



ARTSPACE MACKAY EXHIBITIONS ACTIVITIES&EVENTS

January to July 2023

Mackay Regional Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters that make up the Mackay region, the Yuwi People. We extend this acknowledgement to all Aboriginal members of the Birri Gubba Nation and pay respects to Elders past, present as well as young emerging leaders. We acknowledge the important protocols of the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Australian South Sea Islander communities across the Mackay region.



VISIT ARTSPACE Mackay's Regional Art Gallery



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OUR FREE WIFI

Artspace Mackay
Civic Precinct, Gordon Street
PO Box 41, Mackay Q 4740
Phone 07 4961 9722
artspace@mackay.qld.gov.au
artspacemackay.com.au

FREE ENTRY

10am-5pm Tuesday-Friday
10am-3pm Saturday & Sunday
(Closed Mondays)

COVER IMAGE: **Davida ALLEN Josephine** (detail)
1985, oil on Belgian linen, 88 x 88 cm. Image
courtesy the artist.

OPPOSITE: **Tamika GRANT-IRAMU** working
on mural *Undulations* during her 2022 wall
residency at Artspace Mackay.

Happy Birthday to us!

This year, Artspace Mackay turns twenty, and to celebrate our coming of age, we're bringing you a whole series of special, in-house curated exhibitions, programs, and events that pay tribute to local creatives past, present, and emerging.

For over thirty-five years Arthur and Carol Rosser created work from their secluded rainforest pottery studio in the Mackay hinterland region of Eungella. The Rosser's artistic careers saw them quietly gain national recognition for their dedication to woodfiring. The retrospective exhibition *Fire and Ash* celebrates their prolific pottery practice and dedication to restorative and sustainable land care.

In Bloom celebrates the growth of Artspace Mackay over twenty years, considering the way floral imagery is used by artists to convey and interrogate a range of issues. It will present an exciting new major birthday commission by north Queensland artist Brian Robinson, alongside historic artworks and non-acquisitive commissions connecting to important stories from our region.

Dylan Mooney returns to Artspace this year to participate in our artist-in-residence program *The Wall*. This time, Dylan draws on his Torres Strait Islander heritage in a response to rising sea levels and the impact on island communities, extending on his recent advocacy for climate action.

A partnership with the incredible community arts organisation Crossroad Arts, *Time of Our Lives* is a digital animation project that ponders how we mark special occasions, and how the seasons and nature reflect the passing of time. Facilitated by local new media artist Donna Maree Robinson and featuring original botanic illustrations by local artist Kate Brunner, a range of all abilities artists and performers will collaborate to create this special digital animation, which will be projected on to the gallery's exterior walls, premiering during our birthday celebrations..

I'm so proud of the art gallery we've all been able to nurture and grow over the last twenty years. The success of Artspace Mackay is thanks to the unwavering support and dedication of our local arts community, and past and present staff and volunteers. We hope you enjoy all that we have on offer in 2023.

Tracey Heathwood
Director, Artspace Mackay



DAVIDA ALLEN

Colourful Expressions

Main Gallery, Artspace Mackay

Davida Allen's colourful, expressionist paintings have documented her everyday experiences, for over 40 years. In this major exhibition of work from northern regional gallery collections and the artists' archive, Allen's joyful interrogation of daily life as artist, mother and grandmother is seen. Drawing on the artist's connection to South East and Central Queensland, Allen's paintings are honest expressions of everyday life.

20 An Artspace Mackay
Twentieth Birthday Exhibition

**17FEB to
14MAY**

Opening 6pm Friday 17 February

IMAGE: **Davida ALLEN** *Birds on cattle's back*
(detail) 2005, oil on board, 79 x 119.5 cm.
Mackay Regional Council Art Collection, donated
by the artist under the Cultural Gifts Program
2016. Photo: Jim Cullen Photographer.



GLEN SKIEN

Summer of the Seventeenth Doll

Foyer Gallery, Artspace Mackay

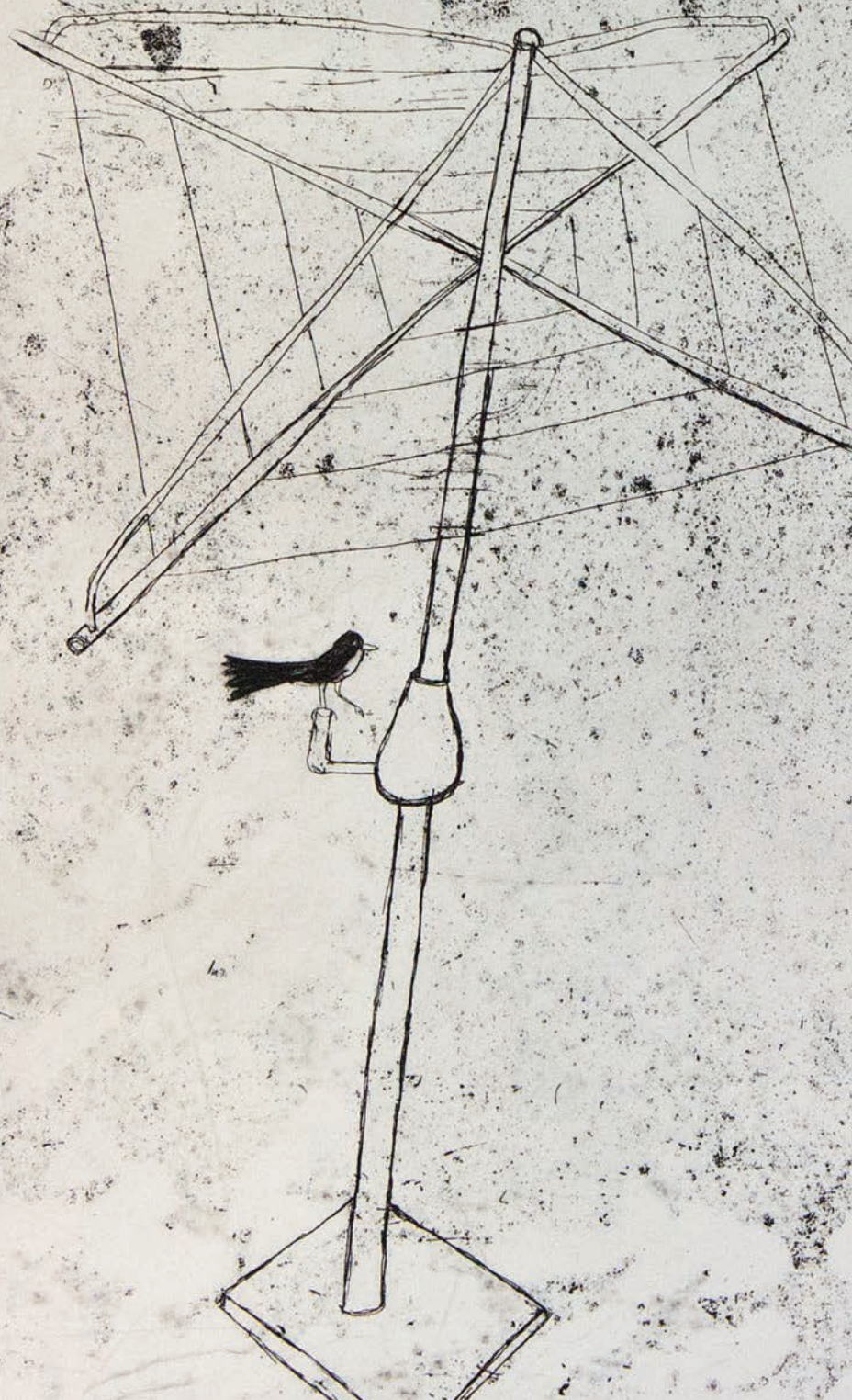
Whilst living in Mackay in the mid-2000s, print and artist book maker Glen Skien became interested in the Australian play 'Summer of the Seventeenth Doll' which debuted for the first time in Melbourne in 1955. Presented in the foyer gallery, Skien's series of the same name is a masterful rendition of Ray Lawler's play, which was considered by many as the first significant Australian theatre production depicting everyday life. In a series of twelve etchings Skien re-presents this iconic text in pictorial form.

IMAGE: **Glen SKIEN** *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll Plate XII (floating woman with suitcase)* (detail) 2004, etching, edition AP, 16.5 x 24.5 cm. Mackay Regional Council Art Collection, donated by the artist 2005.

An Artspace Mackay **20**
Twentieth Birthday Exhibition

11FEB
to **7MAY**

Opening 6pm Friday 17 February



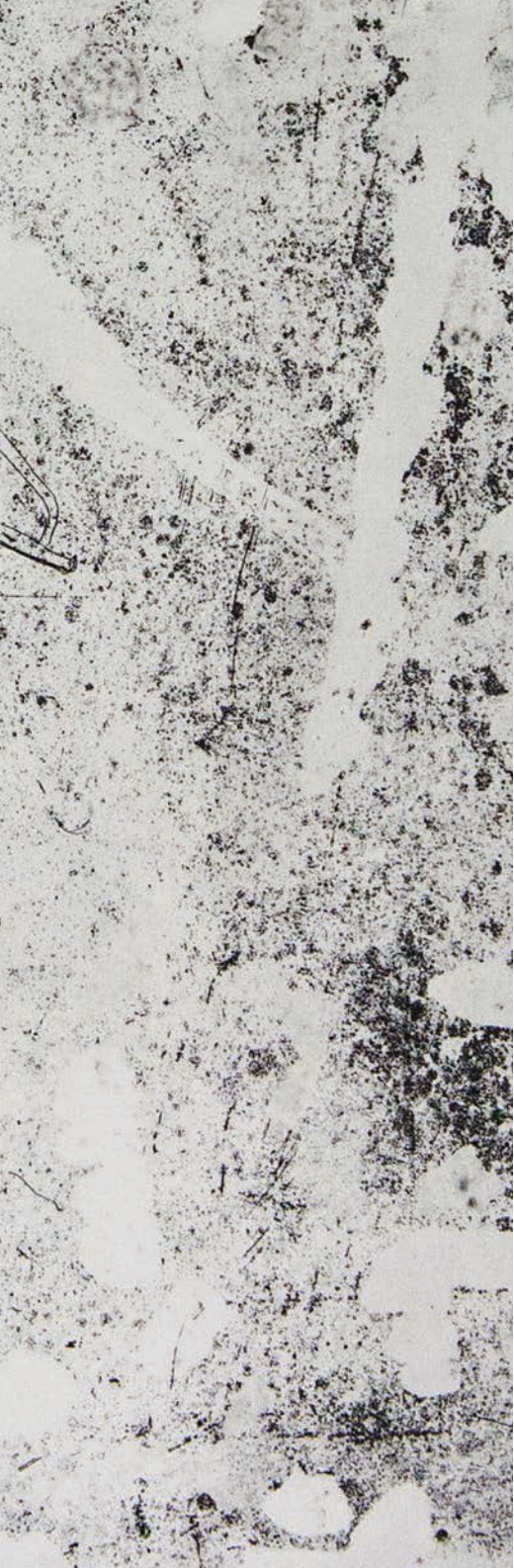


IMAGE: Noel MCKENNA *Willie Wagtail (detail)* 2014, etching, edition 3/8, 27.2 x 34.3 cm. Mackay Regional Council Art Collection, donated by the artist under the Cultural Gifts Program 2015.

Focus on the Collection GREAT AUSTRALIAN HOIST

Foyer Gallery, Artspace Mackay

Great Australian Hoist considers the way contemporary artists engage with the myth of Australiana. This playful compilation of work from the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection reconsiders early twentieth century iconographies that associated native flora, fauna and other built icons with distinctly European viewpoints, prompting a variety of conversations about the history, relevance and meaning of Australiana today.

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DEANNA HITTI

M is for Madraseh (School)

Foundation Gallery, Artspace Mackay

Lebanese-Australian artist book and print maker Deanna Hitti explores identity and visual misrepresentation themes in *M is for Madraseh (School)*. In an ambitious 156-panel installation, Hitti combines cyanotype and colour screen print to re-present exoticised visual portrayals of the East. Early nineteenth century French Orientalist imagery overlaid with text from a language text book in Arabic creates an interplay between object, figure and language. In doing so, Hitti deliberately interrogates the Western gaze, giving agency to the dualities that exist within her own cultural identity.

17FEB to
7MAY

Opening 6pm Friday 17 February

An Artspace Mackay **20**
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IMAGE: Deanna HITTI *M is for madraseh (school)* (detail) 2022, two colour screen print and cyanotype, unique state. Image courtesy the artist.



DYLAN MOONEY

The Wall

Foyer Gallery, Artspace Mackay

Dylan Mooney will return to Artspace Mackay for its' twentieth birthday celebrations to create his second site-specific mural on the gallery's seventeen metre foyer wall. Extending on his recent advocacy for climate action, Mooney a Yuwi, Australian South Sea Islander and Torres Strait Islander man, will draw on his water connections to respond to rising sea levels and the impact on island communities.

An Artspace Mackay
Twentieth Birthday Exhibition **20**

19MAY
to 6AUG

Opening 6pm Friday 19 May

IMAGE: Portrait of Dylan Mooney, with *Growing together* (detail) from the folio 'Queer, Blak & Here' 2020. Photo: Rhett Hammerton.



TIME OF OUR LIVES

Foyer Gallery, Artspace Mackay

How do we mark time and special occasions?; and how do the seasons and nature help determine this? Artspace Mackay in partnership with Crossroad Arts will respond to these questions via a series of practical, all abilities, digital animation workshops. Collaborating with local creatives, participants will animate original artworks designed by Kate Brunner, guided by new media artist Donna Maree Robinson. *Time of Our Lives* presented in the foyer gallery includes the new original artworks created, alongside the collaborative digital animation. This digital animation will also be shown as a projection on the gallery's Gordon Street exterior throughout the exhibition period.

20 An Artspace Mackay
Twentieth Birthday Exhibition

13MAYto
6AUG Opening 6pm Friday 19 May

IMAGE: **Donna Maree ROBINSON** *The garden of unearthly delights* (detail) 2017, digital installation shown at 'Decade Three', Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal Illuminate, Mackay. Photo: Rolf Muller.



IN BLOOM

Foundation Gallery, Artspace Mackay

In Bloom showcases twenty years of growth of Artspace Mackay, focusing on Australian visual culture via botanical imagery. Through a lens of investigation, the way floral imagery is used by artists to convey and at times interrogate a range of issues – from the imagined utopia of life in the tropics to First Nations connection to country and culture is considered. Work from the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection and associated programs, including a new major birthday commission are featured in this celebratory exhibition.

An Artspace Mackay **20**
Twentieth Birthday Exhibition

IMAGE: **Man CHEUNG** *Phaius australis* (swamp orchid) 2017, c-type photographic print mounted on Aluplane, 101 x 75cm. Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens Collection, donated by the artist 2017. Image courtesy the artist.

Opening 6pm Friday 19 May **13MAY**
to 6AUG

FIRE AND ASH

Woodfire Pottery of Arthur and Carol Rosser

Main Gallery, Artspace Mackay

For over forty years Arthur and Carol Rosser created work from their secluded rainforest pottery in the Mackay hinterland, near the township of Eungella, Queensland. Fuelled by an enduring fascination with the interplay between clay, wood and fire, the Rosser's working career saw them quietly gain national recognition for their dedication to the production of woodfired pottery. Bringing together a comprehensive body of work from the 70s – late 2010s, *Fire and Ash* celebrates the artists' expansive mastery of the medium. Highlighting their considered approach to land care, development of unique ash glazes and long wood firings, Artspace Mackay celebrates these prolific potters' careers as part of the gallery's twentieth birthday fete.

20 An Artspace Mackay
Twentieth Birthday Exhibition

**19MAYto
13AUG** Opening 6pm Friday 19 May



IMAGE: Arthur ROSSER *Salt glazed wood fired tea pot* c. 1995, ceramic, salt glazed, wood fired, 23 x 17.5 x 15.5 cm. Mackay Regional Council Art Collection, gift of Pioneer Potters Inc. 2005. Photo: Jim Cullen Photographer.

JOIN US AT ARTSPACE FOR

Conversations with Art

1- 2:30PM, THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

This is a free and enjoyable discussion led by Artspace staff as we look at works on show and images from gallery and museum collections. Whether you're an artist, an art and language lover, beginner, or expert, we'd love you to join us. It's an inclusive, thought provoking and satisfying way to spend an afternoon!

2023 DATES: 17 Feb | 17 Mar | 21 Apr | 19 May | 16 Jun

BOOK YOUR FREE TICKET at www.artspacemackay.eventbrite.com



You can view the Art Collection online.

Housed at Artspace Mackay, the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection includes over 1200 works of art, with one of the biggest holdings of artists' books outside of the capitals. At present, over 800 works can be viewed through the ever-expanding online collection database.

www.artspacemackay.com.au



David RAY *Survival* 2020, earthenware, decals, enamel, and gold, 27 x 19 cm (2 vases); 38 x 34 12 cm (tureen). Mackay Regional Council Art Collection, purchased 2020. Image courtesy the artist.





BMA KIDSPACE

10am-2pm one Tuesday each month, Artspace Workshop Room and Foyer Gallery

21 February | 21 March | 18 April | 23 May | 20 June

BMA Kidspace, our ever-popular toddlers' program, gives children under five a chance to explore and have fun with art in a climate of co-operative learning. Proudly supported by BHP Mitsubishi Alliance.

KIDS ART CLUB

8-12 years > 10am-12pm

2023 TERM 1: Saturday 18 February to 25 March | TERM 2: Saturday 6 May to 10 June

BOOK & PAY ONLINE ONLY: www.artspacemackay.eventbrite.com

Kids Art Club is Artspace Mackay's ongoing term-based art program for kids aged 8 to 12 years. Renowned local artists deliver this rich six week program of creative art for kids. Each week they explore and respond to the exhibitions on show at Artspace Mackay through fun-filled, exhibition-related art activities. \$180 per child.

SCHOOL TOURS

Take advantage of our staff's in-depth knowledge of each exhibition and their experience in designing/ delivering tours aimed at any age level. All self-guided and Artspace staff led tours must book two weeks in advance to ensure availability. All School tours are free. Contact artspace@mackay.qld.gov.au to confirm your tour.

FLOOR TALKS

Artspace Mackay floor talks are often held at the beginning of each exhibition season, and are free for anyone to attend. Usually delivered by artists or exhibition curators, they offer participants insight into the work on show. Visit www.artspacemackay.com.au for upcoming events.

COMMUNITY EXHIBITIONS PROGRAM

Council's Community Exhibition Programs provide local artists with opportunities to exhibit their work. For community exhibition spaces managed by Mackay Regional Council, including the Jubilee Community Centre, visit www.mackay.qld.gov.au

GALLERY TOURS

Free gallery tours are available upon request and viewings of selections from the artists' book collection can also be arranged. A minimum of 15 days' notice is required to secure a guide's services for tours, so plan ahead for your visit. To book a gallery tour and/or viewing of the artists' book collection, email artspace@mackay.qld.gov.au

ARTSPACE VOLUNTEERS

Artspace Mackay volunteers provide an invaluable service to the gallery by staffing our front desk, informing visitors about the exhibitions, workshops, events and other exciting opportunities and services offered by Artspace Mackay. To enquire about becoming a volunteer, email artspace@mackay.qld.gov.au

FOODSPACE

The gallery café specialises in affordable, creative food with delicious breakfasts, quick snacks, good coffee and easy lunch options. Large text and Braille menus available for patrons with vision impairments. For Foodspace bookings and enquiries, call 4961 9719.

THREE EXHIBITION GALLERIES

Artspace Mackay encompasses three impressive exhibition spaces. These state-of-the-art facilities ensure residents and visitors to Mackay are provided with the opportunity to see art exhibitions by significant international, Australian and local artists, as well as touring exhibitions presented by Australia's largest art galleries.

EXPLORE THE COLLECTION ONLINE

The Mackay Regional Council Art Collection includes over 1200 works of art with one of the biggest holdings of artists' books outside of the capitals. Highlights include prints from the Lockhart River Art Gang of North Queensland, contemporary Indigenous artworks, ceramics and a significant holding of Lyre Bird Press publications. More than 800 works in the MRC Art Collection can be viewed online at www.artspacemackay.com.au



THE GALLERY SHOP

Artspace Mackay's gift shop stocks creative giftware handcrafted by local and Australian artists and craftspeople. Choose from artisan jewellery, cards, handmade books, ceramics, sculpture and textiles, all at very affordable prices. *The Gallery Shop* also stocks art magazines, exhibition catalogues and publications as well as various art books and books by local authors.

LOCAL ARTISTS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE WANTED

If you're a maker in the Mackay region, and you've designed a creative, handmade product range that would be suitable for selling in *The Gallery Shop*, please contact Artspace Mackay for information on how to apply, 4961 9722.

IMAGE: *The Gallery Shop* stocks great gift ideas like this beautiful memory game featuring images from 'Prattle, scoop, trembling: a flutter of Australian birds' – an artists' book by Gracia Haby and Louise Jennison that is part of the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection housed at Artspace Mackay.

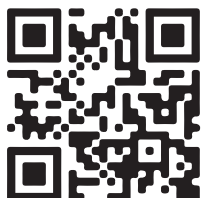


IMAGE: Artspace Mackay Volunteer Bern Howlett and Curator Lauren Turton attending the *Libris Awards: The Australian Artists' Book Prize 2022* exhibition sponsored by Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal Pty Ltd.

GIVE YOUR SUPPORT

While Mackay Regional Council covers the day-to-day operational costs of the gallery, Artspace Mackay relies on gifts, donations and partnerships to grow and develop the Mackay Regional Art Collection. By expanding our capacity to purchase new artworks, we enhance a valuable community asset that tells the story of our region. **To find out how you can support the gallery and the work we do, please scan the QR code or go to www.artspacemackay.com.au**

Artspace Mackay recognises the valuable contribution made by our current corporate partners and thanks them for their ongoing support:
BHP Mitsubishi Alliance & Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal Pty Ltd





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