-Hee Lee, Mai Nguyen-Long, Tym Yee and Karen Lee. Photo: Document Photography. **Right:** Liam Benson, *Bleeding Glitter*, 2005, inkjet print on paper, 65 x 90 cm, Art Gallery of South Australia Collection. Gift of Daniel Mudie Cunningham through the Art Gallery of South Australia Contemporary Collectors 2014. Photo: Elizabeth Benson.

4 / Left: *Rainbow, Mermaid, Fireworks*, installation view. Courtesy of Bondi Pavilion Gallery. Photo: Silversalt Photography. **Right:** *The Air is Electric*, installation view. Courtesy of Bondi Pavilion Gallery. Photo: Silversalt Photography **5 / Left:** *Liquid Mountains*, installation view. Courtesy of Bondi Pavilion Gallery, Photo: Silversalt Photography. **Right:** *Bondi Story Room*, installation view (detail). Courtesy of Bondi Pavilion Gallery. Photo: Deep Field Photography.

6 / Left: Locust Jones opening night performance (detail), 2023, DRAW Space. Photo: Melinda Hunt. **Middle:** *We Eat This Bread*, installation view (detail). Photo: Garry Trinh. **Right:** *All light, all air, all space* featuring Rebecca Mayo, Bagged wetland, 2022 and D Harding, Bidjara, Chungalu

and Garingbal peoples, *As I remember it* (detail), 2018. Photo: Silversalt Photography.

7 / Left: Visitors experiencing the *Dyarubbin* exhibition, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery.

Right: Billy Bain, *Blak Excellence* in *Fair Play*, installation view, 2022.

8 / Left: *WildLife* by James Price, image courtesy of MAP mima. **Right:** Pari, *Mixed Business 3*, installation view. Photo: Document Photography.

9 / Left: Pari, *Open World*, installation view.

Photo: Document Photography. **Right:** Artist and curator Glenn Barkley, *Plant Your Feet* exhibition. Courtesy Shoalhaven Regional Gallery.

10 / Left: *Spirit of Place*, installation view (detail), 2023. Image courtesy of Singleton Arts + Cultural Centre. **Middle:** Peter Gardiner, *The Fire*, 2023, oil on 300gsm Arches, 250 x 550 cm, with looped mp3 recording by Declan Magee. Photo: Ben Adams. **Right:** Ayebatonye. Photo: Wanagi Zable-Andrews.

11 / Left: *Gordon Hookey: A MURRIALITY*, installation view, UNSW Galleries, 2022. Photo: Jacquie Manning. Copyright Gordon Allan Hookey.

Right: *THE PARTY*, installation view (detail),

UNSW Galleries, 2023. Photo: Jacquie Manning.

12 / Left: *James Tylor: Turrangka... in the shadows*, installation view, UNSW Galleries, 2023. Photo: Jacquie Manning. **Right:** Diana Baker Smith, *She Speaks in Sculpture*, 2022, two channel 4K video. Photo: Lucy Parakhina.

13 - 14 / Diana Baker Smith, *She Speaks in Sculpture*, 2022, two channel 4K video.

Photo: Lucy Parakhina.

15 / Left: Australian Design Centre, *GOOD NATURED*, installation view, 2023. Photo: Amy Piddington. **Right:** Australian Design Centre, *Unravelling Queerly*, installation view (detail), 2023, Sydney WorldPride. Photo: Rhiannon Hopley.

16 / Left: *work / play*, installation view, Blue Mountains City Art Gallery. Photo: Silversalt Photography. **Right:** *Artists in Volatile Landscapes*. Photo: Damon AMB.

17 / Left: *FLIGHT*, installation view, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre. Photo: Document Photography. **Right:** *Looking at Gold*, installation view (detail), Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre. Photo: Chantel Bann.

18 / Left: Visitors engaging with *InLandSee*

exhibition (detail). **Middle:** *Upriver Downriver* installation view, featuring work by Lottie Consalvo, Brett McMahon and Ken O'Regan.

Right: *Unfurl*, featuring Jasmine Fletcher at MAP mima. Photo: Alyssa Salamon.

19 / Left: Photo courtesy National Art School.

Right: *STRONG*, installation view, 2022. Photo: Simon Scott Photography.

20 / Left: *The Art of Nature*, installation view (detail), 2022. **Right:** Justin Shoulder, *Titan Arum*, 2022, presented by Newcastle Art Gallery in partnership with New Annual. Photography: Picture Cabinet.

21 / Left: *I'm giving you everything, it's a promise (BFF Necklace)* 2022, Rosie Deacon, Ngununggula. Photo: Ashley Mackevicius.

Right: James Vaughan and Tom Polo, *a head is a place to go*, 2022. 8-channel video and painting installation 16mm film, sound, 4mins. Ngununggula. Photo: Zan Wimberley.

22 / Catherine O'Donnell, *Fibro Majestic*, installation view (detail), 2022. Mixed media (common construction and household materials). 587 x 587 x 220cm. Courtesy of the artist.

23 / Left: Listening to the story of *Toilets & Taps*.

Miss Porter's House garden. Photo: Jean Bridges.

Right: Example of in-museum signage, *The Red Shoes*, display and QR signage.

24 / Left: Example of in-museum signage, *Sewing Machine*, display and QR signage.

25: Left: Public Island Society. Courtesy of Public Island Society. **Right:** Entry to *Swimming in Botany and the Bay* at Mascot Library.

26 / Left: Image courtesy of Jervis Bay Maritime Museum. **Right:** Jacob Davison, Aunt Mary Davison, Aunt Donna Daly, Alan Daly, Uncle Les Davison Jnr, and Aunt Beverly Davison celebrating Uncle Les Davison at *Talking Sport*, La Perouse Museum. Photo: Glenn Duffus 2023.

27 / Left: *Champions of the Commonwealth Games*, installation view (detail), NSW Hall of Champions, Quaycentre, Sydney Olympic Park. **Right:** *The River: Burrumatta to Cockatoo* (detail). Image by Katje Ford for Old Government House.

28 / Left: *Mulaa Giilang: Wiradjuri stories of the night sky*, Wiradjuri project team Uncle Rick Ah-See, Uncle Neil Ingram Sr, Kylie Tarleton, Ian (Doug) Sutherland, Jack Steele, Orange Regional Museum. Photo: Orange Regional Museum/Olivia

Sargent.

Right: *Cure All*, installation view (detail), Tweed Regional Museum,. Photo: Sally Singh.

29 / Left: *Guraban: where the saltwater meets the freshwater* at Hurstville Museum & Gallery.

Photo: Silversalt Photography. **Right:** Photo courtesy of the Museum of the Riverina.

30 / Left: Photo courtesy of Newcastle Museum.

Right: Photo courtesy of Newcastle Museum.

31 / Left: *Reverberations: A Future for Memory*, Sydney Jewish Museum. Photo: Katherine Griffiths.

Right: *Sonus Maris*, installation view, UNSW Library, 2023. Photo: UNSW Library.

32 / Burra Learning Place. Photo: Anna Kučera, copyright Australian Museum.

33 / Left: Installation view, *Adrián Villar Rojas, The End of Imagination*. **Right:** Entrance to the exhibition *Dreamhome: Stories of Art & Shelter*, featuring a detail of Isabel and Alfredo Aquillizan's project *From This Place*, North Building, Sydney Modern Project at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, December 2022. Copyright Art Gallery of New South Wales.

34 / Left: Installation view of the *Yiribana Gallery* featuring works by Helen Ganalmirriwuy

Garrawurru, Mandy Batjula Gaykamanju and Margaret Rarru Garrawurra. Photo © Art Gallery of New South Wales. **Right:** *Burra Learning Place*. Photo: Anna Kučera, copyright Australian Museum.

35 / Left: *Murmurations: MHNSW Hyde Park Barrack's Art Commission*, 2023. Photo: Joshua Morris for Museums of History NSW.

Right: *Imagine... the Wonder of Picture Books*. Courtesy of State Library of NSW.

36 / Left: *Kill or Cure?*, installation view (detail), State Library of NSW. Photo: Joy Lai 2023. **Middle:** *Koori Knockout: 50 years exhibition*, installation view (detail), State Library of NSW. **Right:** *Pride [R]evolution*, State Library of NSW. Photo: Joy Lai 2023.

Engagement Program Award /

39 / Left: *Tree Parade*. Photo: Honeydieu Photography. **Right:** *Tick the Box* event (detail). Photo: Saarah Hanif.

40 / Left: Vicki Cornish, *Artist in Residence*. Photo courtesy of the artist. **Middle:** *Bangadyi Nawi Making a Canoe* (detail). Photo: Elissa Blair.

Right: Members of the Orange Regional

Conservatorium's Symphonic Choir perform excerpts from the Dunera Mass by Max-Peter Meyer at Orange Regional Museum. Photo: Orange Regional Conservatorium.

41 / Left: *Lumbung Will Continue: practices and reflections from documenta fifteen*, Arab Theatre Studio and Pari. Photo: Romel Bahhi. **Right:** *Past Port Tool Kit*, photo courtesy of Port Macquarie Museum.

42 / Left: Photo from Fort Street Archives. **Right:** *Spirit of Place*, Uncle Warren Taggart with School Group. Photo: Singleton Arts + Cultural Centre.

43 / Left: Sugar Valley Library Museum. Photo courtesy of Lake Macquarie City Council.

Right: *CREATION*. Photo: Edwina Richards.

44 / Left: *Capturing Nature Street Party*. Photo courtesy of TRM and Dave Kan. **Right:** Naomi Oliver installation (detail). Photo courtesy of the artist.

45 / Left: 4A, *Art in the Heart of Haymarket*, dance performance with *Textaqueen: Bollywouldn't*, 2022. **Right:** Australian Design Centre, Tjapni Desert Weavers in Object Shop (detail). Photo: Amy Piddington.

46 / Left: Australian Design Centre, *Sydney*

Craft Week, 2022, creating dyes and inks for the garden. Photo: Eden Gardens. **Right:** WAGANA DANCERS Yindyang Bila 2022. Still photo: Sue Heale.

47 / Left: Tumby Umbi High School Stage 6, *Drawn to the Core*, William Kentridge case study day. Photo: Joanna O'Toole. **Right:** *The Window* curator and artist Lily Cummins in conversation with artist G.W Bot and Gallery Director Yvette Dal Pozzo.

48 / Left: Families engage with *InLand Seekers*. **Middle:** *The Maitland Archive*, installation view (detail). **Right:** *RETURN* plenary panel. Photo courtesy of Wagga Wagga City Council.

49 / Left: Amber Rosé performs at *Winter Blooming*, 2022. **Right:** *Conversations from the Collection, a Newcastle Art Gallery podcast* - Kenji Uranishi.

50 / Left: *Burning Man* by Jesse Saunders, Michael Whyte & Ben Quilty. Photo: Brian Rapsey. **Right:** *I Am Me*, installed at Orange Regional Gallery.

51 / Left: *Doing Art Writing Differently* panel discussion featuring Felicity Castagna, Eda Gunaydin, Laura La Rosa and Linda Brescia,

Movers and Makers 2022. **Right:** *Ancher Points* artists during Locust Jones studio visit, Katoomba, 2023.

52 / Left: *Rainbow Snapshot*, including Missy Sparkles, Tamworth Pride guests and staff. **Right:** *Radical Sex & The Party Scene* panel discussion with Kane Race, Fiona Kelly McGregor, Lisa Salmon, and Barry Charles (Troughman). *Mixed Company*, UNSW Galleries, 2023. Photography: UNSW Galleries.

53 / Left: *State of the Art Experience* featuring Richard Lewer Onsite, construction of Sydney Modern which resides on the lands of the Gadigal of the Eora Nation 2020–21. Copyright Art Gallery of New South Wales and Richard Lewer. **Right:** Australian Museum, *Jurassic Lounge, Pride Edition* (detail). Photo: Abram Powell, copyright Australian Museum.

54 / Left: *Songlines & Sightlines* (detail), 2022. The Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre. Photo: Raf Flores, Hyperreel. **Right:** *COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE*: Khaled Sabsabi, *Wonderland* (2013-2014), installation view. Photo: Silversalt Photography. Courtesy of Campbelltown Arts Centre, 2023.

55 / Left: A screenshot of an educational experience during a digital tour. Courtesy of NSW Department of Education and Chau Chak Wing Museum. **Right:** Normalising work environments; potential career paths. Courtesy of Chau Chak Wing Museum.

56 / Left: *Club Ate* (Justin Shoulder, Bhenji Ra, and collaborators), *ANG IDOL KO / YOU ARE MY IDOL* (still), 2022. 2-channel digital video, HD, colour, sound. Image courtesy and copyright the artists. **Middle:** Cherine Fahd, *Being Together: Parramatta Yearbook* (2021–2022), produced and presented by C3West on behalf of the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia in partnership with Parramatta Artists' Studios, an initiative of the City of Parramatta. Installation view (detail), Centenary Square, Parramatta. Photo courtesy and copyright the artist. **Right:** *Murmurations*, (detail). Copyright Joshua Morris for Museums of History NSW.

57 / Left: Museums of History NSW website, copyright Museums of History NSW. **Right:** Weaving workshop with Tegan Murdock, 2023. Copyright James Horan for Museums of History NSW.

58 / Left: *Powerhouse Late* (detail). Photo: Nikhil Ninan. **Middle:** Photo: Katherine Griffiths. Courtesy of Sydney Jewish Museum. **Right:** Dubbo Art Fair. Photo courtesy of Dubbo Regional Council.

Innovation and Resilience Award /

63 / Left: *The Young Architects*, 2023. Photo by Leighsa Cox. **Right:** *Ngayirr Ngurambang: Sacred Country Exhibition*, installation view(detail). Copyright Andrew Robards
64 / Tamworth Regional Film and Sound Archive.
65 / Left: Open Day at the Murray Digitisation Hub, December 2022. Courtesy Vanessa Keenan. **Right:** Dean Kelly, *Gurracurrang*, 2022; Carmen Glynn-Braun, *Here we stand*, 2022; Aroha Groves, *Underneath it all*, 2022. Photo: Document Photography.

66 / Left: Cleaning station(detail). Photo: Hayley Lavers. **Middle:** Jenny Bell and Anne Sanders delivering an artist and curator talk to visitors within the Gallery, featuring Jenny Bell, *Life Blood* (detail), 2019. Courtesy the artist and Australian Galleries. **Right:** Bishop's Lodge front exterior.
67 / Left: Lismore Regional Gallery, *Creative*

Program 2022 – 2023. Right: Keeping Score/ Tracing Time (detail). Photo: Jacqui Manning.
68 / Left: School students as part of the *Home* project investigating NERAM's Howard Hinton Collection and landscape paintings. **Right:** NRCG *Flood Recovery Workshop Wardell*. Photo: Lauren Phillips.

69 / Left: Rob Salt, Terrie Milgate, Aunty Ruth and Georgina O'Neill at Wungunja Cultural Centre. **Right:** *Museum on Wheels*, image courtesy Tweed Regional Museum and Chris Radman.
70 / Left: *Up Late* at Tweed Regional Museum. Photo: Dave Kan. **Right:** Helen Grace and Julie Ewington Studio visit with RAD Artist Georgia Crowden.

71 / Left: *Future Now*, Smart Towns Diorama. Photo: Abram Powell. **Right:** Central Tablelands Collections Facility, courtesy of Bathurst Regional Council.

72 / Left: Museum of the Riverina Redevelopment (detail), courtesy of Museum of the Riverina. **Middle:** Sugar Valley Library Museum, courtesy of Lake Macquarie City Council. **Right:** South Solitary Island Lighthouse Optic Relocation (detail), courtesy of City of Coffs Harbour.

73 / *Museum on Wheels*. Image courtesy Tweed Regional Museum and Bec Taylor.

The Volunteer Achievement Award /

77 / Left: Annabel Senior. **Right:** UNESCO Memory of the World Listing 2023. Courtesy of Miss Porter's House.
78 / Left: Blacksmith Shop and Restoration of the Bennet Wagon. **Right:** Kevin Wintle, courtesy of The Oaks Historical Society Inc.
79 / Left: Melinda Hunt. Photo: Belinda Yee. **Right:** Locust Jones, opening night performance 2023, DRAW Space. Photo: Melinda Hunt.
80 / Left: John Holland Batemans Bay bridge construction project office. Photo: Lynn Collins **Right:** Myf Thompson.
81 / Ray Agustin. Photo: Hayley Lavers.
82 / Eugowra Disaster Response Team. Photo: Hayley Lavers.

ACHAA Awards /

85 / Uncle Stan Grant Sr AM receives his Order of Australia Medal. Courtesy of the Grant family.
86 / Detail from *untitled (giran)*, 2018. Jonathan Jones and Uncle Stan Grant Snr, 9th Asia Pacific

Triennial, Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane. Courtesy of Jonathan Jones.

87 / Uncle Stan with the late Dr John Rudder. Courtesy of the Grant family.

88 / Uncle Stan with wife Betty and artist Jonathan Jones. Courtesy of the Grant family and Jonathan Jones

89 / Left: Steven Lindsay Ross. Photo courtesy of the curator. **Right:** *Crystal* by Jai Walker alongside poem *For the Love of Crystal* by Jacyn de Santis. Photo: Sharon Hickey.

89 / Left: *Kevin Gilbert Artist Room. Right:* Keith Munro, Director First Nations Art and Cultures.

90 / Left: Cherie Johnson. Photo: Luke Kellett. **Right:** Uniting Preschool Caves Beach Eagle and Macquarie College Preschool Kookaburra. Photos: Speaking in Colour.

91 / Left: *Koori Knockout 50 Years* exhibition view, courtesy of State Library of NSW. **Right:** Ronald Briggs, courtesy of State Library of NSW.

92 / Left: Tess Allas and Alinta Maguire. **Right:** *Coomaditchie: The Art of Place*, installation view. Photo: Bernie Fischer.



Justin Shoulder: *Titan Arum*, 2022, presented by Newcastle Art Gallery in partnership with the New Annual. Photo: Picture Cabinet.



Rainbow, Mermaid, Fireworks, Rosie Deacon and Emily Crockford, Bondi Pavilion Gallery. Photo: Silversalt Photography.



Felicia Foxx performing at the opening of *THE PARTY*, UNSW Galleries, 2023. Photo: Cassandra Hannigan.



Sonus Maris, installation view, UNSW Library, 2023. Photo: UNSW Library.



FIRST LIGHTS-BUUNGBAA-MA-NDHU, Kirli Saunders in partnership with Ngununggula and Fremantle Biennale for *MIDWINTER FESTIVAL*. Photo: Brian Rapsey.



DISCOVidFever19 ft. Kinkabelle, Felina, Disco Baby, Daddy Rumble and Gavin Power at The Lock-Up for *THE BENDER*. Photo: Wanagi Zable-Adrews.



Wildlife, James Price, Lake Macquarie Multi Arts Pavilion mima. Image courtesy of MAP Mima.



School students as part of the *Home* project investigating NERAM's Howard Hinton Collection and landscape paintings. Photo courtesy of New England Regional Art Museum.

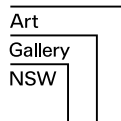
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