

MOSMAN ART GALLERY

EXHIBITION PROGRAM 2020



Jumaadi: My love is in an Island Far Away

Until 9 February

My Love is in an Island Far Away, is a major solo exhibition of commissioned artworks by the internationally acclaimed Indonesian-Australian artist Jumaadi. The exhibition takes inspiration from the celebrated poem of the same name *Cintaku Jauh di Pulau*, by one of Indonesia's most important writers, Chairil Anwar.

The exhibition imagery traverses the histories and narratives that weave between our neighbouring countries of Indonesia and Australia. The exhibition responds to and interprets the historical events of the internment of Javanese political detainees, who lived in exile in the Dutch penal colony of Tanah Merah, Digul, Western Papua from 1926, and were eventually stationed in Cowra, Central Western NSW at the request of the Dutch colonists during the Second World War. Jumaadi juxtaposes these little known and dark events in our nations' shared histories with Chairil Anwar's epic and folkloric narrative tale of voyage, longing and love.

The artist invites audiences to revisit the past through a new lens of creative imagery that re-imagines these difficult stories through artworks that speak to human resilience, the power of beauty and the enduring nature of love: of people, of culture and country.



Three Views

15 January–26 January

Armoured Casemates, Chowder Bay Road, Georges Head

Presented as part of Sydney Festival 2020.

From the early days of the colony, Sydney’s authorities built military sites designed to thwart invasion. Conscious of the irony, First Nations artists Blak Douglas, Karla Dickens and Jason Wing, working with curator Djon Mundine OAM, have taken over some of these secret sites for a series of poignant, darkly humorous, site-specific art installations created to inspire deep reflection and offer new perspectives on Sydney Harbour.

Artists of Mosman: 2088

22 February – 22 March

This annual exhibition is an excellent survey of the region’s thriving artistic community and includes works created by Mosman residents as well as Friends and volunteers of Mosman Art Gallery. The resulting large group exhibition shows contemporary artworks across the mediums of painting, drawing, printmaking, textiles, photography, sculpture and ceramics. Inevitably, many of the artists draw inspiration from Mosman’s natural beauty: its beaches, harbour bays, coves, headlands and beautiful bushlands.

Artists of Mosman: 2088 continues the rich tradition of art making which has been upheld by scores of artists, writers and poets throughout the 20th century to the present day.



Megan Cope: The Black Napoleon

28 March – 17 May

The Black Napoleon is a new body of work by Megan Cope, created in response to her 2018 artist residency program in France, as part of the Australian Print Workshop (APW) program, French Connections. During the APW residency Cope had access to important French public archives and collections of cultural materials relating to early exploration of Australia and the Pacific.

Originally from North Stradbroke Island (Minjerrabah), Cope’s work is inspired by the stories of her people and the connections Aboriginal people have to Country. In *The Black Napoleon*, Cope reflects on the story of the Aboriginal leader Eulope from Moreton Bay, who led the Quandamooka people in their resistance battles against British forces. Called the “Black Napoleon” by the colony for his apparent resemblance to Napoleon Bonaparte, his story is just one of the many stories of powerful and clever people defying Empire at the turn of the 19th and 20th century throughout Australia.

Megan Cope: RE FORMATION I

28 March – 17 May

Megan Cope is a Quandamooka woman and artist from North Stradbroke Island who is currently living and working in Melbourne. Through diverse mediums, Megan Cope’s dynamic practice investigates the relationship between place and environment, geography, history, contested sites, identities and power.

Cope’s installation practice includes *RE FORMATION*, a series in which she recreates significant shell midden sites from her country, built up over thousands of years of food gathering and processing practices by Quandamooka people. Across the country, many of these middens were desecrated by early colonists to extract lime, thereby erasing evidence of First Nations occupation and land use. By challenging historical narratives, people’s notions of ownership and connection to the land, the artist highlights alternative historical narratives and in this way Cope’s artwork aims to re-image and remap history, and recreate our shared sense of place and identity.

Bungaree's Farm

28 March – 17 May

Exhibition curator Djon Mundine continues the process of working with a range of emerging and established Aboriginal artists, exploring Bungaree's legacy and pushing the boundaries of contemporary art making, responding and interpreting the site of the first Aboriginal land grant in Australia located at Georges Heights, Middle Head, Mosman.



2020 Mosman Youth Art Prize

30 May – 28 June

The *Mosman Youth Art Prize* exhibition features the diverse talents of the country's young, aspiring and emerging artists and offers them the opportunity to exhibit their work in a public art gallery. This is a popular competition with close to 400 entries received annually with entrants from all over Sydney. Young artists aged between 12 – 21 submit artworks in a variety of media including: painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, video, photography and ceramics to win cash prizes, scholarships and art materials.

Mosman Art Collection in Focus (Title TBC)

4 July - 9 August

In November 2019 Dr John Yu AC announced one of the most important donations ever to be made to the Mosman Art Collection; the donation of a major collection of Indonesian textiles that were featured in the *Encounters with Bali: A Collector's Journey* exhibition. This exhibition will feature these significant pieces profiling Indonesia's rich and diverse textile traditions, and showcasing one of the most significant private collections of Indonesian textiles within Australia, now part of the Mosman Art Collection.

Mosman Art Prize

26 August - 4 October

Established in 1947, the Mosman Art Prize is Australia's oldest and most prestigious local government art award. As an acquisitive art award for painting, the winning artworks collected form a splendid collection of modern and contemporary Australian art, reflecting all the developments in Australian art practice since 1947. Artists who have won the Mosman Art Prize include Margaret Olley, Guy Warren, Grace Cossington Smith, Weaver Hawkins, Nancy Borlase, Lloyd Rees, Elisabeth Cummings, Adam Cullen, Michael Zavros and Natasha Walsh.

Tensions 2020: Tamworth Textile Triennial

10 October - 6 December

The Tamworth Textile Triennial, held every three years, showcases the best of textile art from across the country, attracting artist participation from across Australia. Participating artists in 2020 include; Soraya Abidin, Arts Project Australia, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Gillian Benke, Julie Briggs and Kelly Leonard, Armando Chant, Georgia Chapman, Linda Erceg, Anne Ferran, Dianne Firth, Sai-Wai Foo, Tina Fox, Erica Gray, Garth Knight, Julie Montgarrett, Deborah Prior, Margarita Sampson, Jane Theau and the Tjanpi Desert Weavers.

Wendy Sharpe - Ghost Diaries

12 December - February 2021

Wendy Sharpe's site specific exhibition of ephemeral large-scale wall drawings and murals will be designed specifically for the Mosman Art Gallery and directly extends on some of recent curatorial themes in our program surrounding the spirit, ancestry and the sacred. Ghost diaries references 'Victorian ghost' photographs, from the early days of photography, with double exposure imagery that created portraits and lurking 'spirits'. In developing this exhibition Sharpe explores the intersection between the real and the imagined worlds - the seen and unseen - and our human experiences of the spirit world.



The Cube is a contemporary exhibition space featuring installation and new media works.

Karla Dickens: Mother's Little Helper

22 February - 17 March

Lismore-based Wiradjuri artist Karla Dickens has partnered with Bunurong, Yuin and Tasmanian man Bruce Pascoe to create *Mother's Little Helper*, a film project which reflects on our relationship to 'Mother Earth'.

Leyla Stevens: Indigo & Morinda (a labour of colour)

30 May – 9 August

Indigo & Morinda (a labour of colour) is a new moving image installation by Australian-Balinese artist Leyla Stevens. The work engages with histories of textile production in Indonesia by staging speculative and performative narratives around ideas of mysticism, healing and witchcraft that surround plant dyes. The video reflects upon two colour fields – indigo blue and the red rust from the morinda plant – each personified by a female performer, who weave a series of embodied gestures and voice between them.

Hannah Quinlivan

22 August – 8 November

Canberra based contemporary artist Hannah Quinlivan creates site specific installations exploring line and form – via drawing, painting, wire installation, LED drawing and in steel – Quinlivan challenges the way we expect drawing to be presented, and subsequently her work becomes experiential not only in physicality but also conceptually.

Lisa Sammut

14 November – 24 January

Lisa Sammut is Canberra based artist working various mediums. Her practice explores cosmic-oriented philosophies of being and belonging through material production and spatial situations, including kinetic and prop-like woodwork sculpture, video art and immersive model-based installation.



In Profile is an exhibition space featuring works by selected local artists working in a variety of media.

Peter Clague: The New Moons

Until 2 February

Jon Crothers: Mapping the Bridge and other places

8 February – 11 April

Amanda Gosse

18 April – 28 June

Mike Simon

12 September - 15 November

Images:

Jumaadi, *Boekan Katjoeng [Not the 'katjoeng' (The Savage)]*, 2019, acrylic on cotton primed with rice paste, 152 x 330cm. Photo: Tim Connolly

Armoured casemates. Photo: Tim Connolly

Megan Cope, *Quandamooka*, 2019, lithograph, 55 x 76.5 cm. Image courtesy Australian Print Workshop and the Artist

Travelling Bungaree, 2015

Performed by (BLAK) Douglas, Karla Dickens, Amala Groom, Warwick Keen, Peter McKenzie, Djon Mundine, Caroline Oakley, Bjorn Stewart, Leanne Tobin and Jason Wing. Developed with the assistance of Andrea James. Video 5:46 mins

MOSMAN ART GALLERY

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Open: 7 Days, 10am-5pm (Wednesdays 10am-8pm), Closed: Public Holiday. Free Admission

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