

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery launches mid-winter exhibition program

The community is invited to attend the mid-winter exhibition launch at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery this Saturday 26 July.

The four exhibitions are a continuation of the Gallery's 50 year celebrations, including local artists Arthur Wicks and Gregori Carosi, a commissioned exhibition from the archive of Megalo Print Studio and Clarice Beckett paintings from the National Gallery of Australia.

Wagga Wagga-based artist Gregory Carosi's *House of Cards* is a large-scale installation which reflects a built environment and invites the viewer to become the figure in an uncertain and precarious 21st century landscape.

House of Cards explores how we move through built and natural environments in response to the physical and emotional atmospheres they create.

Arthur Wicks has been a resident of Wagga Wagga for over 50 years and is a formidable contemporary artist, practicing across painting, sculpture, performance and printmaking.

Arthur Wicks - Paintings 1967 – 1974 presents rarely seen, large abstract paintings from the artist's personal archive, produced on the eve of the founding of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, 50 years ago.

Canberra vs the Government: Prints from the archive of Megalo Print Studio has been curated by renowned printmaker and founding director Alison Alder.

The Megalo Print Studio, located in Canberra, was founded in 1980 and provides artists with access to printmaking facilities, workshops, residencies, exhibitions and professional development opportunities.

This exhibition draws on the Studio's archive and demonstrates that Canberra is more than its political structures, and is a place where artists were brought together through the medium of printmaking.

Clarice Beckett: Paintings from the National Collection presents works by one of the most original artists of early 20th century Australia.

Deeply sensitive to the effects of colour, light and atmosphere, Beckett painted the life and scenery of her coastal home in south-east Naarm/Melbourne with an eye for the commonplace and fleeting effects of nature.

The launch of these four amazing exhibitions will be held at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery on Saturday 26 July from 4pm.

Prior to the launch event on Saturday, an artist talk will be held with Gregory Carosi at 11am, followed by Megalomania - Printmaking and Community - a discussion about the power of printmaking in activism and community, at 2:30pm.

All events are free and everyone is welcome to attend. For more information and to make your RSVP bookings please visit waggaartgallery.com.au/whats-on

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What: Hear about the mid-winter exhibitions program which is being officially launched this Saturday.

Who: Gallery Curator - Exhibition & Collection Drew Halyday and artist Gregory Carosi.

When: Thursday 24 July, 10am.

Where: Wagga Wagga Art Gallery – main gallery space.

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'.

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