

COWRA REGIONAL ART GALLERY

JANUARY – JULY 2017



EXHIBITIONS

21 January to 19 March 2017



Archibald Prize 2016

Prestigious and controversial, the Archibald Prize is considered Australia's foremost portraiture prize, a veritable who's who of Australian contemporary culture – from politicians to fashion designers, sporting heroes to artists. Its primary aims are to foster portraiture, support artists and perpetuate the memory of great Australians. Many believe the Archibald Prize has done more than any other single event to stimulate and sustain public interest in the art of portrait painting in Australia.

An Art Gallery of New South Wales touring exhibition in association with principal sponsor, ANZ.

Image: Archibald Prize finalist, Natasha Bieniek, *Wendy Whiteley*, (detail) oil on wood 13.5 x 18.5 cm ©the artist. Photograph: © AGNSW, Mim Stirling.



25 March to 30 April 2017



Colours of the Country III – Beanie Festival

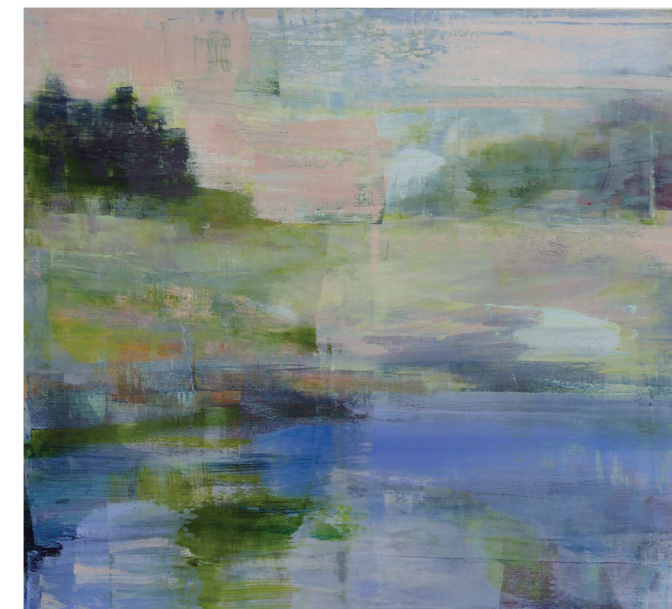
This collection of beanies encapsulates the whimsical essence of the Alice Springs Beanie Festival and demonstrates the growth of the beanie as an art form and the imagination, creativity and fine craftsmanship in each piece.

Colours of the Country III showcases work produced by Indigenous artists from the Central Desert region in this cross-cultural event. An exhibition embraced by a broad cross-section of the community, this exhibition will inspire audiences to laugh, don crazy headwear and bring out those knitting needles all over again.

Sharon Alice, *Spirit ladies from the desert*, 2010; Betty Conway, *Galahs*, 2012; Rhonda Napanangka, *Hanging out the washing*, 2012. Image Courtesy of The Alice Springs Beanie Festival.



25 March to 30 April 2017



Collection In Focus: New Acquisitions

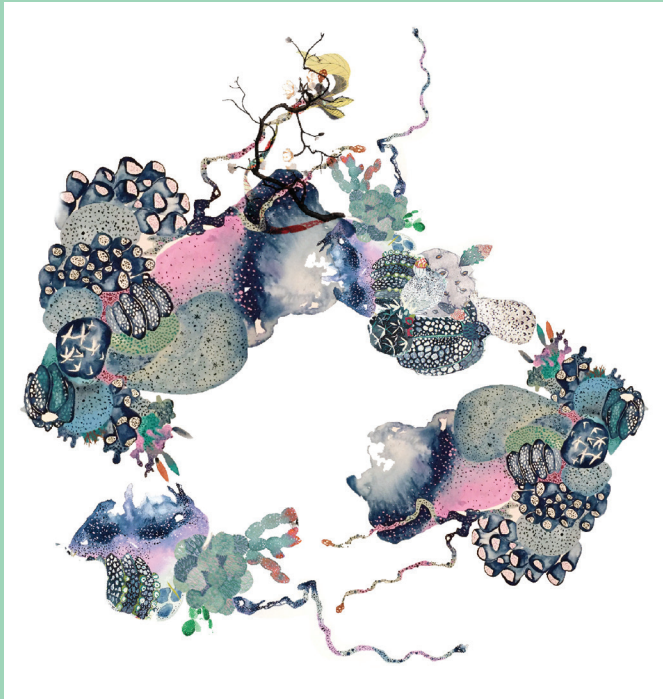
This exhibition provides an opportunity for viewers to revisit artworks presented in previous exhibitions at the Gallery and make new discoveries.

Works include recent winners of the Calleen Art Award, new works acquired through a private bequest, the Commonwealth Government's Cultural Gifts Program, artist donations and works purchased through the fundraising efforts of the Friends of the Gallery.

Artists include Susan Baird, Jo Bertini, Yvonne Boag, Greg Daly, Keith Fyfe, Joanna Logue, Tania Mason, Sally McInerney, Idris Murphy, Peter O'Doherty, Susan O'Doherty and Jenny Sages.

Image: Susan Baird, *The Connie Dam*, 2016, oil on linen, 137 x 137cm. Purchased 2016 by the Cowra Regional Art Gallery with funds donated by the Beryl Rudd Bequest.

7 May to 18 June 2017



Calleen Art Award

The Calleen Art Award encourages originality, creativity and artistic excellence. The Calleen Art Award is an acquisitive national painting prize in any subject and style, established in 1977 by Mrs Patricia Fagan OAM. The winner of the 2017 Calleen Art Award will receive \$20,000 in prize money made possible by the generous support of the Calleen Trust, and the winning work will become part of the Calleen Collection at the Cowra Regional Art Gallery.

Announcement of the 2017 Calleen Art Award winner will take place at the Official Opening on 6 May 2017.

People's Choice Award

A People's Choice Award (non-acquisitive) of \$500 is awarded at the end of the exhibition.

Image: Winner of the 2016 Calleen Art Award, Tania Mason, *Irregular Plasma*, 2016, gouache and acrylic on canvas, 102 x 84cm.

24 June to 30 July 2017



Stephen Bird: From Painter to Bastard Son of Royal Doulton

An enticing exhibition from its evocative and amusingly irreverent title, to its bizarre and often comically hybrid forms and colourful images, this survey of ceramics, objects and works on paper uncovers Stephen Bird's diverse art practice and its influence on his well-known ceramic works.

Stephen Bird makes highly individualistic ceramics that toy with convention. The exhibition includes Commemorative plates and Toby-style jugs which meld an Australian sardonic humour with traditional English Industrial pottery forms.

Throughout the exhibition, Bird's mastery of glazing techniques and applied decoration on ceramics is matched by dazzlingly bright watercolours and intense graphic detail of works on paper.

Image: Stephen Bird, *Self portrait as a Toby Jug*, 2010, clay, pigment and glaze, 32 x 18 x 25cm.



15 May to 10 June 2017



Operation Art

During May/June 2017 the Gallery presents this regional tour in the Cowra Library. A showcase of artworks by children from schools across NSW, created for children in hospital, it is an important initiative recognising the creative talent and community spirit of young students.

Operation Art involves young people in the special work of The Children's Hospital at Westmead – a total healing environment where design, facilities, gardens and art combine with the best possible medical care to help comfort and heal young patients. Not only do the inspirational paintings contributed to Operation Art aid in the healing process of sick children but they also have a positive effect on their families and hospital staff.

Operation Art is proudly sponsored by the Children's Hospital at Westmead, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) and the NSW Department of Education.

Image: Will Hazzard, *Lizard Trio (Our Home)*, Dubbo School of Distance Education.



WELCOME

ABOUT THE GALLERY

The Cowra Regional Art Gallery offers visitors a diverse and lively program of major touring exhibitions from state and national sources, and in-house exhibitions including regional projects, collection exhibitions and the presentation of the annual Calleen Art Award, a national acquisitive art prize for painting which takes place from early May to mid-June.

The Gallery actively promotes appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts through a guest speaker program, including talks by art professionals in association with exhibition events and a multi-faceted program of workshop activities for children and adults. It also assists local schools with subsidised travel to visit exhibitions.

The Gallery prides itself as a friendly and welcoming public gallery with a gift shop that offers a unique range of cards from major Australian art institutions, art and local history publications and selected jewellery and merchandise by artists from the region.



77 Darling Street, Cowra NSW 2794
ADMISSION FREE
Hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10am-4pm,
Sunday 2pm-4pm (Mondays closed)
T: (02) 6340 2190
E: cowraartgallery@cowra.nsw.gov.au

GET CONNECTED

www.cowraartgallery.com.au

The Cowra Regional Art Gallery website lets you browse current and upcoming exhibitions as well as media updates and information about the Calleen Art Award.

Stay up to date with gallery events, workshops and special activities on Facebook and Twitter.



The Cowra Regional Art Gallery is a cultural facility of the Cowra Shire Council and supported by the NSW Government through Arts NSW.