

GALLERY NEWS WINTER 2023



Image: Paul Ryan *Becalmed*, 2022, oil on Linen 102 x 91.5 cm.
Courtesy of the artist and Nanda\Hobbs. © Paul Ryan
Currently in the exhibition *Nationalism in the Wake of COVID* until 20 August 2023.

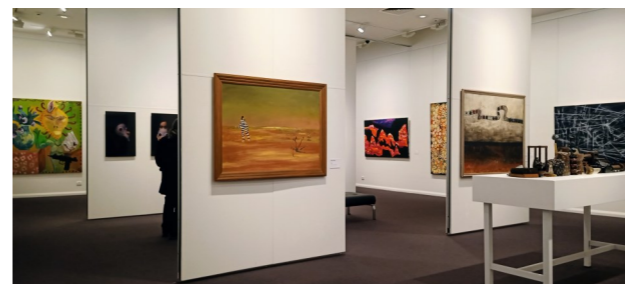
FROM THE GALLERY DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Gallery Newsletter

Its been a busy and outstanding few months at the Gallery with the presentation of six exciting exhibitions since May including the current exhibition *Nationalism in the wake of COVID*, ending on Sunday 20 August 2023. There are six contemporary artists in the exhibition as well as works by leading Australian artists such as Sydney Nolan, Margaret Preston, and James Gleeson on loan from the Macquarie University art collection. An excellent catalogue has also been produced for the exhibition.

Coming up the Gallery is presenting *Robyn Stacey: as still as life* a major photography exhibition exploring the tantalising world of the still-life tradition focusing on a series of large-scale photographs by artist/photographer Robyn Stacey on loan from the newly created Museum of Australian Photography (please see the back page for more information). This inspiring exhibition will be followed by the *Calleen Art Award 2023* acquisitive painting prize from 8 October to 19 November 2023. This exciting art prize was founded in 1977 by art patron, collector and local artist Mrs Patricia Fagan OAM. The Calleen Art Award for painting is definitely a favourite exhibition event with the Cowra community and visitors to the Gallery. A list of the Calleen Art Award finalists will be included in the Spring edition of the Newsletter. The awards Judge for the *Calleen Art Award 2023* is Kon Gouriotis, Curator, Writer and Editor of Artist Profile. Until next time

Brian Langer, Gallery Director



Installation view of the exhibition *Nationalism in the wake of COVID*

FOLLOW THE GALLERY ONLINE

Follow the Gallery program at www.cowraartgallery.com for up to date information on our exhibitions, public events, workshops and more. Continue your gallery experience online with exhibition and special education information and floor talk interviews.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

RED HEART OF AUSTRALIA



Pictured above are members of Cowra U3A group at the Gallery and left visitors during the opening of the exhibition.

UTOPIA BATIK COLLECTION BEQUEST

The Utopia Batik collection is an archive of assembled pieces by some of Australia's most prominent aboriginal women artists of the Eastern Anmatyerre and Alyawarre people, centred at the remote community of Utopia, 270 kms north east of Alice Springs.



Pictured above is a Gallery visitor admiring the Batik textiles on display during the opening of the exhibition

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

LACHLAN VALLEY BIENNIAL ART AWARDS



The opening of the LVBAA took place at the Cowra Regional Art Gallery on 6 May and continued to 25 May.

Cowra Artist Isabel Harnden (above) was the winner of the major prize of \$4,000 for her painting *Ruby in Red*. Amanda Hollman was awarded a Highly Commended and Karen James was announced the winner of the People's Choice Award at the end of the exhibition.



The guest judge for 2023 was Lisa McKimmie pictured far right with (from the left) Martina Lindsay, President Cowra Art Group, Judith Pugh, Patron of the Cowra Art Group and the LVBAA award winner Isabel Harnden.



Pictured left is Cr Bill West, Cowra Mayor welcoming visitors to the opening of the Lachlan Valley Biennial Art Award.

WHILE THE WORLD WAITS



From 4 June to 2 July the Gallery presented *While the World Waits* in collaboration with Arts OutWest. The exhibition featured 20 contemporary Central West artists. Works presented included painting, drawing, photography, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, moving image, glass and textiles. The exhibition was opened by the exhibition curator Stephen Cavanagh and included floor talks by several of the exhibition artists. Pictured left are visitors at the exhibition opening.

LITTLE NOTHINGS: Shani Nottingham



Writer and Podcaster who opened the exhibition.

Little Nothings exhibition was presented from 4 June to 2 July. Pictured above is an installation view and left the artist Shani Nottingham with guest speaker Skye Manson,

COMING UP - 26 August to 1 October 2023

Robyn Stacey: as still as life

Robyn Stacey: as still as life explores the tantalising world of the still-life tradition. The exhibition includes large scale monumental and magnificent photographs by Robyn Stacey spectacular in their detailed beauty as well as still-life photographs drawn from the Museum of Australian Photography Collection.

Still life is one of the most enduring genres that flourished during the 17th-century Baroque period in Europe. Inanimate objects took on symbolic meaning, creating a type of code through which status and narrative could be communicated. Still life reflected, responded to and shaped society, changing and democratising the art market into what it is today.

Still life was the perfect subject matter for photographers to focus on during the medium's infancy. Inanimate, unmoving objects could be composed in elaborate and dynamic compositions within a controlled environment, allowing for the long exposures that photography demanded. Still life through photography has continued to evolve, from compositions that mimicked Baroque paintings, through to highly conceptual and experimental works that reflect, respond and speak to contemporary society. Artists include: Kathy Cavaliere, Olive Cotton, Max Dupain, Joachim Froese, Christine Godden, Janina Green, Fiona Hall, Penelope Malone, David Moore, George J Morris, Michael Riley and Anne Zahalka. Curator: Anouska Phizacklea, Director, Museum of Australian Photography. A Museum of Australian Photography travelling exhibition.



Image: Robyn Stacey *Fontaine de Vaucluse* 2009 from the series *Empire line* chromogenic print 120.0 x 169.5 cm. Museum of Australian Photography City of Monash Collection. Courtesy of the artist, Darren Knight Gallery (Sydney) and Jan Manton Gallery (Brisbane).



Image: Robyn Stacey *Miss Eliza Wentworth's glassware* 2008 from the series *The great and the good* chromogenic print 120.0 x 160.2 cm. Monash Gallery of Art, City of Monash Collection acquired with the funds raised by Friends of MGA Inc 2009. Courtesy of the artist, Darren Knight Gallery (Sydney) and Jan Manton Gallery (Brisbane)

BECOME A GALLERY VOLUNTEER

Volunteering at the Cowra Regional Art Gallery offers a unique and rewarding opportunity to experience the Gallery's exhibitions and public programs first-hand. 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 and return the Volunteer Application Form to the Gallery or contact the Gallery staff on 63402190. Pictured is Lois Foster - *Gallery Front of House* volunteer.



COWRA REGIONAL ART GALLERY

77 Darling Street, Cowra NSW 2794 — ADMISSION FREE — Wheelchair Access

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

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

Please check the Gallery website before visiting COWRA REGIONAL ART GALLERY

