

PUBLIC CURATORS BUILDING
FIRST FLOOR
UNTIL 14 JUN 2026

DR CHRISTIAN THOMPSON AO

House of Gold

Dr Christian Thompson AO traverses and dissolves binary boundaries through an artistic practice that spans photography, performance, sculpture, moving image and sound. *House of Gold* draws inspiration from a line of Song Dynasty poetry 书中自有黄金屋 [shū zhōng zì yǒu huáng jīn wū], or, 'a book in the hand holds a house of gold', and explores Thompson's Chinese heritage, dating back to the 1850s Gold Rush migration boom. The exhibition chronicles a personal history of intersectional identity at generational scale, where Thompson gives us glimpses of intimate moments shared between both his First Nations Bidjara and Cantonese family – learnings of language, food and self that make the artist whole.

A 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art exhibition, in partnership with Golden Dragon Museum Bendigo, supported by The Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation Global and touring with Museums & Galleries of NSW. This project has been assisted by the Australian Government's Visions of Australia program.



PUBLIC CURATORS BUILDING
SECOND FLOOR
UNTIL 21 JUN 2026

RON MCBURNIE

The Artist Studio, Collection in Focus

Ron McBurnie's *Artist Studio* series of twenty-six etchings were made from 1993-2003. His first studio etching with David Paulson, was the result of their long association, however many of the artists that he selected to work with throughout the project came from recommendations from other artists and his particular interest in their work. practice across Australia.

In 2006 Ron McBurnie gifted eight etchings from the series to the Cairns Art Gallery. These works are presented in this exhibition together with works by the artist sitters held in the Gallery's Collection.

COURT HOUSE BUILDING
38 Abbott St
Mon to Fri 9.30am – 5pm
Sat 10am – 5pm
Sun Closed

MULGRAVE BUILDING
51 Esplanade
Mon to Fri 9.30am – 5pm
Sat 10am – 5pm
Sun Closed

COURT HOUSE BUILDING
UNTIL 22 AUG 2026

WOVEN TOGETHER:

Undivided We Rise

Woven Together: Undivided We Rise is a powerful celebration of resilience, community, and cultural continuity. The exhibition honours the trust of exhibiting artists Kim Ah Sam, Clare Jaque Vasquez, Jaeda Lenoy, Erica Muriata, Aunty Rosalind Sailor and Michona Warriia, collaborating with Gangulu woman and curator Sabrina-Rose Toby. Together they share intergenerational stories through the transformative practice of weaving. Bringing together individual weavings alongside a collaborative woven installation, each fibre is a vessel of memory, healing, and strength.

Through collaborative spirit and deep cultural knowledge, these works weave together past and present, pain and hope.

– Curated by Sabrina-Rose Toby



Woven Together: Undivided We Rise is an Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts (Umbrella) exhibition. It was commissioned by Umbrella in partnership with the North Australian Festival of Arts (NAFA). Umbrella and NAFA are thankful for the support of Vivien Anderson Gallery representing Clare Jaque Vasquez, Kim Ah Sam and Erica Muriata, and Giringun Aboriginal Art Centre also representing Erica Muriata.

MULGRAVE BUILDING
6 JUN – 12 SEP 2026

SPIRITS IN THE INK

Spirits in the Ink showcases the extensive archive of Djumbunji Press Kick Arts Fine Art Printmaking, a hub for printmaking by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in Far North Queensland, that was active from 2009 to 2014. Shown alongside selected works from the Cairns Art Gallery Collection and selected loans, the works in this exhibition showcase the rich and diverse cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists in the region, expressing their strong and vast cultural connection to Country.



Spirits in the Ink is a collaborative exhibition between City of Moreton Bay and NorthSite Contemporary Arts. Curated by Aven Noah Jr

PUBLIC CURATORS BUILDING
38 Abbott St
Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm
Sat 10am – 5pm
Sun 10am – 2pm

☎ 07 4046 4800
🌐 cairnsartgallery.com.au
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Cairns Art Gallery is proudly supported by Cairns Regional Council
GALLERY SPONSOR

WHAT'S ON

MAY – JUN 26



CAIRNS ART GALLERY

PUBLIC CURATORS BUILDING

GROUND FLOOR

UNTIL 14 JUN 2026

OF THIS EARTH

Transforming Culture and Country Through First Nations Ceramics

Of This Earth highlights cultural continuity and contemporary artistic expression through works of art drawn from the National Collection. The exhibition features over thirty key works of art by twenty-eight significant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists; including Thancoupie (Dhaynagwidh/Thaynakwith people), Billy Bain (Dharug people), Nicole Foreshew (Wiradjuri people) and Janet Fieldhouse (Kalaw Lagaw Ya/Meriam Mir peoples). Showcasing the diverse techniques, narratives, and innovations of this constant and evolving medium, *Of This Earth* celebrates the breadth of First Nations ceramic practice across Australia.

Curated by Tina Baum, Gulumirgin (Larrakia/Wardaman/Karajarri peoples), Head Curator, First Nations Art, National Gallery of Australia and Grace Currey, (Barkindji/Kunja peoples), Curatorial Assistant, First Nations Art, National Gallery of Australia.

Exhibition is a National Gallery Touring Exhibition supported by The Australian Government through Visions of Australia.



PUBLIC CURATORS BUILDING

FIRST FLOOR

UNTIL 14 JUN 2026

CAPTURED

Photography from the Collection

A focus of the Gallery's Collection of photographs are images capturing the people and places of the region, offering a unique cultural and social perspective on the way we experience individual and collective identity.

The artists represented in *Captured* are from different cultures and periods of time and, together use the power of photography to tell compelling narratives about belonging, place, social and cultural life and history.

Artists represented Simone Arnol (Gunggandji), Naomi Hobson (Southern Kaantju and Umpila), Charles Page, Kerry Trapnell and William Yang.



IMAGES
TOP LEFT
Joel SAM
Kala Kawaw Ya
b. 1977, Waiben
Marrkai Gub (Cyclone Yasi) 2011
linocut on paper
85 x 62cm
Ed. 1/30
Cairns Art Gallery Collection. Purchased Cairns Regional Gallery, 2011
EXHIBITION: SPIRITS OF THE INK

BOTTOM LEFT
Sean MILLER
Gamilaroi Peoples
How Waan turned Black 2023
National Gallery of Australia, Kambarri/Canberra
Purchased 2025 © Sean Miller
EXHIBITION: OF THIS EARTH, FIRST NATIONS CERAMICS

TOP RIGHT
Allira CHARLES
Lardil and Katalait
b. 1996
David VARGA
Netta Loogatha 2018
digital print, 91.0 x 131.0cm
Cairns Art Gallery Collection.
Purchased Cairns Art Gallery, 2018
EXHIBITION: CAPTURED, PHOTOGRAPHY FROM THE COLLECTION

CENTRE RIGHT
Michona WARRIA
Kuku-Yalanji, Waanji, Kalkadoon and Torres Strait Island (Mabuia Island)
b. 1998
Unceaded 2025
raffia, emu feathers and beads
58 x 48 x 2cm
Private collection
Photograph: Amanda Galea
EXHIBITION: WOVEN TOGETHER: UNDIVIDED WE RISE

BOTTOM RIGHT
Yvonne BOAG
b. 1954
Urban Landscape With Dog (detail) 2001
synthetic polymer paint on canvas
Cairns Art Gallery Collection
Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Fran and Geoff Barker, 2014
EXHIBITION: RON MCBURNIE, THE ARTIST STUDIO, COLLECTION IN FOCUS

COVER IMAGE
Dr Christian Thompson AO
b. 1978, Gawler, South Australia
House of Gold Chapter 10 (Chinese Museum) 2023
Moab Slickrock Metallic Pearl paper, wet mounted on archival backing (unframed)
Series of 12 prints
Edition 1/1
Courtesy Studio Dr Christian Thompson AO
EXHIBITION: DR CHRISTIAN THOMPSON AO: HOUSE OF GOLD