



Artspace Mackay
**EXHIBITIONS
ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

January to June 2025

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional owners of the land upon which Artspace Mackay stands, the Yuwi people. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and to the young emerging leaders. We acknowledge the important protocols of the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Australian South Sea Islander communities across the Mackay region.

Kate Harding BIDJARA

Kate Harding is a Bidjara, Ghangali, and Garrigal woman, living and working in Yuwi Country / Mackay. Harding has spent over 40 years mastering textile-based practice, and for the past decade has been creating works deeply connected to her cultural heritage. Harding's first solo multimedia exhibition 'Bidjara' presents a new series of work that respond and with ongoing connection to culture and Country. Together, the key features a hand-dyed fabric, hand-embroidered cultural motif and quilting techniques including the English patchworking method, demonstrate the artist's dexterity and mastery of her medium.

Harding's attention to detail extends well beyond technique; her intention palette and fabric choices are carefully curated, connecting contemporary quilting techniques with traditional materials. The absence of quilted foot her pieces serve as an act of protest, referencing past and ongoing concern that Indigenous peoples face. Harding's quilts leave space for viewer reflection encouraging close inspection to appreciate their materials and to consider motif and stories she shares.

In Old Bidjara Language for example, Harding draws on the reweaving of her dad's old language—some words like ngath (grandfather) she shares, with others she leaves the viewer to quietly contemplate. In Aboriginal business, undulating lines represent an important protocol on Country whereby permission to enter the water is sought via song. In Southside Old Country Harding uses colour full vertical panels to reference the natural beauty of the George, reflecting on memory and ongoing connection to her maternal Country. Framed with a subtle orange backing—the result of hand-dyeing using Oxeye collected from Country—she imbues a deep sense of place in her textile practice.

Alongside her quilts, Harding also shares her first wax threaded case, sourced from New Zealand possum pelts. This piece holds special significance, not as a functional covering, but as a symbol of her reweaving of traditional modes of making, connecting contemporary quilting techniques with her ongoing cultural investigations. Overall, Harding's textile practice embodies the unwavering respect she holds for ongoing Indigenous knowledge systems, for living culture and nature.



IMAGE: Installation view, 'Kate Harding: Bidjara', Foyer Gallery, Artspace Mackay, 2024. Photo: Jim Cullen Photographer.

VISIT ARTSPACE Mackay's Regional Art Gallery



After a three-year hiatus due to our recent gallery closure for facility upgrades, 2025 sees the much-anticipated return of Artspace Mackay's biennial **Australian artists' book prize, the 'Libris Awards (LA25)'**.

'LA25' will again bring together works by leading and emerging artists' book makers from across the country. The awards are a chance to celebrate the artform and build on the gallery's significant artists' book collection through the competition's acquisitive prizes.

We've introduced some format changes to ensure we continue to engage with, attract, and support the very best contemporary artists' book makers in the country, including emerging talents in this field. We've transitioned our 'Tertiary Artists' Book Prize' category of the 'Libris Awards' into an invitational award, awarding seven tertiary students from across Australia artwork commissions to create new artists' books for 'LA25'. Prize money has increased across all categories and we're bringing back a suite of complementary public programs, including practical workshops, key notes, and artists' talks.

Artspace Mackay's commitment to artists' books remains as strong as ever. I look forward to sharing the LA25 exhibition and complementary public programs with locals and visitors alike. It's wonderful to be back presenting a full year of exhibition and public programs.

We hope you enjoy all that we have on offer in 2025.

Tracey Heathwood
Director, Artspace Mackay

FRONT COVER: **Michael Boiyool Anning** / Yidinyji people / Australia QLD b.1955 / Rainforest shield (hand-held fish net design) and sword 2000-01 / Shield: natural pigments on softwood (Alstonia scholaris or Argrodendron perlatum); sword: natural pigments on hardwood (Xanthostemon whitei), beeswax and resin with bush string / Shield: 102 x 41 x 6cm; sword: 130 x 14 x 3.5cm / Purchased 2001. Queensland Art Gallery Foundation Grant / Collection: Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art / © Michael Boiyool Anning



I, OBJECT

Main Gallery, Artspace Mackay

Drawing from the collection of the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, 'I, Object' features contemporary painting, sculpture, and installation by leading Queensland artists including Vernon Ah Kee, Tony Albert, Michael Boiyool Anning, Fiona Foley, Danie Mellor, Christian Thompson, Warraba Weatherall and others alongside 20 historical shields, boomerangs, and clubs. In conversation, the works in this exhibition consider the complex relationships Indigenous Australian artists continue to have with objects—from the histories informing their creation to the social and cultural consequences of their collection.



Exhibition opening 6pm Friday 17 January, use QR code to access free tickets (available one month prior to event) and for more info visit www.artspacemackay.com.au



Image: **Alair Pambejan** / Wik-Mungkan people / Australia QLD b.1966 / *Kalben* (detail) 2016-17 / Carved wood with synthetic polymer paint and natural pigments, raffia / 107 pieces ranging from 14 to 41cm in length (excluding raffia); installed dimensions variable / Purchased 2017. Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art Foundation / Collection: QAGOMA / © Alair Pambejan

QAGOMA
TOURING



The Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art provides a program of touring exhibitions and related services to regional Queensland.

18Jan
to30Mar

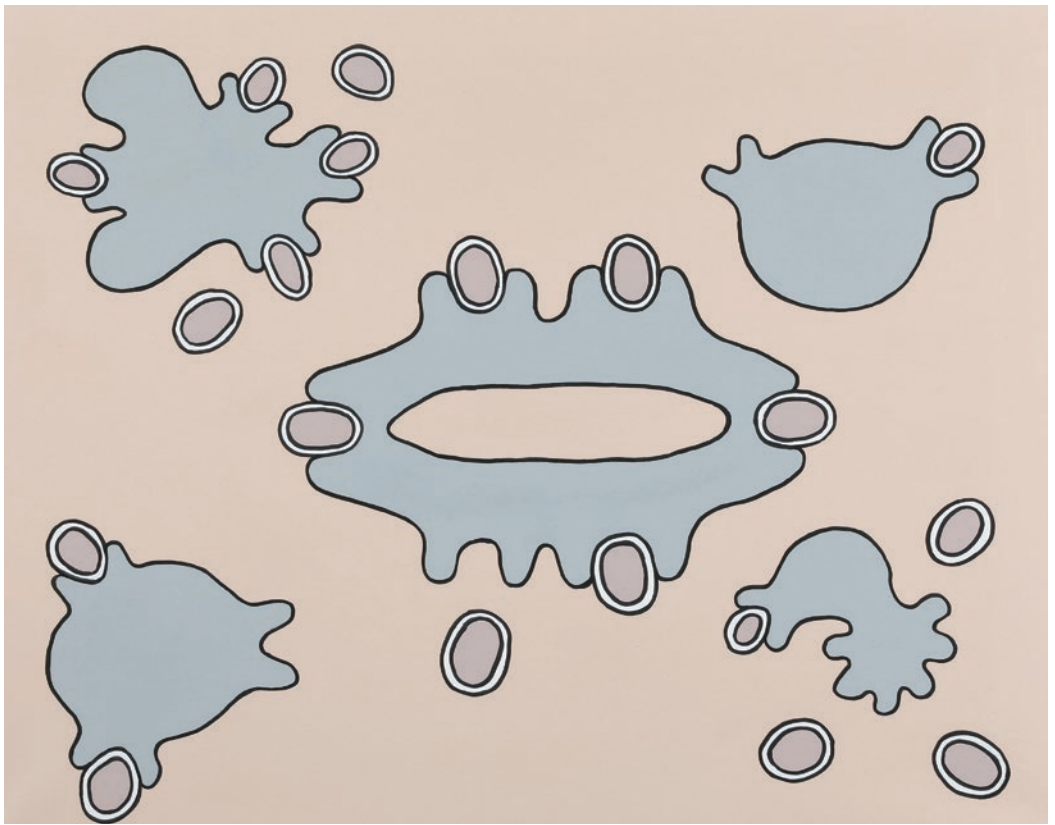


IMAGE: Danish QUAPOOR *undocking* 2021, acrylic and paint pen on stretched paper, 50.5 x 40.5cm. Photo: Amanda Galea.

Danish Quapoor

THE WALL | DEPARTED

Foyer Gallery, Artspace Mackay

The Wall is an artist-in-residence exhibition program offering artists the opportunity to create a site-specific artwork directly onto the gallery's foyer wall. Danish Quapoor is a multidisciplinary artist based in Gurambillbarra / Townsville. He is known for his distinctive flat-colour works which employ playful narratives to interrogate personal identity. Quapoor's mural installation will reflect upon departures from environments, situations and relationships.



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18Jan to
30Mar



Focus on the Collection

ANNEKE SILVER: ICONIC MOMENTS

Foyer Gallery, Artspace Mackay

'Iconic Moments' is a series of paintings by prominent Queensland artist Anneke Silver acquired into the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection in 2022. Recounting moments spent as an arts tutor in outlying regions of Queensland and New South Wales, Silver's witty and charming tales are brought to life by expressive brush strokes of rich outback colour. Painted on traditional altarpiece forms encased in Perspex, the series explores relationships between symbol and experience – the everyday and the extraordinary.

IMAGE: **Anneke SILVER** *Maggie as the ghost of Mrs. Bowman* 2009, oil and 24c gold leaf on timber, Perspex, 38 x 34 x 2cm; framed: 42.5 x 46 x 5cm. Mackay Regional Council Art Collection, gift of the artist 2022. Photo: Jim Cullen Photographer.



Exhibition opening 6pm Friday 17 January, use QR code to access free tickets (available one month prior to event) and for more info visit www.artspacemackay.com.au



18 Jan
to 30 Mar

Thea Anamara Perkins



DUALITIES

Foundation Gallery, Artspace Mackay

Thea Anamara Perkins is an Arrernte and Kalkadoon artist whose practice incorporates portraiture and landscape to question representations of First Nations peoples and Country. With a delicate hand, Perkins answers heavy questions about what it means to be First Nations in contemporary Australia, and interrogates portrayal. In 2024 Perkins undertook a two-week residency in Mackay resulting in a new body of work to be presented in the Artspace Mackay Foundation Gallery.

IMAGE: **Thea Anamara PERKINS** *Dylan Mooney* 2024, acrylic on board, 30 x 40 cm.
Image courtesy of the artist and N.Smith Gallery.



Exhibition opening **6pm Friday 17 January**, use QR code to access **free tickets (available one month prior to event)** and for more info visit www.artspacemackay.com.au  

18Janto
6Apr







Maximum Madness

Main Gallery, Artspace Mackay

George Miller's genre-defining Mad Max film series has grown from a tense, low budget Ozploitation cult hit into a sprawling post apocalypse action opera, redefining science fiction along the way. A complex and compelling mashup of biker, S/M, gearhead, Queer and beefcake cultures and their associated aesthetics, Mad Max has become a cosplay favourite, and has become massively influential in cultural terms, being ripped off, satirised and idolised by sources as varied as The Simpsons, Phil Collins, video games and pro wrestling.

With its grab bag aesthetics, subversive politics and lustful, irreverent approach to Australian hoon culture, Mad Max has remained a cultural touchstone, and a highly influential convergence of tropes, images and iconoclasm, ideal inspiration for visual artists. Bringing together a range of artists paying homage to their favourite post-apocalyptic (anti)hero, it's time for Maximum Madness.



Featuring Isabel & Alfredo Aquilizan, Karike Ashworth, Cigdem Aydemir, Martin Bell, Penny Byrne, Patrick Connor, Rod Coverdale, Alex Cowley, Claire Healy & Sean Cordeiro, Robert Fielding, Emma Gardner, Shaun Gladwell, Franck Gohier, David Griggs, Rosemary Lee, Reg Mombassa, Adam Norton, Phoebe Paradise, Brian Robinson, David Sawtell, Ian Smith, Karen Stephens, Brendon Tohill and Paul White. Curated by Jonathan McBurnie.

IMAGE: **Shaun GLADWELL** *Broken Hill Linework* 2007. Image still, HD video, 16:9, colour, sound 25 minutes 30 seconds © Shaun Gladwell. Courtesy of the artist & PALAS, Sydney.



Rockhampton
Museum of Art



Maximum Madness: Art Inspired by Mad Max is a
Rockhampton Museum of Art touring exhibition.



Exhibition opening 6pm Friday 11 April, use
QR code to access free tickets (available one
month prior to event) and for more info visit www.artspacemackay.com.au



11Apr
to 22Jun



Alun Rhys Jones

THE WALL | RAINBOW SPORT

Foyer Gallery, Artspace Mackay

The Wall is an artist-in-residence exhibition program offering artists the opportunity to create a site-specific artwork directly onto the gallery's foyer wall. Alun Rhys Jones is an artist based in Victoria, whose practice focuses on themes related to identity, commodity, media, and popular culture. Jones's installation will scrutinise and question entrenched LGBTQIA+ stereotypes in the context of Australian sporting culture, and reclaim them as sites of strength and pride.



Exhibition opening 6pm Friday 11 April, use QR code to access free tickets (available one month prior to event) and for more info visit www.artspacemackay.com.au



11Apr to
29Jun

IMAGE: Alun Rhys JONES *Pantone Belief System (detail)* 2011, oil on linen, 200 x 200 cm. Image courtesy the artist.



Natalya Hughes

THE INTERIOR

Foundation Gallery, Artspace Mackay

Interested in the role of women and their historical absence from positions of power, the part-professional, part-domestic setting conjured by 'The Interior' plays with gendered power dynamics between public and private space. The couches that dot the gallery take their lush contours from the shapes of the female body and their detailed upholstery sees motifs of eyes, rats, and snakes from Freud's patient case studies ripple over the space in fleshy tones.

IMAGE: Natalya HUGHES *Studio Portrait* (detail) 2022. Photography: James Caswell



Exhibition opening 6pm Friday 11 April, use QR code to access free tickets (available one month prior to event) and for more info visit www.artspacemackay.com.au



11Apr
to 22Jun

Art Kids



KIDS ART CLUB

8-12 years > 10am -12pm

TERM 1: Saturday 15 February - 22 March | TERM 2: Saturday 10 May - 14 June

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. \$180 per child. **BOOK & PAY ONLINE:** <https://bit.ly/3ND3oyK>

BMA KIDSPACE

10am -2pm one Tues each month, 25 Feb | 25 Mar | 29 Apr | 27 May | 17 Jun | 29 Jul
Artspace Workshop Room and Foyer Gallery

BMA Kidspace, our ever-popular toddlers' program, gives children 0-5yrs a chance to explore and have fun with art in a climate of co-operative learning.

Proudly supported by BHP Mitsubishi Alliance.





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 Artisans 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 scan the QR code to submit a product proposal form.



IMAGE: *The Gallery Shop* stocks great gift ideas like these 'Ron McBurnie: In Search of Arcadia' exhibition catalogue bundles including a limited edition woodblock print by the artist.

LA25

The Australian
Artists' Book Prize



Entries open Tuesday 18 February 2025

Presented by Artspace Mackay, the **2025 Libris Awards: The Australian Artists' Book Prize (LA25)** will showcase leading and emerging artist book makers from across the country.

CATEGORY 1: Daly Bay Coal Terminal National Artists' Book Award (acquisitive), \$10,000 | **DBCT National Artists' Book Award, Highly Commended** (acquisitive), \$5,000

CATEGORY 2: Cathy Knezevic Regional Artists' Book Award (non-acquisitive), \$3,000

CATEGORY 3: Tertiary Artists' Book Prize (Invitational award, acquisitive), \$3,000

Visit www.artspacemackay.com.au for more information, key dates, terms and conditions of entry.

Images: **Nicole CROSSWELL** *Being seen* (detail) 2021, drawing and trace monotypes, 12 x 14 x 4 cm (book); **George MATOULAS** and **Peter LYSSIOTIS** *Bridge* (detail) 2021, lithography, screenprint, collagraph, and handwriting, edition 9/12, 43 x 33 x 3 cm; **Marian CRAWFORD** *Haunts hantise haunting* 2021, relief prints and letterpress, staple bound 27 x 16.6 x 0.4 cm. Mackay Regional Council Art Collection, purchased 2022; **Aliki YIORKAS** *The line* (detail) 2022, monoprint RF ink transfer, tea bags, and tea strings, 9 x 190 cm; **Rachel DUN** *Integrate* 2020, monoprint, etching, embossed concertina flag book, 20 x 15 x 60 cm. Image courtesy the artist.

LA25
The Australian
Artists' Book Prize



Calling for papers & exhibitors for 2025

Artists Book Conference + Artists Book Fair



We're excited to bring together the biggest artists book events in the country!

Artists Books Brisbane Events 'abbe2025 Conference + Artists Book Fair' and 'The Blue Notebook: Journal for artists books' join forces with Artspace Mackay's '2025 Libris Awards (LA25)' to celebrate artists book practice and discourse.

'abbe 2025 conference + artists book fair' will be held in Mackay in conjunction with the official opening weekend of Artspace Mackay's 'LA25' exhibition, 4-6 July 2025.

GET INVOLVED!... Use the QR code for submission details.





ARTSPACE VOLUNTEERS

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

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. **To find out how you can support the gallery and the work we do, please scan the QR code below 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.



THIS PAGE: Artspace Volunteer Geraldine Moylan delivering Book of the Month program, 2024.

BACK COVER: *Bee Mindful Mural*, Seventh Lane (access via Wood St) Mackay. Photo: Jim Cullen Photographer.

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 insight into the works on show.

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.

FOODSPACE

The gallery café provides affordable, creative food with delicious breakfasts, quick snacks, 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.

Artspace » Goes Public 24SEVEN



Enjoy Mackay's 24 hour outdoor art gallery – a collection of iconic public art installations and murals that activate and brighten the city's urban laneways and parklands. **Scan the QR Code to plan a self-guided public art experience, or find a schedule of guided walks, workshops and events.**



Artspace Mackay, Mackay Regional Council, Civic Precinct, Gordon Street, 07 4961 9722
artspace@mackay.qld.gov.au | www.artspacemackay.com.au
FREE ENTRY 10am-5pm Tuesday-Friday | 10am-3pm Saturday and Sunday (closed Mondays)