

GALLERY NEWS

AUTUMN 2023

cowra
regional
art gallery



FROM THE GALLERY DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Gallery Newsletter

During the past couple of month's the CRAG has presented an exciting and highly enjoyable visual art program for young and old including exhibitions/workshops/social events. This included two outstanding exhibitions **CONNECTIONS: THE ARTIST/MASTER PRINTER** - works by Basil Hall (ACT), Michael Kempson (NSW) and Ron McBurnie (Qld) curated by guest Curator Akky van Ogtrop (13 December 2022 to 5 February 2023). This was an in-house exhibition project including over 60 prints from the personal archives of Hall, Kempson and McBurnie including works by artists they had collaborated with over many years.

The second exhibition was the culturally significant touring project **SIXTY: The Journal of Australian Ceramics 60th Anniversary 1962 - 2022** curated by the Australian Design Centre, Sydney (12 February to 19 March 2023). This was a unique opportunity to experience an exhibition of works by some of Australia's finest and most awarded ceramic artists.

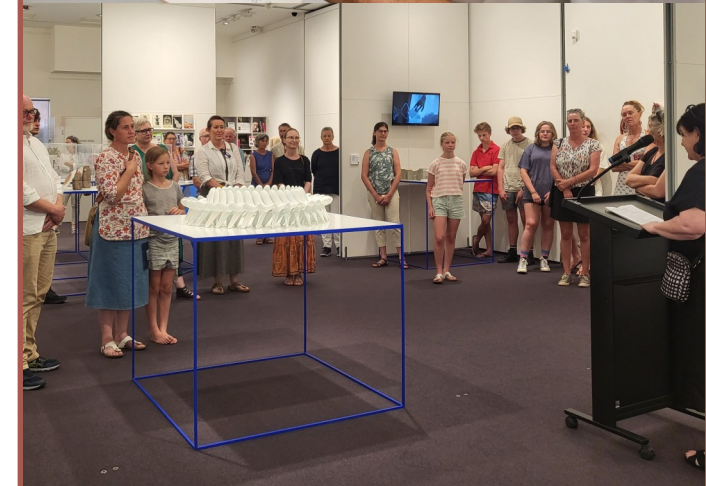
During April/May the Gallery is presenting two prestigious exhibitions of works by senior aboriginal artists from Central Australia. The first exhibition is **The RED HEART of AUSTRALIA** a selection of precious works from the National Museum of Australia's collection showing how the colour red expresses relationships to Country, family, ritual and spirituality. It's the colour of the desert, the giant rock Uluru in central Australia, and the colour of a blazing sunset over the water.

The second is **UTOPIA BATIKS: Textile Artworks from the Utopia Collection Bequest** on loan from Tamworth Regional Gallery. First introduced into the Utopia community in the 1970s, Batik was largely adopted by women in the community who used the wax resist technique to depict the layered nature of Tjukurrpa stories – surface and hidden knowledge. Over time the batik technique of layering, was adopted by artists in their painting to create artworks distinctive to the Utopia community of artists.

Following these two exciting collection exhibitions the Gallery is hosting the local artists exhibition the **Lachlan Valley Biennial Art Awards** in collaboration with the Cowra Art Group from 6 May to 28 May 2023.

Until next time
Brian Langer, Gallery Director

SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS



Top to bottom: 1. Gallery visitors enjoyed browsing through the archival display of Journal of Australian Ceramics magazines across six decades **2.** Lisa Cahill, CEO Australian Design Centre and Co-Curator **SIXTY The Journal of Australian Ceramics 60th Anniversary 1962-1992** exhibition led a talk and officially opened the **SIXTY** exhibition **3.** **SIXTY** artist Patsy Hely

SIXTY: The Journal of Australian Ceramics 60th Anniversary 1962-2022

One of the highlights of the Gallery's summer exhibition program was **SIXTY: The Journal of Australian Ceramics 60th Anniversary 1962 - 2022**. The best place to discover more about Australian ceramics is via The Australian Ceramics Association website <https://australianceramics.com/>

Via this page you can access a wide range of resources including:

- Community resources – links to galleries & shops, artists, classes, suppliers and services, open studio events, associations and groups <https://www.australianceramicscommunity.com/>
- Online Masterclasses <https://australianceramics.com/masterclasses>
- Free digital copies of The Journal of Australian Ceramics back issues: <https://www.yumpu.com/user/australianceramics>
- Shop for books on ceramics: <https://australianceramics.com/shop>

OPERATION ART

Operation Art was exhibited at Cowra Library from January to March. In this annual event, schools across NSW are invited to participate in an initiative of The Children's Hospital at Westmead in association with the New South Wales Department of Education's The Arts Unit. The Gallery has collaborated with Operation Art to present this Outreach project at Cowra Library.

A special event saw staff from The Arts Unit and The Children's Hospital at Westmead present a handover of artworks for Cowra Health Service with Cr Nikki Kiss from Cowra Council and one of the artists from Carenne School there to present their artwork to Health Services Manager Pauline Rowston

A Teacher Professional Learning workshop conducted by The Arts Unit saw gallery staff and teachers across the region network and develop art education skills.



VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering at the Cowra Regional Art Gallery offers a unique and rewarding opportunity to experience the Gallery's exhibitions and public programs first-hand. It's a great way to get involved with art and our community, while gaining valuable experience within a cultural organisation. Does this sound like an opportunity you'd like to be involved in? For more information and to apply to be a volunteer please visit our website:

www.cowraartgallery.com.au/volunteer and complete a Volunteer Application Form.



FOLLOW US

Find us, like us and follow us for exhibition insights, extra resources and important updates to the Gallery program.

Follow us at
[@cowraregionalartgallery](https://www.instagram.com/cowraregionalartgallery)



UPCOMING

26 MARCH TO 30 APRIL 2023



RED HEART OF AUSTRALIA is an exhibition showcasing paintings of national importance created by Aboriginal artists from across Central Australia united by the colour red. These precious works from the National Museum of Australia's collection show how the colour red expresses relationships to Country, family, ritual and spirituality. The *Red Heart* tour is supported by the National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program (NCITO).



Australian Government
National Collecting Institutions
Touring & Outreach Program

Image: Top: Ronnie Tjampitjinpa, *Unfilled painting of concentric rectangles (detail)* 1996, paint on canvas, 1260 x 2460cm.



UTOPIA BATIKS: Textile Artworks from the Utopia Collection Bequest The Utopia Batik Collection is an archive of assembled pieces by some of Australia's most prominent artists of the Eastern Anmatyerre and Alyawarre people, centred at the remote community of Utopia, 270 kms north east of Alice Springs.

TAMWORKH



Image: Utopia Batik Collective, *Sample Piece (collective testing of tjap technique)*, (detail), 1995, batik, azoic dyes, silk satin, 235 x 115 cm. The Utopia Collection™ Bequest

Artist Opportunities - Entries now open The LACHLAN VALLEY BIENNIAL ART AWARDS 2023

- Entries close: Friday 7 April 2023
- Exhibition dates: 7 to 28 May 2023

Terms of entry and entry forms are available from the **Cowra Visitors Centre**. All inquiries to the exhibition coordinator Martina Lindsay Ph.0498 249 580 or email p.mlindsay@bigpond.com



PRESENTED BY THE COWRA ART GROUP INC.

4 JUNE TO 9 JULY 2023

REMEMBERING MEG BUCHANNAN

Celebrating the creative achievements of printmaker, painter and co-founder of *Studio One Print Workshop* Meg Buchanan. Curated by Peter Haynes - Consultant Curator, Art Historian, Art Writer and Critic and, Heritage Advisor the exhibition will feature graphic and painted works, showcasing the artist's work from the 1970s, to the last phase of her career and will include *Halfway Hills*, the 2005 Calleen Art Award winner.

Image: (detail) Meg Buchanan, *Halfway Hills*, Calleen Art Award winner 2005.



77 Darling Street, Cowra NSW 2794 **ADMISSION FREE**

Hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10am - 4pm. Sunday 10am-2pm

Tel: (02) 6340 2190

www.cowraartgallery.com.au

Please check the Gallery website before visiting

The Cowra Regional Art Gallery is a cultural facility of the Cowra Shire Council

