

MEDIA RELEASE



1 Art Gallery Way
Mosman NSW 2088 AUSTRALIA
02 9978 4178 mosmanartgallery.org.au

27 June 2018

Mosman Art Gallery to showcase Alumni from Parramatta Artists Studios in 'New Sacred' Exhibition for 2018 Winter Program **14 July – 8 September**

An exhibition exploring ritual and folklore in contemporary Australian art

Sydney, Australia: Mosman Art Gallery launches its 2018 winter program on Saturday 14 July with an exhibition that partners across greater Sydney to the hub of Parramatta's cultural precinct and its much acknowledged Parramatta Artists Studios.

Titled, ***New Sacred***, the project introduces the first collaborative exchange between the two institutions and showcases the work of nine mid-career artists who are current residents and alumni of the Parramatta Artists Studios (PAS) at Mosman Art Gallery, from 14 July to 8 September 2018.

New Sacred will feature the work of: **ADORNED, KHADIM ALI, CIGDEM AYDEMIR, KEG DE SOUZA, MEHWISH IQBAL, ELENA PAPANIKOLAKIS, MARIKIT SANTIAGO, SALOTE TAWALE and SHIREEN TAWEEL.**

With the advent of changed migration patterns, new technologies and a globalised world has come a new search for values and meaning across contemporary Australia. ***New Sacred*** has been developed as a reflection of this search.

The exhibition reflects Australia's multi-faceted cultural identity and considers storytelling through ritual, cultural traditions, narratives and folklore. With a range of media on show (installation, performance, video, painting, photography, drawing and textiles), cross-cultural conversations emerge as personal, family histories and life experiences are examined. The artists and artworks reflect distinct and diverse voices that speak to far-reaching social issues.

Both Mosman and Parramatta have played important roles in the development of Australian art. Both were significant sites for traditional Aboriginal cultural practices, as well as playing key roles in the earliest interaction between European and Indigenous peoples and the development of colonial art. Mosman became the centre of the Australian Impressionism movement in Sydney and its artists later became prime instigators in the birth of Australian Modernism. Parramatta now finds itself as the centre of the development of new forms of cultural expression and both Parramatta and Mosman are active in the exploration of Australian identity in the 21st century.

John Cheeseman and Sophia Kouyoumdjian, Directors foreword, *New Sacred* catalogue

Working as part of a community has established Parramatta Artist Studios as a leading production space for contemporary practice. Since its establishment in 2006, Parramatta Artists Studios has supported artists to work and develop their careers in Parramatta. In this period more than 100 emerging, mid-career and established artists have participated in the program building PAS' reputation as an incubator of artistic excellence. PAS offers the largest studio facility in western Sydney, supporting artists by providing professional studio spaces, exhibition opportunities and

curatorial mentorship, while encouraging engagement with creative communities not just within Parramatta's growing cultural sector but with wider Sydney, interstate and international audiences.

Mosman Art Gallery is delighted to partner with Parramatta Artists Studios in the development of this project. **New Sacred** is a joint role exhibition that encourages curatorial dialogue and the flow of ideas across greater Sydney while working with nine of the city's most creative practitioners.

Exhibition catalogue available.

MEDIA: Interviews, photo and filming opportunities by request.
Contact: Leah Haynes leahmhaynes@gmail.com M: 0408 419 463

Available for comment: Selected artists, Sophie Kouyoumdjian (Director, PAS), John Cheeseman, (Director, Mosman Art Gallery)

NEW SACRED

14 July – 8 September 2018

MOSMAN ART GALLERY

Where: 1 Art Gallery Way, Mosman, NSW 2088

When: Saturday 14 July to Saturday 8 September 2018

Open: Daily, 10am – 5pm

Admission: Free

Reception Ph: 02 9978 4178

www.mosmanartgallery.org.au

Parramatta Artists Studios:

Over the past 12 years Parramatta Artists Studios has been located at the fore of contemporary artistic production, providing artist residencies, studios and curatorial mentoring and engagement for Australian contemporary artists. Located in the centre of Parramatta's CBD, in the heart of Western Sydney, PAS contains fourteen non-residential studios and 1 residential studio and focuses on contemporary artistic practice including painting, sculpture, film and digital media. Parramatta Artists Studios is an initiative of the City of Parramatta and is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.

Mosman Art Gallery:

Established in 1998, Mosman Art Gallery, is a multi-award winning regional gallery and the leading cultural and contemporary visual arts organisation located in Sydney's North.



Media contact

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Mosman
COUNCIL