

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



Acknowledgement of Country

Newcastle Art Space acknowledges the Awabakal and Worimi peoples as the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet and create in Muloobinba/Newcastle.

We pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging, and recognise the rich traditions and continuing creative cultures of all First Nations people of Australia.





Image: Details of work by studio artist Sarah Prince

OUR VISION

We give Hunter-based visual artists opportunities to develop and thrive, creatively and professionally.

NAS is a hub that nurtures strong, experimental and diverse contemporary visual arts practice through its sought-after programs and co-located gallery, studios and access spaces. We offer significant creative and professional development opportunities through our mentorships, residencies, workshops, exhibitions, prizes, and by forging supportive links to our alumni, other artists, arts industry professionals and audiences. In everything we do, we strive to model sustainability and best practice, and be good partners.

OUR VALUES

WAYFINDING	PROVIDING CAREER ENTRY POINTS AND PATHWAYS
DYNAMISM	FACILITATING INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY
RAPPORT	BUILDING SUPPORT AMONG PEERS AND PROFESSIONALS
DIVERSITY	RESPECTING AND EMBRACING DIFFERENCE
INTEGRITY	LEADING BY EXAMPLE IN SUSTAINABILITY AND BEST PRACTICE

OUR MISSION

- NURTURE A CREATIVE HUB
- ELEVATE HUNTER-BASED ARTISTS
- REFLECT A DIVERSE COMMUNITY
- COLLABORATE AND BUILD PARTNERSHIPS
- MODEL SUSTAINABILITY AND BEST PRACTICE

GOVERNANCE

The Board entered 2024 with some important achievements under its belt. These included an improved constitution and five-year strategic plan, along with a new staffing structure introducing three specialist roles.

As we look back over our first full year for the new staff team, the benefits of this new approach seem abundantly clear. The team worked together effectively throughout 2024 to establish improved admin and finance systems, implement a busy and vibrant creative and professional development program, achieve full occupancy of our studios and coordinate a strong and loyal volunteer team.

We commend Madeleine, Jo and Jennie for their efforts and the dedication they have brought to their roles during the past year. We also acknowledge that they did all this in a building that is fiercely hot in summer and freezing in winter, that leaks more than a bit and is home to some very cheeky skinks.

With NAS operations in good hands, the Board has been able to focus on priorities of our Strategic Plan 2023-2028.

In line with our objective to nurture a creative hub, the Board introduced a clearer approach to recruitment and selection of studio artists. This has diversified the creative practices we represent and brought in artists who are actively contributing to peer learning and creative development on site.

We also endorsed the inclusion of masterclasses as a feature of our annual program, with nationally and internationally acclaimed artists Maggie Hensel-Brown and Michael Bell delivering sessions at NAS.

At Board level there has also been change, with several long-standing Board Members departing, making way for newcomers in 2025 who bring a wealth of legal, financial, marketing, creative expertise and networks to NAS.

The future of our accommodation remains a most pressing challenge. Plans to redevelop the HUNTER TAFE Tighes Hill Campus as a Net Zero Manufacturing Centre of Excellence mean that we may not be able to continue to be housed in O Block beyond 2026.

In 2024, the Board engaged in discussions with TAFE NSW, Create NSW, Member for Newcastle Tim Crakanthorp, City of Newcastle, commercial realtors and fellow arts organisations to look at possible solutions for the organisation's future accommodation. The Board is currently developing a community awareness and advocacy campaign with plans for its launch in the second half of 2025.

The Board would like to thank our funding partners and sponsors for their support in 2024 and express deep appreciation to our members, volunteers and staff.

We acknowledge the significant contributions of Jim Griffiths, Justin Hamilton, Tom Lambie, Dan Nelson, Courtney Novak, James Rhodes, Chris Tola and Karen Wells, who completed their time on the Board during 2024.

STRATEGIC PLAN

During 2023, the directors worked to define and redefine our organisation and its role in our region's rich and growing cultural scene. The process involved studio artists, members, volunteers, arts professionals, partner organisations and other friends of NAS. The consultation aimed to capture many of the fresh ideas that had been bubbling up around the organisation and bring new clarity to our approach.

The result was the new Strategic Plan for 2023–2028. This five-year vision aims to sharpen our focus yet widen our lens. Within the local arts ecology, NAS has evolved as a crucial entry point for emerging artists and those rekindling their professional arts practice. Over the coming years, we aim to make that entry point more accessible and inclusive, and to nurture a creative hub that lifts up and supports Hunter-based artists through relevant programming, ethical partnerships and new opportunities to collaborate.

In 2024, we have focused on strategies to strengthen our programming, seek new funding and creative partners, and advocate for our future accommodation needs. These priorities are clearly articulated in the strategic plan and will continue to drive our actions and decisions over coming years.

FINANCIAL POSITION

In 2024, our financial strategy remained stable, with a continued focus on diversifying income through programming, memberships, and fundraising activities. A significant transition occurred at the Board level, bringing fresh energy and new perspectives. The incoming Board Members have reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring adequate resourcing to enhance our services and deliver greater value to our studio artists, members, exhibitors, mentors, and the wider community.

NAS concluded the 2024 financial year with a deficit of \$10,506. While this represents a shortfall, it aligns with our increased investment in our dedicated staff and a robust Exhibition Program. Other contributing factors include higher Block O rent expenses and a decline in studio rental income. Despite the deficit, our financial position remains strong, with Cash on Hand totalling \$98,107 as of 31 December 2024—an increase of \$13,676 compared to the previous year.

Our revenue streams this year included prize entry and hosting fees, gallery hire and sales, masterclass fees, and memberships. The gallery recorded strong sales of over \$50,000, reflecting a vibrant and engaging program that successfully attracted new audiences.

Looking ahead, our upcoming Planning Day will provide an opportunity for the new Board and Staff to explore strategies to grow revenue in 2025 and 2026. As in previous years, we will review our approach to grants, donations, and targeted fundraising efforts. Diversifying and increasing our income remains essential to sustaining and enhancing our support for artists and members, and to securing the long-term future of NAS.

In 2024, approximately 55% of our total income came from rental income. Donations and Grants contributed just over 21%—a significant increase from 2023—and the remaining 22% came from other revenue sources.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

* INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Income	\$173,480
Expenditure	\$183,986
Profit/Loss	-\$10,506

* ASSETS & LIABILITIES

Assets	\$128,578
Liabilities	\$22,736

* CASH

Cash on hand	\$98,107
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* GALLERY SALES

Artwork sold	\$50,221
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* INCOME PAID TO EXHIBITING ARTISTS

Artwork sales + Prize Money	\$61,154
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* GRANTS RECEIVED

City of Newcastle Arts History & Culture Grant (for 2025 project)	\$4,400
NSW Government Community Building Partnerships Grant (for office equipment)	\$13,081.20



Image: NAS staff Jo Dyer, Jennie Williams, Madeleine Snow with work by Jen Denzin studio artist

OUR PEOPLE

Our people include our Board of Directors, staff team, contractors, volunteers and project collaborators, as well as our studio artists, mentors, mentees and members.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board is elected by the membership, with a balance of practicing artists, arts professionals and people with the skills, expertise and connections needed to lead and manage the organisation.

CURRENT DIRECTORS as at 16 May

Caroline Traill (Chair)

Leah Stevens (Treasurer)

Louise Faulkner

Penny Lee

Samantha Leach

Tabitha Tworek

STAFF TEAM

Our current staff team includes three part-time staff – a Creative Programs Manager, a Finance and Systems Coordinator, and an Admin and Membership Coordinator.

CURRENT STAFF

Madeleine Snow – Manager Creative Programs

Jo Dyer – Finance and Systems Coordinator

Jennie Williams – Admin and Membership Coordinator

Greg Meyne – Building maintenance

Dan Nelson – Secretary to Board of Directors

Tobias Spitzer – Install contractor

Current at 16 May 2025

STUDIO ARTISTS

We achieved close to full occupation of our studios in 2024. Our 25 resident artists represent a diversity of practices including painting, photography, ceramics, textiles, installation and interdisciplinary approaches.



Studio artist Fran Louden

CURRENT STUDIO ARTISTS

Michael Bateman

Virginia Cuppaidge

Jen Denzin - from Mar 2024

Nick Fintan

Jim Griffiths - until Dec 2024

Jessica Gilbert - until Mar 2024

Catherine Hickson - from May 2024

Frances Johnston

Joseph Johnson- from May 2025

Richard Kearney

Hide Kobayashi - from Apr 2024

Jess Kellar - Jan 2024 - April 2025

Joerg Lehmann

Kim Long (The Clay Room)

Fran Louden - from Nov 2024

Victoria Lovecchio - from Nov 2024

Jaymie Maley - until Oct 2024

Ala Marks

Annemarie Murland - until Jan 2024

Dan Nelson

Marilyn O'Brien

Serena Owen- from March 2025

Sara Prince

Jackie Smallcombe

Ali Sobel-Read

Paula Thistleton

Dane Tobias

Caroline Traill

Jennie Williams

Eila Vinwynn

Current 1 May 2025

VOLUNTEERS

Jennie Williams coordinated our team of volunteers. We thank everyone who helped out in 2024 especially if your name is not captured below. Anyone interested in volunteering at NAS in 2025 can get in touch with jennie@newcastleartspace.org.au to find out how to get involved.

Max Blanch

Virginia Cuppaidge

Nick Fintan

Jessica Gilbert

Jim Griffiths

Richard Kearney

Frances Johnston

Jess Kellar

Hide Kobayashi

Kim Long

Joerg Lehmann

Ala Marks

Melanie Meggs

Den Milenkovic

Jeff Mills

Dan Nelson

Marilyn O'Brien

Sara Prince

Ali Sobel Read

Leah Stevens

Finn Stevens

Paula Thistleton

Caroline Traill

Leigh Wardle

Jennie Williams



Image: Volunteers Jennie Williams & Hide Kobayashi image by Joerg Lehmann



OUR PARTNERS

CLAY ROOM TIGHES HILL

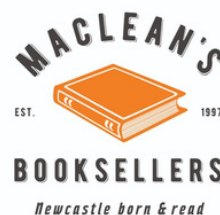
Clay Room Tighes Hill is housed in the NAS Building at 91 Chinchin St and provides clay workshops and classes for the community. We engage in cross-promotion and collaborative projects involving Clay Room and encourage the incidental creative exchange that happens with students visiting the art space.

THE NEWCASTLE CLUB FOUNDATION

NAS partners with The Newcastle Club Foundation in delivering and promoting The Newcastle Club Foundation Art Prize, which delivers \$15,000 in prize money to artists annually. In 2024, the Foundation also generously sponsored the major prize of \$5000 in NAS's Hunter Emerging Art Prize.

MACLEAN'S BOOKSELLERS

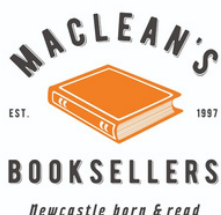
Maclean's Booksellers were the Major sponsor for HEAP 2024. They are located on neighbouring Beaumont St Hamilton. They are the major bookseller for the Newcastle Writers Festival.



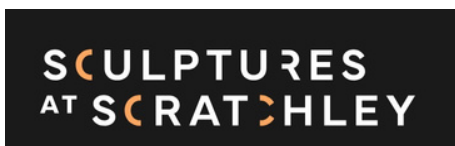
HEAP SPONSORS 2024

Maclean's Booksellers
Stevens Conveyancing
Clay Room
Frame Today \$2000
This Is Not Art
Sculpture at Scratchleys
The Squires Family Trust in Memory of Jody Robinson
Eckersley's voucher

\$5000 Overall Prize
\$600 Ceramics Prize
\$1,000 Painting Prize
Photomedia and Works on Paper Prizes
\$1000 - Experimental Prize
\$1000 Sculpture Prize
\$1000 Youth Prize
\$100 People's Choice



THE SQUIRES FAMILY TRUST
IN MEMORY OF
JODY ROBINSON



2024 OVERVIEW

3500+

Estimated
Gallery visitors

\$50K+

Artwork sales

26 Studio
artists

22+

Volunteers

**Hunter
Emerging Art
Prize 2024**

124

Entries into HEAP

\$10K+

Prizes given for HEAP

394

Artists exhibited
at NAS

775

Artworks exhibited
at NAS

**Newcastle Club
Foundation
Art Prize 2024**

\$15K

Prizes given for NCF
Art Prize

136

Entries into NCF Art Prize

10

Exhibitions

+

3

Master
classes

\$60K+

Paid to Artists
(art sales + prize
money)

7.25K+
Instagram
followers

Increase of 2k
from 2023

**Mentorship
Program**

54 + 4

Artists Curators

Total participants in our
Mentorship Programs in
2023/24 and 2024/25

4

Mentorship
Professional
Development &
Networking
sessions held



Image: Left, Interactions + The Cup Show. Right, new work Night Jar by Peter Gardiner and Nicki McCann 2024

EXHIBITIONS

We continued to strengthen and expand our programs in 2024. Highlights include our exhibition program, which involved more than 394 artists, attracted an estimated audience of more than 3777 and yielded \$44,000 in artwork sales.

NAS presented a diverse mix of shows featuring established alongside emerging artists in Newcastle, the Hunter and beyond in 2024.

Highlights included a new artist collective from Maitland - Reviver, the inaugural cup show with more than 160 cups on exhibit, an installation by Jen Denzin and Interactions a pairing of artists with ceramics as the unifier curated by Madeleine K. Snow which led to the creation of new work by artists Peter Gardiner and Nicki McCann pictured here entitled Night Jar.

The program represented the NAS model for exhibition programming – a mix of group and solo hire exhibitions, responses to artist call-outs, art prizes and curated shows. Collaborations with stakeholders such as The Clay Room, our major art prizes HEAP and the Newcastle Club Foundation Art Prize and the Mentorship Exhibition. Special exhibitions from guest curators including the Mentorship show by Wednesday Sutherland and Peter Johnston and Clouds 3 by Louise Faulkner. NAS presented nine exhibitions in 2024, involving more than 394 artists.

EXHIBITION PROGRAM

- 23 FEB - 10 MAR – NAS ATELIER - STUDIO ARTISTS
- 22 MAR - 14 APRIL - HEAP 2024
- 2 - 26 MAY – JEN DENZIN ALPHA + OMEGA
- 14 JUN - 30 JUN– STEPHEN HOBBS THAT MAGENTA
- 12-28 JULY – GROUP EXHIBITION – CLOUDS 3
- 9-25 AUG – MENTORSHIP EXHIBITION – BACK & FORTH
- 6-22 SEPT – GROUP EXHIBITION – REVIVER MAITLAND ARTISTS
- 4-13 OCT – NEWCASTLE CLUB FOUNDATION ART PRIZE
- 1-17 NOV – GROUP EXHIBITION – THE CUP SHOW + INTERACTIONS
- 29 NOV - 15 DEC – GROUP EXHIBITION – HEADLAND: BERTRAM , BRAY, BRODIE, ROBINSON

EXHIBITIONS

ARTISTS + CURATORS

NAS Atelier

Artists: Annemarie Murland. Caroline Traill. Dan Nelson. Dane Tobias. Frances Johnston. Jackie Smallcombe. Jacquie Garcia. James Rhodes. Jaymie Maley. Jo Dyer. Joerg Lehmann. Marilyn O'Brien. Michael J Bateman. Nick Fintan. Paula Thistleton. Richard Kearney. Sara Prince. Tom Lambie. Virginia Cuppaidge **Curator** Madeleine K Snow

HEAP 2024

Artists: Alex Golden. Amara Zenteno. Anna Christie. Annette Tubnor. Ash Campbell. Bernadette Trainor. Bianca Vern-Barnett. Byron James Moffat Smith. Claire Heise. Dominic Warland. Eddy Lou. Elizabeth McDonald. Ella Grace Paterson. Emma Wilks. Fiona Byczkov. Frances Johnston. Frances Loudon. Hideaki Kobayashi. Indiana Marsden. Janice Hanicar. Jaymie Maley. Jen Lanz. Jessica Gilbert. Joshua Bettison. Julie Purdie. Julie Purdie. Kay Pittelkow. Kerri Papworth. Kylie Nolan. Laure de Vaugelas. Lavinia Coluccio. Leanne Swainson. Lexie Worboys. Liam Beletich. Lisa Morris-Pate. Louise Faulkner. Mahalia Leckner. Megan Farquhar. Megan McGee. Michael Hannah. Nick Fintan. Olivia Hamilton. Paula Thistleton. Peter Parslow. Raffi Butler. Ronan Pirozzi. Samantha Walsh. Sandy Sanderson. Steve Lee. Svetlana Katelas. Syann Sue Williams. Xavier Lane **Curator** Madeleine K Snow

Alpha + Omega

Jen Denzin

That Magenta

Stephen Hobbs

Back & Forth – Mentorship 23/24

Annemarie Murland. Chris Brown. Clare Weeks. Constance McInerney. Ella Paterson. Ellie Hannon. Hari Ho. Helen Dunkerley. Jaymie Maley. Jen Denzin. Laure de Vaugelas. Lexie Worboys. Lezlie Tilley. Lottie Consalvo. Louisa Magrics. Max Blanch. Megan Farquhar. Nick Howley. Pablo Tapia. Peter Tilley. Ramona Raven. Samantha Walsh. Sara Prince. Shaana-anne Crisp. Syann Williams **Curator** Wednesday Sutherland & Peter Johnson

Clouds 3

Artists: Abi Sparks. Adam Faulkner. Adelaide Worcester. Aksara Harriram. Alanya van de Wiel. Alexandra Tanner. Alita Knaggs. Amy Dynan. Andrew Sutherland. Angus McConnel. Ann Stevenson. Anne Kempton. Anne-Maree Hunter. Annemarie Murland. Arlene Wilson. Arthur Snow. Ash Campbell. Belinda Dorey. Bernadette Trainor. Bridie Watt. Britta Champion. Caroline Traill. Catharine Neilson. Catherine Hickson. Catherine Kavanagh Di Gravio. Charmon Cummins. Chris Byrnes. Clare Felton. Claudia Moore. Dan Nelson. Daniel Grant. Dianna Kellerman. Dominique Ryan. Eddy Lou. Eira Chidgey. Eleanor Hanlon. Elizabeth McDonald. Joerg Lehmann. Ella Thomas. Emily Lewer. Emma Nicholson. Emma O'Connell. Erica Izard. Erin Byfield-Huish. Erin Corlette. Erin Haynes. Euan Macleod. Frances Johnston. Freya Vial. Gill Waddell. Harley Kirkwood. Hideaki Kobayashi. Holly Buntman-Ronnenberg. Howard James. Indeah Rose Clark. Indra Deamer. Jacqui Hunstone. Jacquie Garcia. Jaime Pritchard. Janet Clouston. Janet Haigh. Janet Mackintosh. Janice Hanicar. Jaymie Maley. Jen Lamb. Jennifer Little. Jim Griffiths. John Morris. Julia Jones. Julie Batts. Karen Malmgren. Karen O'Dell. Kate Madigan. Kate Mulheron. Kathryn Taunton. Kimberly Morgan- Cruz. Kimberly Swan. Kris A Smith. Kyra Romina Riesener. Leisa Davis. Lente Oosthuizen. Leslie Duffin. Lidia Edwards. Lisa Ellen Hughes. Lisa Morris-Pate. Louise Faulkner. Louise Fischer. Lyn Herbert. Lyndal Campbell. Madolyn McNaughton. Margot Broug. Martin Ganner. Mazie Karen Turner. Meg Walters. Melanie Norman. Mess Noise. Michael Hannah. Natalie Sherring. Nick Fintan. Nick Howley. Nicola Bolton. Olive Burgess. Paul Foley. Perrin Millard. Pete Parslow. Peter Lankas. Peter Masters. Peter Tilley. Rachel Milne. Rebecca Beardmore. Richard Kearney. Richard Tipping. Rod Pattenden. Ronald Arana Atilano. Sarah Davy. Sarah Hardy. Sarah Jane Box. Sari Sutton. Shani Nottingham. Shelagh Paule Lummis. Simon Weir. Simone Pilla / By Goldie. Stephen Stewart. Sue Vesely. Susanne Porteous. Suzanne Reid. Tate A Luckensmeyer. Tim Georgeson. Tim Nash. Zorica Purlija **Curator** Louise Faulkner

2320

Artists: Andrew Bennett. Anna Eggenhuizen. Chris Mansell. Deborah Van Heekeren. Duncan Harty. Ed Matzenik. Frank Winnips. Genevieve Graham. Holly Mcnamee. Ida Halliday. Indeah Clark. James Willebrant. Katrina Holden. Kimberly Swan. Malcolm Sands. Maybelline Green. Mike Garth. Patricia Van Lubeck. Richard Tipping. Sally Anderson-Barwell **Curated by the artists**

Newcastle Club Foundation Art Prize 2024

Artists: Aaron Kinnane. Adele Merdjanic. Alex Hansen. Amy Dynan. Andrew Turier. Andy Devine. Anne-Maree Hunter. Annette Kelsey. Belinda Dorey. Belinda Street. Bianca Vern-Barnett. Britt Jovanovski. Caroline Traill. Catherine Hickson. Chloe Hooper. Chris Byrnes. Christian Fedor Flores-Cordova. Dallas Bray. Dan Nelson. Debra Byrnes. Eduardo Milan. Eira Chidgey. Elizabeth Mead. Genevieve Jobes. Gina Ermer. Grant Vercoe. Gwendolin Lewis. Helene Leane. Hideaki Kobayashi. Jane Lander. Janine Matthews. Jennifer Little. Jodi Thompson. Julie Purdie. Justin Lees. Kate Hansen. Kelvin D'Souza. Kimberly Swan. Lee-Anne Corrigan. Lesley Rickman. Leslie Duffin. Lexie Worboys. Lezlie Tilley. Libby Cusick. Lucille Hamilton. Lynda McPherson. Lyndal Campbell. Kara Wood. Mark Andrew Tippet. Mark Hetherington. Meg Walters. Melanie Norman. Melisah May. Michael Hannah. Nathaniel Corboy. Nick Fintan. Nicola Bolton. Rita Bila. Robert Robertson. Robert Saxon. Rudy Mulder. Sally West. Samantha Cowley. Steve Lee. Stuart Smith. Tania Mason. Tate A Luckensmeyer. Timothy Nash. Tom Lambie. Toni Corbett. Trent Johnson. Varelle Eleanor Hardy. Zachary Craig **Curator** Madeleine K Snow

The Cup Show

Artists: Abi Sparks. Ala Marks. Ali Sobel-Read. Alistair Wise. Cat McCartney. Christopher Plumridge. Cristie Little. Diane Quick. Emma Guthrey. Fiona Byczkov. Fiona McDonald. Gillian Karpel. Helen Dunkerley. Holly MacDonald. Jacquie Garcia. Jennie Williams. Jillian Mathieson. Katherine Mahoney. Kim Long. Kirsten Perry. Lynette Bridge. Mahalia Leckner. Melly Channell. Meri Andric. Minna Graham. Nicola Bolton. Raffi Butler. Ramona Raven. Renee Newton. Ron Pinkerton. Sandy Sutton. Serena Owen. Sian Gethin Thomas. Sophie Bramwell. Tobias Spitzer. Venessa Stella Skye **Curator** Madeleine K Snow

Interactions

Caroline Traill. Dan Nelson. Jacquie Garcia. John Cliff. Karen Wells. Linda Greedy. Maggie Hensel-Brown. Megan McGee. Nicki McCann. Oliver Harlan. Peter Gardiner. Sue Stuart **Curator** Madeleine K Snow

Headland

Dallas Bray. Mandy Robinson. Michelle Brodie. Tracie Bertram **Curated by the artists**

Images: Clouds 3 exhibition opening, Headland exhibition opening, Jen Denzin in her installation, needle lace by Maggie Hensel-Brown



EVENTS + PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Highlights this year included the Mentorship Meet the Curator event which was attended by Dr Lisa Slade Chair the Hugh Ramsay Chair in Australian Art History University of Melbourne as well as curators from Gosford Gallery, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, The Lock-Up, Strait Jacket, The Creator Incubator, Onwards amongst others.



Images: Meet the Curator Jen Denzin, Lisa Slade, Braddon Snape, Workshop with Michael Bell (on right), & studio visit with Nick Fintan

EVENTS

- Disco dress up party theme Disco Space Cadet for the launch of Jen Denzin Alpha + Omega.
- Private Wedding Function
- Meet the Curator- Mentorship
- NAS Open Studios
- Master Class Micheal Bell
- Lecture: Guest Speaker Janet De Boos at The Cup Show Closing
- Clouds 3 guest speaker at launch John Morris
- Musician at launch for 2320: Reviver Maitland
- Lace Making workshop with Maggie Hensel-Brown
- Workshop with Dane Tobias coordinated by Kate Adamson from Newcastle Art Gallery hosted by Newcastle Art Space



MASTERCLASSES

In February Maggie Hensel-Brown delivered workshops in needle lace. These workshops were to create work towards a collaborative textile piece she was developing for a major commission. It was part of her work entitled the Community Lace Making project which included more than 700 leaves. See information about the project on her website, image courtesy of the artist: <https://www.maggiehenselbrown.com/clp-ii>

In October 2024 we hosted a mixed media creative workshop with renowned artist Michael Bell. This workshop targeting artists invited participants to explore various mediums and innovative approaches to enhance their creative practices.

Michael Bell is a nationally recognized artist with over 40 years of experience. He has held 24 solo exhibitions and participated in over 200 group shows. He has been a finalist twice in The Archibald Prize and five times in The Sulman Prize at the Art Gallery of NSW. His diverse portfolio includes designing graphics, posters, and illustrations for ABC Books, Triple J Radio, Mambo, and The Castanet Club. Bell is also a talented educator with extensive experience mentoring both emerging and established creatives.

Images: workshop participants with Maggie Hensel-Brown & artist Michael Bell



MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The NAS Mentorship Program is designed to connect, exchange, and engage artists, fostering a supportive and collegial environment for artistic growth. By facilitating these interactions, we aim to inspire new directions and creative developments through the active exchange of ideas.

We encourage participants to make incremental yet impactful changes, emphasizing the power of subtle shifts over drastic ones. Our Mentorship initiative celebrates both emerging and established artists from our region, promoting new collaborations and exploring diverse artistic connections. It also speaks to our exhibition programming which is driven by presenting a dynamic mix of emerging voices side by side with established artists.



Image: 23/24 Mentor exhibition including Max Blanch, Peter Tilley and Lottie Consalvo and Megan Farquhar

Over the past twelve months, 25 artists and 2 curators participated in the program, culminating in a final exhibition, publication, and launch. While these metrics outline the structure of the Mentorship Program, its true essence lies in the creative dialogue, opportunities for experimentation, and the expansive growth it fosters among participants. The program has provided a platform for dynamic creative exchanges.

The 2023/24 Mentorship Program culminated with the exhibition Back & Forth, and the new Mentorship program for 2024/25 began in November.

The 2023/24 Curatorial Mentee, Wednesday Sutherland worked alongside mentor Peter Johnson to develop the exhibition Back & Forth.

The Mentorship includes structured sessions at the Art Space to informal meetings determined by the Mentorship pairing.

MENTORSHIP SESSIONS 2023/24 COHORT

Oct 2023 Session 1 - Introductions - NEW Mentors and Mentee get to know you session.

Dec 2023 Session 2 - Mentorship Artists Practice - this session designed for artists to share their work and current practice

Apr 2024 Session 3 - Artist Talks - this session by exhibiting artist Jen Denzin (Mentor) on her exhibition Alpha + Omega and Mentee presentation by Syann Williams on her international artist residency to Laos.

May 2024

Session 4 - Curatorial Session - Planning for the exhibition at NAS with Wednesday Sutherland and Peter Johnson

June 2024 Session 5 - Professional Development for artists

August 2024 Session 6 - Date a Curator - separate sessions for private and public gallery professionals to meet with the Mentorship group

2024/25 COHORT

Nov 2024 Session 1 - Introductions - NEW Mentors and Mentee get to know you session.

Feb 2025 Session 2 - Mentorship Artists Practice - this session designed for artists to share their work and current practice

May 2025 Session 3 - Artist Talks - and think tank ongoing

MENTORS & MENTEES

2023/24 Mentorship Program

CURATORIAL:

Wednesday Sutherland – Peter Johnson (mentor)

MENTORS – MENTEES

Lottie Consalvo – Megan Farquhar

Jen Denzin – Samantha Walsh

Helen Dunkerley – Ramona Raven

Ellie Hannon – Syann Williams

Anne Kempton – Laure de Vaugelas

Annemarie Murland – Jaymie Maley

Louisa Magrics – Shaana-anne Crisp

Wilma Simmons – Sara Prince

Pablo Tapia – Constance Mcinerney

Pablo Tapia – Nick Howley

Peter Tilley – Max Allan Blanch

Leslie Tilley – Lexie Worboys

Clare Weeks – Chris Brown

2024/25 Mentorship Program

Curatorial:

Isabel Whittle – Tulleah Pearce

Mentors – Mentees:

Heidi Axelsen – Joe Peter

Brett Piva – Soren Hillis

Jen Denzin – Jennifer Hankin

Helen Dunkerley – Eddy Lou

Shonah Trescott – Jessica Walkley

Osvaldo Budet – Samantha Cowley

Edwina Richards – Penelope Green and

Dominique Ryan

Lezlie Tilley – Holly Leonardson

Anne Kempton – Anne De Nooijer and

Alexandra Tanner

Jono Everett – Adam Faulkner

Sophia Emmett – Jaime Pritchard

Annemarie Murland – Julie Purdie



Image above: Hunter Emerging Art Prize opening and below Bianca Vern Barnett Painting Prize section winner photos by Joerg Lehmann

PRIZES

The Hunter Emerging Art Prize (HEAP) is an annual art prize supporting the work of artists who identify as emerging. It is a significant exhibition and focus for NAS fostering opportunities for emerging creatives in the Hunter. The judges are local arts industry experts, in 2024 they were Bronte Naylor (artist and TCI studios), Edwardo Milan (artist and Newcastle Art School Hunter TAFE), & Matthew Watts (Newcastle Art Gallery).

Claire Heise **Major Prize Winner**
 Bianca Vern-Barnett **Painting Prize**
 Sandy Sanderson **Experimental Prize**
 Alex Golden **Photomedia Prize**
 Steve Lee **Works on Paper Prize**
 Lisa Morris-Pate **Sculpture Prize**
 Jen Lanz **Ceramics Prize**
 Raffi Butler **Youth Prize**
HIGHLY COMMENDED
 Peter Parslow
 Frances Loudon
 Hideaki Kobayashi



We thank our generous 2024 sponsors: Macleans Booksellers, Stevens Conveyancing, Frame Today, This Is Not Art, The Clay room, Sculptures at Scratchlely, The Squires Family Trust in Memory of Jody Robinson and Eckersleys.

The Newcastle Club Foundation Art Prize is an annual prize valued at \$15,000 which supports living artists who reside or have a connection with Newcastle and the Hunter. To date it has been focused on painting, with a new theme developed each year. This prize is managed by NAS with the semi-finalist exhibition held in the gallery and culminates in the finalist exhibition held at the Club.

Judges this year were Jasmine Kean, Dr. Catherine Dunlop and Paul Maher. **MAJOR PRIZE** winner 2024 **SALLY WEST** Tate A Luckensmeyer **Fresh Talent Award**.



NAS

NEWCASTLE
ART SPACE

ABN 35 359 301 683

91 Chinchin Street
Islington NSW 2296
Australia

admin@newcastleartspace.org.au
office phone: 0490 801 630
www.newcastleartspace.org.au

Office hours
Wednesday 10am – 2pm
Thursday 10am – 2pm
Friday 10am – 2pm

Gallery hours (during exhibitions)
Wednesday - Friday 10am – 2pm
Saturday – Sunday 12pm – 4pm

Please note the gallery is closed when there is no exhibition.

Image: Newcastle Club Foundation Art Prize 2024 Semi-Finalists exhibition