

**Gosford
Regional**

Gallery

**2024
Program**



**CELEBRATING
CREATIVITY**

**ENGAGING
COMMUNITY**

**PROMOTING
CULTURE**

2024 – 2025 ARTISTIC PROGRAM

Please RSVP via Trybooking link
One link for all reservations

www.trybooking.com/CLCUF

Exhibition	Opening Event	Exhibition Duration
Ralph Podolski: <i>A Life of Time and Chance</i>	5:30pm, 12 January 2024	13 January – 25 February 2024
Atong Atem: <i>Banksia</i>	6pm, 23 February 2024	24 February – 14 April 2024
A Central Vision 2024	6pm, 1 March 2024	2 March – 7 April 2024
Zac Craig: <i>Soft Conversations</i>	6pm, 26 April 2024	13 April – 21 May 2024
A Glint Of Koi: <i>Significant Artwork from the Permanent Collection</i>	6pm, 26 April 2024	27 April – 9 June 2024
Shana O'Brien: <i>Inner Landscapes</i>	6pm, 24 May 2024	25 May – 30 June 2024
Karla Dickens: <i>Embracing Shadows</i>	11am, 22 June 2024	22 June – 11 August 202
The Makers Studio Central Coast: <i>Dress Code Behind the Seams</i>	6pm, 5 July 2024	6 July – 11 August 2024
Gosford Art Prize 2024	6pm, 23 August 2024	24 August – 20 October 2024
Cathryn McEwen: <i>Call Me Old Fashioned</i>	6pm, 1 November 2024	26 October – 1 December 2024
Nicola Hooper: <i>ZOONOSES</i>	6pm, 1 November 2024	2 November – 2 February 2025
Speaking in Colour: <i>Cultural Resurgence</i>	6pm, 6 December 2024	7 December – 28 January 2025
About Face 2024: Junior Portrait Prize	10.30am, 14 December 2024	14 December – 12 January 2025



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and play. We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging and recognise their continued connection to these lands and waterways. We acknowledge our shared responsibility to care for and protect our place and people.

Gosford Regional Gallery and Edogawa Commemorative Garden is nestled within 26 hectares of nature reserve on the shores of Caroline Bay. The precinct includes our contemporary art galleries, bayside walking trails, a playground and picnic area, café, arts centre and the Community Gallery.

We invite you to enjoy your free visit, soaking in the art displayed within our galleries, exploring creations by Central Coast artists and makers in our shop, and relaxing in the traditional Japanese shuyu (strolling style) garden that was donated by our sister city Edogawa, Japan, in 1994 as a symbol of friendship.

OUR 2024 PROGRAM

considers alternative and untold histories, colonisation and migration, and their impacts on Australian culture. It centres on celebrating the artists of the Central Coast both past and present, exploring our permanent collection and bringing early career artists to the foreground, alongside recognised creators.

We are proud to showcase our program for 2024 and hope you will participate in the many public programs we offer to accompany the exhibitions.



RALPH PODOLSKI A LIFE OF TIME AND CHANGE

13 January – 25 February 2024

Opening 5.30pm, 12 January 2024

A survey exhibition of artwork by Central Coast resident, Polish-born painter Ralph Podolski, a survivor of the German invasion and occupation of Poland who joined the Polish Resistance Movement at the age of fifteen.

Through his work, Podolski recalls the moment he arrived with his father at the Gross-Rosen concentration camp as political prisoners, and how his artwork helped him survive through swapping drawings for stale bread.

Podolski migrated to Australia, arriving in Melbourne in March 1950. He built a comfortable life as a graphic artist in Melbourne, travelling to

study art abroad, returning to Australia and relocating to Sydney where he became an Archibald Prize finalist (1973) while working for UTS Sydney.

His Central Coast home has been described as a 'private gallery of his work'. Podolski, now in his mid-nineties, has continued to paint for as long as his vision and health has allowed. Influenced by the masters of the Renaissance, Podolski's work maintains an edge of Surrealism, where his life's memory and dreams are entwined.

Image: Ralph Podolski, *Dreamland*

ATONG ATEM BANKSIA



24 February – 14 April 2024

Opening 6pm, 23 February 2024

As part of the Hometown series, recognising the practices of artists with connections to the Central Coast, Gosford Regional Gallery presents Atong Atem's *Banksia*. Atong was raised on the Central Coast and now lives in Naarm/Melbourne.

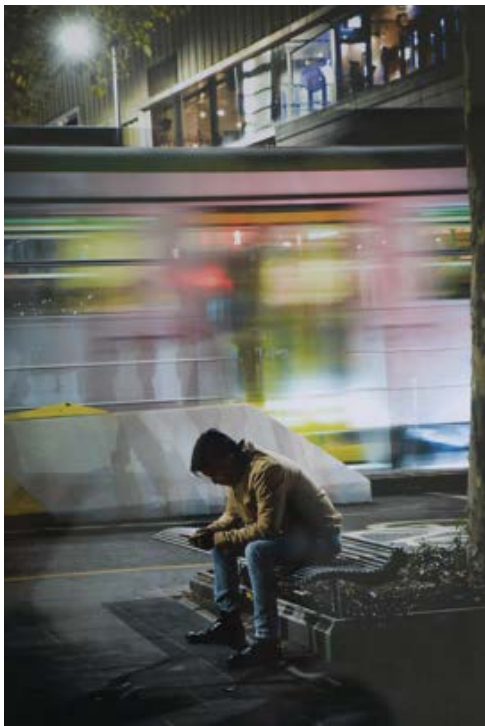
Banksia explores the lesser-known history of Australia's first African settlers and considers migrant stories from a non-colonial perspective. The video and photographic series work in conjunction to reveal otherwise obscured layers of history on a cinematic scale.

The works highlight the experience of African men and women who arrived on the First Fleet in

1788 — a colonial history that started long before Atem's own family arrived from South Sudan in 1997. In fostering a deeper understanding of the experiences of Australia's first African migrants, Atem interrogates the shaping of national policy, through the centuries, which has directly influenced who is determined to be Australian and non-Australian.

Left Image: Atong Atem, *Henna 1* 2021 Digital Photograph, Courtesy of MARS and the Artist

Right Image: Atong Atem, *Hamam 6*, 2021 Digital Photograph, Courtesy of MARS and the Artist



A CENTRAL VISION 2024

2 March – 7 April 2024

Opening 6pm, 1 March 2024

Partnering with the Department of Education, *A Central Vision* brings together the best artworks from students studying at local public high schools and secondary colleges.

This annual exhibition presents the opportunity for selected students to display their artwork in a professional gallery setting, with prizes awarded to a selection of artworks. Spanning across the Community Gallery and the Foyer Gallery spaces, the exhibition features artists from Years 7-12.

Image: Jake Loomes, *Movement*, A Central Vision 2023



ZAC CRAIG SOFT CONVERSATIONS

13 April – 21 May 2024

Opening 6pm, 26 April 2024

Produced in Zac Craig's studio in regional NSW, *Soft Conversations* is an exploration of co-existing planes and points of reference. His works are non-representational and yet filled with forms that are clearly linked to the natural world.

Throughout his participation in many international residencies, Craig has explored the nature of painting. *"I continue the long process of learning to paint and learning what paint is. I endeavour through the act of painting to further my comprehension of my materials and how to handle them effectively – to pull forth each pigment's intrinsic characteristics when requested by the painting."*

Image: Zac Craig, *PAINTING 2*



A GLINT OF KOI SIGNIFICANT ARTWORK FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

27 April – 9 June 2024

Opening 6pm, 26 April 2024

Judy Cassab, Elizabeth Cummings, Helen Geier, Elaine Haxton, Elwyn Lynn, Ursula Old, Ken Reinhard, David Rose, Shigeo Shiga, Imants Tillers, Gwyneth Tilley and more

The Central Coast Council Art Collection is a diverse array of artworks that together tell us a little about the changing character of our region over the past 50 years.

Acquired through the Australian Cultural Gifts Program, donations, acquisitive prizes and bequests, the Art Collection is designed to make a statement about the visual arts culture of the Central Coast and its place within a national cultural context.

The collection holds over 700 works, a selection of which are displayed throughout Central Coast Council buildings and at the Gosford Hospital.

A Glint of Koi explores the artistic and cultural identity of the Central Coast and the intricacies of civic collections. Guest curator Michael McIntyre was given access to the collection to seek out the stories behind the artwork.

Image: Ursula Old, *Koi Carp at the Japanese Gardens* 1996



SHANA O'BRIEN INNER LANDSCAPES

25 May – 30 June 2024

Opening 6pm, 24 May 2024

First Nations artist and dancer Shana O'Brien explores emotional landscapes as a form of storytelling. Her work is inspired by the land, the ways that we connect to the land and to each other. O'Brien considers ways in which the viewer's eyes will be taken on a journey when looking at shapes, colours and patterns in her works, and sees this movement as a kind of dance she can evoke in others. The works give insight into her inner world and the deep exploration of her emotions, as well as connection to her ancestors through Indigenous knowledge systems held in blood memory.

Image: Shana O'Brien, *The Joy I Felt Was More Complex Than I Could Have Imagined*



KARLA DICKENS

EMBRACING SHADOWS

22 June – 11 August 2024

Opening and Community Day 11am, 22 June 2024

Leading on from *Embracing Shadows*, which was held as a survey exhibition by Lismore-based Wiradjuri artist Karla Dickens at Campbelltown Arts Centre in early 2023, this exhibition spans 30 years of practice. *Embracing Shadows* focuses on themes of female identity and racial injustice that are enduringly explored in Dickens' reflections on Australian culture.

Born in 1967 in Sydney, Karla Dickens is of Wiradjuri, Irish and German descent. Through collage, painting, installation, photography, film and poetry, Dickens' practice is a highly personal and political interrogation of Australian culture and history. Her work has featured in major group exhibitions in Australia and internationally, including A Dickensian Country Show, Adelaide Biennial of

Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia and A Dickensian Country Circus, NIRIN: 22nd Biennale of Sydney, Art Gallery of New South Wales, 2020. She was one of nine artists selected to create a new commission for the Art Gallery of New South Wales' major expansion project, Sydney Modern. Dickens' artwork is held in many public and private collections across Australia and around the world.

Embracing Shadows is a Campbelltown Arts Centre touring exhibition originally presented in association with Sydney WorldPride 2023 and curated by Emily Rolfe. It is delivered at Gosford Regional Gallery in partnership with Campbelltown Arts Centre



Image: Karla Dickens, *Embracing Shadows* (installation view), Campbelltown Arts Centre, 2023. Photo: Document Photography



Image: Karla Dickens, 'Warrior Woman VI & XIII', 2017; 'Workhorse III, IV & V', 2018. Installation view of *Embracing Shadows*, Campbelltown Arts Centre, 2023. Photo: Document Photography



THE MAKERS STUDIO CENTRAL COAST DRESS CODE: BEHIND THE SEAMS

6 July – 11 August 2024

Opening 6pm, 5 July 2024

Ten artists from The Makers Studio Central Coast:

Cheryl McCoy, Leah Bennetts, Therese Wilkins, Ruth Thompson, Glenice Ware, Janine Debenham, Carol Vesper, Lisa McArthur-Edwards, Emilia Krumm and Fiona Brandes

Step into the provocative world of *Dress Code: Behind the Seams*, where image becomes a powerful vehicle for exploring the intricacies of society. This captivating exhibition peels back the layers to reveal the hidden stories 'behind the seams'. Delve into the complexities of societal norms and power structures to find unexpected cultural values. Discover how gender and expectations intertwine, transforming self-expression. These rich tapestries of life and times will instigate reflection on the environmental impact of fashion and our urgent need for change. *Dress Code: Behind the Seams* invites you to contemplate the threads that weave our world together, sparking conversations about identity, agency, and the unspoken language of clothing.

The Makers Studio Central Coast has grown in membership since April 2016 from an original membership of 13 artists. The studio, based in East Gosford, provides creative opportunities that engage the Central Coast community in a broad range of creative pursuits. The studio hosts international artists in printmaking, textile and fibre arts, and provides members with access to specialised equipment to learn an array of techniques and connect with other creatives.

Image: Inside the studio of The Makers Studio Central Coast artist Leah Bennetts



GOSFORD ART PRIZE 2024

24 August – 20 October 2024

Award Announcement 6pm, 23 August 2024

The Gosford Art Prize is a significant facet of the Gosford Regional Gallery's annual exhibition program. The prize was initially organised by the community in the early 1970s.

When the Gosford Regional Gallery opened in 2000, it became the new permanent home of the Gosford Art Prize. Both the main prize and the Ceramics Prize have grown in popularity and strength over the past 23 years, celebrating the diversity of practices from artists both on the Central Coast and from beyond our region.

Finalists are exhibited in all galleries with the main prize being awarded at \$15,000. Prizes across the different sections include Aboriginal Artist Award, Highly Commended, Ceramics Prize, Highly Commended Ceramics and People's Choice Award.

Entries open on 24 May 2024 and close on 8 July 2024 at 4pm

Image: 2022 Gosford Art Prize finalist exhibition, Gosford Regional Gallery. Photo by Gunther Hang



CATHRYN MCEWEN CALL ME OLD FASHIONED

26 October – 1 December 2024

Opening 6pm, 1 November 2024

Within the genre of contemporary still life painting, Cathryn McEwen's current work examines the world through a veil of glass. McEwen invites us to make a closer inspection and appreciate the translucent qualities of this fragile material,

especially to discover the colours, shapes and the textural effects distorted in collectible glass bottles – nostalgic layers of another time and place.

Image: Cathryn McEwen, *Name Your Poison*

NICOLA HOOPER

ZOONOSES

2 November 2024 – 2 February 2025

Opening 6pm, 1 November 2024

Through drawing and lithography, Dr Nicola Hooper uses fairy-tale iconology and rhymes to explore concepts surrounding zoonoses (animal diseases that can infect humans).

The exhibition ZOOSES explores how we perceive certain animals in the context of fear and disease. The research for the exhibition was completed as part of Hooper's doctoral thesis and first exhibited in 2018.

"This research conducted during study for my doctorate has resulted in the creation of lithographic

diptychs, sculptures, artist books containing created rhymes and a number of zoonotic wallpapers. These works use fairy tales, myths, and rhymes as a metaphor to discuss zoonotic outbreaks in a non-threatening and restrained manner."

The exhibition is particularly centred around the experience of young people with opportunities to contribute to the collaborative wallpaper project or create a giant fly.

ZOOSES is a touring exhibition of works by Dr Nicola Hooper presented by Logan Art Gallery, Logan City Council, in partnership with Museums & Galleries Queensland. This project has been assisted by the Australian Government's Visions of Australia program, and is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy. Proudly sponsored by Haymes Paint.



Image: Dr Nicola Hooper, *Love Potion and Methodology* (detail), 2019, hand-coloured lithographs, and *Lady Wildes Toxoplasmosis Wallpaper*, 2017, digital vinyl print of hand coloured lithograph, image courtesy the artist.





SPEAKING IN COLOUR CULTURAL RESURGENCE

7 December 2024 – 28 January 2025

Opening 6pm, 6 December 2024

Speaking In Colour is a 100% Aboriginal-owned company founded in 2010, with a vision to make a difference in the delivery of Aboriginal education.

Cultural Resurgence is an exhibition that results from collaboration between Central Coast-based students, community groups and Aboriginal cultural knowledge holders creating new works each year. Now in its eighth year, the team have taught the art of weaving and possum skin cloak making to thousands in the community through this series of engaging wellbeing programs.

Image: *Speaking In Colour Cloak*, 2022



ABOUT FACE 2024 JUNIOR PORTRAIT PRIZE

14 December 2024 – 12 January 2025

Opening 10.30am, 14 December 2024
@ The Community Gallery

Supported by accomplished Central Coast-based portraitist Jocelyn Maughan, *About Face* is Gosford Regional Gallery's Junior Portrait Prize for ages 5 to 18. It encourages young artists to look and see, drawing 'from life' with their subject sitting for the portrait. The competition will be judged based on observational drawing, merit and originality, with a prize pool of \$1,000 in gift cards awarded across different age groups.

Image: Vincent Waterworth's winning portrait from *About Face 2022*



FURTHER INFORMATION

Getting here

Gosford Regional Gallery is located just over two kilometres from Gosford train station. Multiple bus routes (including routes 19, 20, 22, 44, 63 and 64) run between the train station and Erina Fair interchange. Ask the driver to set you down at the Elanora Hotel in East Gosford, then walk approximately seven minutes south down Adelaide Street to the gallery.

Free parking onsite including bus parking. Gosford Regional Gallery is an accessible venue.

Art classes and school holiday workshop programs

We host both one-off and regular term art classes. These are designed to engage the budding inner artist in an informal and friendly environment, with classes accommodating artists of all ages and abilities. Our school holiday workshop programs are run by practicing artists and educators and designed for kids aged 6-16 years. All workshops are \$25, materials included. We also offer excursions which can be tailored to your needs including exhibition tours and workshops.

Support us by becoming a member

Our Membership scheme is designed to give you more access and great discounts at the Gallery. Receive special access to events, as well as discounts in the shop and for our art class program. You'll be actively supporting the Gallery to develop stronger exhibitions and cultural events, with 100% of the money going back into programs at the Gallery.

Exhibit with us

Our foyer gallery program is an opportunity for artists to explore a body of work, with artists being paid a fee to exhibit. Artists work closely with our curator to present an exhibition within our highly visited foyer space. If you would like to find out more on how to exhibit with us, please contact the gallery via email.

Gosford Regional Gallery Gift shop

Our gift shop has an artistic focus that supports local Central Coast makers and artists, as well as housing an authentic collection of Japanese kimonos, obis and Kokeshi dolls.

Get involved

We have many volunteer positions available at the Gallery, including greeting visitors at our front desk, helping out in the gift shop, assisting with exhibitions, gallery guiding or assisting with educational programs.

Tours

We can help you organise your group visit, including guided tours of our latest exhibition or the beautiful serene Edogawa Commemorative Garden. There is free bus parking on site and access to picnic areas and barbecues in the surrounding parklands. We recommend you allow approximately two hours to tour the gallery and garden.

We offer free tours every Saturday commencing with the Gallery at 11am and the Garden at 11.30am

Gosford Regional Gallery & Edogawa Commemorative Garden

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New South Wales, 2250

02 4304 7550

gallery@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au
www.gosfordregionalgallery.com

Open 9.30 am - 4 pm daily

*The gallery is open all year round with the
exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day,
New Year's Day and Good Friday*

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