



New exhibition - media information

## ***ART – maker, patron, lover Photographs by Gary Grealy***

**09 May – 12 July 2015**



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***A series of photographic portraits of the unique characters of Australia's art world will be the focus of a major exhibition at Sydney's Mosman Art Gallery, 09 May – 12 July 2015.***

Professional photographer Gary Grealy began his personal project to photograph artists he admired, after the untimely death of Brett Whitely in 1992. Since that time he has not only portrayed important Australian artists who have since passed away including Robert Klippel, James Gleeson, Martin Sharp and Adam Cullen but has continued to pursue artists and art world identities who inspire him.

In this series of portraits *ART – maker, patron, lover* Gary Grealy captures some of the most unique characters of Australia's art world. This world inhabited by the talented, strong, generous and at times eccentric collection of art patrons, gallery directors, art lovers and artists is portrayed as a carefully constructed and realised universe with film noir overtones.

In this exhibition, the sitters await the gaze of the viewer in much the same way as their curated, purchased or created artworks. From the doyens of public and private galleries such as Edmund Capon, Frank Watters and Geoffrey Legge, art patrons and collectors, Gene Sherman, John Kaldor and Dr John Yu to renowned artists Rodney Pople, Jenny Sages, Tim Storrier and Jia Wei Shen, Grealy has followed his passion for recording these important contributors to Australia's cultural heritage.

Gary Grealy has been a frequent finalist in the National Photographic Portrait Prize since its inception in 2007 where he has been a successful entrant every year except one. His portraits of Edmund Capon and Frank Watters with Geoffrey Legge have been purchased by the National Portrait Gallery and Grealy says that his success with this institution "was a wonderful catalyst for me to continue with my pursuit of artists and people from the art world to create portraits." His work has also been collected by the National Gallery of Australia.

Grealy originally trained as a commercial photographer and has long held a fascination for the creativity of photography and its kinship with the art maker. One of his first commercial jobs was to photograph the artist Col Jordan a hard edge abstract painter in the 1960s. Grealy says of this pivotal experience "I can't comment on the standard of the portrait I made of Col, however the fragrance of oil paint and the interaction with an artist has stayed with me".

**Mosman Art Gallery presents *ART – maker, patron, lover* : *Photographs by Gary Grealy* as a Featured exhibitor of Head On Photo Festival 2015**

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**EXHIBITION SPECIAL EVENT  
FORUM  
SATURDAY 20 JUNE 2015**

***From the personal to the public – Photographic portraiture forum***

Hosted by art critic, lecturer and broadcaster Andrew Frost

In the age where the selfie rules as the new social currency, Andrew Frost will lead a discussion with photographers Greg Weight, Gary Grealy and Tamara Dean about the complex relationships between photographers, their subjects and the audience.

Mosman Art Gallery  
2pm – 4pm Free  
Bookings essential

**Public Programs**

Exhibition floor talk with Gary Grealy

Sunday 31 May 2 – 3

Free Bookings essential [www.mosmanartgallery.org.au](http://www.mosmanartgallery.org.au)

Photographic Portrait Master class with Gary Grealy

Sunday 28 June 9.30 – 4.00

\$120 Friends \$110

Some experience with DSLR cameras required

Bookings essential [www.mosmanartgallery.org.au](http://www.mosmanartgallery.org.au)

09 May – 12 July 2015

*ART – maker, patron, lover*

*Photographs by Gary Grealy*

Mosman Art Gallery exhibition

CURATOR: Julie Petersen - Full colour catalogue available

GARY GREALY is available for interview.

MEDIA CONTACT: Julie Petersen [j.petersen@mosman.nsw.gov.au](mailto:j.petersen@mosman.nsw.gov.au)

02 9978 4186 M: 0421 880 994

Where:	MOSMAN ART GALLERY cnr Art Gallery Way & Myahgah Road, Mosman, NSW
On view:	Saturday 9 May – Sunday 12 July 2015
Open:	7 days, 10am – 5pm. Closed Public Holidays
Admission:	Free
Gallery Reception:	02 9978 4178
Information & event bookings:	<a href="http://www.mosmanartgallery.org.au">www.mosmanartgallery.org.au</a>

