

The Wynne Prize 2023 among Wagga Wagga Art Gallery Autumn Exhibitions launch

The Wagga Wagga Art Gallery is set to launch its Autumn Exhibition programs on Saturday 20 April, with the Wynne Prize 2023 the highlight of this season's program.

Guests are invited to immerse themselves in a celebration that includes artist talks and the official launch of five exhibitions.

Saturday's event will feature Dr Michael Brand, Director of the Art Gallery of NSW, who will speak to the significance of Australia's oldest art prize, the Wynne Prize, which is touring regionally for the first time in its 125-year history.

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery Director Dr Lee-Anne Hall said the Gallery is excited that local audiences will have access to the Wynne Prize without having to travel to Sydney.

"Presented annually by the Art Gallery of NSW, the Wynne Prize is one of Australia's premier art prizes and exhibitions," Dr Hall said.

"We are excited that Wagga Wagga and region wide audiences will have the opportunity to see the best of Australian contemporary landscape painting and sculpture so close to home.

"There are themes of rural life in the exhibitions by Julia Roche, Anna Louise Richardson and Sophie Chauncy, something local audiences will surely feel a connection with.

"In addition, Lyndall Phelps has delivered an amazing site-specific installation at the National Art Glass Gallery."

Local painter Julia Roche's exhibition *When Our Eyes Adjust*, presents a new body of work on canvas and paper, based on her family farm outside of Wagga Wagga.

Roche paints works outside during both the day and the night, creating unique impressions of the land she knows intimately.

The Good is a major new solo exhibition by artist Anna Louise Richardson: a Western Australian artist whose practice is centred around rural life and embedded in the experience and drama of everyday reality.

Working primarily in charcoal and graphite, Richardson's large-scale drawings explore ideas of intergenerational exchange, parenthood and identity based on her experiences of living and working on a multi-generation beef cattle farm in rural Australia.

The National Art Glass Gallery has been transformed into a laboratory and site-specific installation for *Science of Common Life* by Lyndall Phelps.

The exhibition combines Phelps' research on the National Art Glass Collection with examples of glass from the scientific world.

Phelps prompts her audience to view both through the broader lens of women's historical and contemporary use of glass in craft activities.

Local artist and RAD Residency recipient Sophie Chauncy will also present her exhibition *Nurture* in the E3 Art Space.

Following an artist residency on a former sheep and cattle station in outback WA, the exhibition captures the resilience of the land, native flora and endangered fauna in large-scale mixed-media and watercolour.

Audiences will also have the opportunity to connect with the artists behind these exhibitions, through a series of artist talks.

In the morning, artist Lyndall Phelps will discuss her exhibition *Science of Common Life* at the National Art Glass Gallery from 11am.

In the afternoon, the Gallery will host a panel conversation exploring the creative collaboration between artist and curator in developing a new body of work.

Facilitated by Dr Lee-Anne Hall, artists Julia Roche and Anna Louise Richardson, will be joined by the curators Hayley Megan French and Rachel Arndt, with whom they worked in developing their new exhibitions.

This will be followed by the official launch event for the Autumn Exhibition program from 4pm.

All events are free to attend, bookings are required. For more information and to book visit waggaartgallery.com.au/whats-on

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

What: hear from staff and artists about the Autumn Exhibition program at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery.

Who: Wagga Wagga Art Gallery Director Dr Lee-Anne Hall, and exhibiting artists Julia Roche (local) and Anna Louise Richardson (WA)

When: Friday 19 April 2024, 10.30am

Where: Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, lower entrance (across from Glass Gallery)

Programs:

Autumn Exhibition Launch
Saturday 20 April, 4pm-6pm
Free event, RSVP essential

Floor Talk: Lyndall Phelps
Saturday 20 April, 11am – 12 noon
Free event, RSVP essential

Panel Discussion: Julia Roche, Anna Louise Richardson, Hayley Megan French and Rachel Arndt
Saturday 20 April, 2.30pm – 3.45pm
Free event, RSVP essential

<https://waggaartgallery.com.au/whats-on/programs-and-events>

Exhibitions:

The Wynne Prize 2023 (an Art Gallery of New South Wales touring exhibition)
April 20 - June 16, 2024

Anna Louise Richardson: *The Good*
March 23 - June 23, 2024

Julia Roche: *When our eyes adjust*
March 23 - June 23, 2024

Sophie Chauncy: *Nurture*
E3 Art Space
20 April - 5 May, 2024

Lyndall Phelps: *Science of Common Life*
National Art Glass Gallery
March 23 – September, 1 2024

Image credits:

1. Winner Wynne Prize 2023, Zaachariaha Fielding *Inma* © the artist
2. Lyndall Phelps, *Science of Common Life*
3. Julia Roche_ From the series *When our eyes adjust*
4. Installation view *The Good*, Anna Louise Richardson's studio, 2023. Photo Bo Wong'
5. Sophie Chauncy. *Emerging Life* residency 2023

Contact 6926 9190 or media@wagga.nsw.gov.au

About Wagga Wagga City Council

Wagga Wagga City Council serves more than 68,000 residents across an area of 4825 square kilometres with an overall budget of more than \$236M.

The organisation manages more than \$2.48 billion in assets, including a 2300km road network, Wagga Wagga Airport, Livestock Marketing Centre and the Oasis Aquatic Centre.

Council also provides important community facilities such as Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Wagga Wagga City Library, Museum of the Riverina and Civic Theatre, as well as maintaining countless parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities to ensure Wagga maintains its reputation as 'the City of Good Sports'.

Keep updated on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).