

Museum of  
Contemporary  
Art Australia



**MCA PROGRAM 2019**

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# MCA PROGRAM 2019

Museum of  
Contemporary  
Art Australia

MEDIA CONTACT: Stephanie Pirrie  
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## The Museum of Contemporary Art Australia (MCA) unveils its 2019 program.

**[Sydney, 4 October 2018]** The Museum of Contemporary Art Australia has announced its 2019 exhibition program, with major solo exhibitions by two leading contemporary Australian artists – Janet Laurence and Shaun Gladwell – as well as the Australian debut for Kenyan-born artist Michael Armitage.

MCA's 2019 program promises to be dynamic and compelling, with a strong presentation of contemporary Australian artists, opening new dialogues between them, international artists, and the work of MCA Collection artists.

MCA Director, Elizabeth Ann Macgregor OBE said: "We are excited to bring another exceptional program of Australian and international art to Sydney."

"For three consecutive years the Museum has attracted over 1 million visitors, and in 2019, the MCA will continue to build on our very successful exhibitions, education, and public programs," said Macgregor.

Continuing into the new year is the Sydney International Art Series exhibition, *David Goldblatt: Photographs 1948–2018*. This exhibition features 357 photographs from the acclaimed photographer, who is known for chronicling the political and social turmoil of South Africa during apartheid. The next edition of the Sydney International Art Series will open in November 2019. This exhibition will present an Australian exclusive from a key international contemporary artist.

Two collection-based exhibitions, *Compass* and *Today Tomorrow Yesterday*, will showcase the breadth of contemporary Australian art displaying a selection of some of the 4000 works held in the MCA's permanent collection.

On display until February 2019 is *Primavera 2018: Young Australian Artists*, curated by MCA's Megan Robson. This group exhibition features eight early-career artists aged 35 and under, and reveals the next generation of game-changing Australian artists.

In March, the MCA will exhibit a mid-career survey from one of Australia's most important contemporary artists, Janet Laurence. Spanning close to three decades of her work, this exhibition will encompass a broad range of materials including living plants, corals, taxidermy birds and collections from natural history museums. This exhibition deals with the critical issues facing the environment and the natural world.

The third iteration of *Conversation Starters* – a program of art, ideas and questions – will take inspiration from key themes of Laurence's exhibition: climate change, conservation and extinction, human-animal-plant interaction, and ecology.

Opening in late March is the second iteration of *The National 2019: New Australian Art*, presented in partnership with the Art Gallery of NSW and Carriageworks. A large-scale survey of contemporary Australian art, the MCA's contribution is co-curated by Clothilde Bullen and Anna Davis. Twenty-one artists will transform the Level 3 Galleries presenting the rich diversity of artistic practices from across the country.

Another highlight of the 2019 program is the Australian debut show for Kenyan-born painter, who works in London and Nairobi, Michael Armitage. His series of figurative paintings respond to issues of gender, sexuality, news media, and mythology within Western and East African worldviews. Working on Lubugo bark cloth – a traditional Ugandan material – his paintings are rich in colour, distinctive in contemporary subject matter, and replete with references to European art history.

## 2019 Exhibitions

.....  
**DAVID GOLDBLATT:**  
**PHOTOGRAPHS 1948–2018**  
19 Oct 2018 – 3 Mar 2019

.....  
**PRIMAVERA 2018:**  
**YOUNG AUSTRALIAN ARTISTS**  
9 Nov 2018 – 3 Feb 2019

.....  
**COMPASS: MCA COLLECTION**  
9 Nov 2018 – 3 Feb 2019

.....  
**MCA COLLECTION:**  
**TODAY TOMORROW YESTERDAY**  
Ongoing

.....  
**JANET LAURENCE: AFTER NATURE**  
1 Mar – 10 June 2019

.....  
**THE NATIONAL 2019:**  
**NEW AUSTRALIAN ART**  
29 Mar – 23 Jun 2019

.....  
**MICHAEL ARMITAGE**  
28 June – 22 Sep 2019

.....  
**SHAUN GLADWELL:**  
**PACIFIC UNDERTOW**  
19 Jul – 7 Oct 2019

.....  
**GUAN WEI: MCA COLLECTION**  
11 Oct 2019 – 2 Feb 2020

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11 Oct 2019 – 9 Feb 2020

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**SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART**  
**SERIES 2019/20**  
8 Nov 2019 – 16 Feb 2020

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Over two decades of Shaun Gladwell's work will be on display from July in his first major museum survey exhibition. It will include a range of the artist's celebrated video works including his signature early work from the MCA Collection, *Storm Sequence* (2000). *Shaun Gladwell: Pacific Undertow* will also emphasise the importance of painting within Gladwell's artistic practice, and include some of his more recent experiments in Virtual and Augmented Reality.

In October, MCA will present *Feng Shui*, an immense 18-metre-long multi-panelled painting by Chinese-Australian artist, Guan Wei. *Feng Shui* will be presented alongside two of Guan Wei's key 1989–90 series of works on paper, from the MCA Collection.

*Primavera* returns in October with the 28th edition of the annual exhibition, curated by Sydney artist Mitch Cairns. *Primavera 2019* will mark the first time Cairns has worked within a curatorial position for an arts institution. Cairns was the recipient of the 2017 Archibald Prize from the Art Gallery of New South Wales, and the 2012 Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship; his work has been collected and exhibited widely across the country, including at the MCA.

The 2019 program also includes C3West – MCA's socially engaged Western Sydney-based program – which will embark on a new collaborative project with Landcom. Artists will respond to issues facing communities along the new North West corridor in Bella Vista and Rouse Hill.

The MCA will tour exhibitions across Australia and engage with new audiences nation-wide, with the acclaimed exhibition *John Mawurndjul: I am the old and the new* travelling to Victoria, Queensland, the Northern Territory and regional New South Wales throughout 2019 and 2020.

In addition to the MCA's exhibition program, the Museum will work in collaboration with Tate in March to deliver *Celebrating Diversity* – a weekend-long program centered around access and inclusion within the museum context.

All media enquiries please contact Stephanie Pirrie, PR Specialist  
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[Click here for Dropbox with media images](#)

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## David Goldblatt: Photographs 1948–2018 Sydney International Art Series 2018/19

19 October 2018 – 3 March 2019

Level 3 Galleries, Ticketed

Featuring 357 works spanning seventy years of his work, *David Goldblatt: Photographs 1948–2018* is a major retrospective of the internationally-renowned South African photographer. The exhibition marks the most significant presentation of his work in the Asia Pacific region, and is part of the Sydney International Art Series 2018/19, supported by the NSW Government through Destination NSW.

Goldblatt was one of the greatest photographers of our time. With an intense human focus, his works offer powerful reflection and insight into South Africa's turbulent history. He was famed for depicting both the rise and the fall of apartheid – a political system founded on racial segregation and persecution of black South Africans under white minority rule.

This exhibition looks back over his career through a selection of major series. Goldblatt documented the people, places, industry and landscape of South Africa under apartheid and – after 1991 – its dismantling and its legacy. In the aftermath of apartheid, Goldblatt embraced colour photography, a format he felt largely unable to consider before, due to the dark history of his country.

A landmark exhibition for the MCA, this exhibition features both black-and-white and colour photographic series, as well as early vintage prints. It is contextualised by never-before-seen material from his personal archive, plus the screening of a new feature-length documentary.

Curated by MCA Chief Curator Rachel Kent in close collaboration with the artist, *David Goldblatt: Photographs 1948–2018* is the first exhibition of Goldblatt's work since the artist's death.

**Curator: Rachel Kent**

## Primavera 2018: Young Australian Artists

9 November 2018 – 3 February 2019

Level 1 South Galleries, Free Entry

Featuring the work of eight artists aged 35 and under, the 27th annual *Primavera* exhibition brings together work utilising archival materials, installation, painting, photography, sculpture and video.

Each year, *Primavera* showcases the work of exceptional Australian artists at the early stages of their careers. The Primavera 2018 artists are Hoda Afshar (VIC), Caroline Garcia (NSW), Hayley Millar-Baker (VIC), Spence Messih (NSW), Phuong Ngo (VIC), Jason Phu (NSW), Ryan Presley (QLD), and Andrew Tenison (ACT).

Curated by Megan Robson, *Primavera 2018* asks: Why is identity important today? The participating artists consider, explore and re-examine the politics of identity, visibility and representation. Working across a range of media, they highlight and counter the complex social, political and cultural frameworks that underpin the construction and interpretation of personal and collective identity.

In January, MCA in association with Sydney Festival will present special performances by two *Primavera 2018* artists: Phuong Ngo and Ryan Presley. *Blood Money Currency Exchange Terminal* by Ryan Presley is a participatory installation that reimagines Australia's national currency as a celebration of Aboriginal history. The son of Vietnamese refugees, Phuong Ngo will revisit his family's experience as boat people in a 10-day performance entitled *Article 14.1*, staged at MCA from 14 to 23 January.

**Curator: Megan Robson**

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## Compass: MCA Collection

9 November 2018 – 3 February 2019  
Level 1 North Gallery, Free Entry

This Collection-based exhibition places work by Indigenous and non-Indigenous women into dialogue.

At a time when the position of women is being debated globally, *Compass: MCA Collection* affirms the connections between all women, and places the voices of female artists firmly into the #metoo conversation.

*Compass: MCA Collection* draws attention to how Aboriginal artists illustrate their distinctive relationships to their cultures and Countries and provide commentary on the multiple, interlocking oppressions of what it means to be a black woman in contemporary Australia. Non-Aboriginal artists featured in the exhibition examine the presentation of women in western society, in many instances using the figure to consider universal experiences of what it means to be female in today's society. *Compass: MCA Collection* highlights both communal experiences – such as those reflected in Indigenous traditional and contemporary culture where the self is subjugated in preference for group preservation – and individual identities that sit at various points along a spectrum of feminine experience.

Like compass points, and working across a range of media, these artists point to the ways in which they experience womanhood in both their internal and external lives.

Artists include Mabel Anaka-Anaburra, Lorraine Connelly-Northey, Frances Djulibing, Maria Kozic, Lindy Lee, Minnie Manarrdjala, Susan Marawarr, Nonggirnga Marawili, Kate Miwulku, Shirley Purdie, Julie Rrap, Mary Walatjarra and Gosia Wlodarczak.

**Curator: Clothilde Bullen**

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**Julie Rrap**, *Flyer* (detail), 2004, inkjet print, framed, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, gift of Andrew and Cathy Cameron, 2008, image courtesy and © the artist.

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## MCA Collection: Today Tomorrow Yesterday

Ongoing  
Level 2 Collection Galleries, Free Entry

*MCA Collection: Today Tomorrow Yesterday* considers the impact of the past on artistic practice today. From contemporary interpretations of ancestral stories to the continuing effects of early to mid-twentieth century avant-garde art and theatre, each room presents a different perspective on the history of the present.

Drawn from the Museum's Collection, this presentation includes work by more than forty Australian artists from the 1960s to the present. The title and exhibition reference the circular, non-hierarchical sense of time in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, alongside the Western idea of time passing chronologically.

This presentation includes the ongoing Artist Room series; a six-monthly program showcasing the depth of the Museum's holdings of a single artist's practice. In 2019, this series will present focused displays of work by:

- Kuninjku artist *Yirawala*, curated by Assistant Curator Dominic Kavanagh;
- *Destiny Deacon*, curated by Director, Curatorial and Digital, Blair French;
- *Tim Johnson*, curated by Assistant Curator Manya Sellers.

The regular changeovers in the collection galleries let us showcase new acquisitions, bring out old favourites and above all, create new conversations by working closely with artists.

On display in 2019 are works acquired by the MCA Foundation and the MCA and Tate International Joint Acquisition Program, supported by Qantas.

**Curator: Natasha Bullock**

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**Mabel Juli**, *Garnkiny Ngarranggarni*, 2016, ochre and pigment on canvas, Museum of Contemporary Art, purchased with funds provided by the MCA Foundation, 2016 © Mabel Juli/Copyright Agency 2018.

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## Janet Laurence: After Nature

1 March – 10 June 2019

Level 1 Galleries, Free Entry

This exhibition marks the first major mid-career survey of one of Australia's leading contemporary artists, Janet Laurence. Encompassing key works and themes from the artist's practice, the exhibition features sculpture, installation, photography and video.

For over 30 years, Janet Laurence has explored the interconnection of all living things – animal, plant, mineral – through a multi-disciplinary approach. She has employed diverse materials to explore the natural world in all its beauty and complexity, and to highlight the environmental challenges it faces today, in the epoch of the Anthropocene.

This exhibition includes seminal works from the artist's career, with loans from public institutions around Australia and the MCA Collection work *Cellular Gardens (where breathing begins)*. The works on display range from her alchemical works of the early 1990s that use metal plates, minerals, organic substances and lightboxes, through to her installations of the 2000s and beyond, which incorporate plant and animal specimens within transparent vitrines and 'wunderkammer' environments. Laurence's works reflect on the fragility of the natural world, its plight and potential restoration.

Central to the exhibition is a major new commission for MCA, entitled *Theatre of Trees*, which brings together the last decade of Laurence's research into plants, their medicinal and healing powers, and trees.

This exhibition has evolved from two decades of collaboration between Janet Laurence and MCA Chief Curator Rachel Kent, who curated Laurence's exhibition *Muses* at The Ian Potter Museum of Art, The University of Melbourne in 2000.

**Curator: Rachel Kent**

**Janet Laurence**, *Deep Breathing: Resuscitation for the Reef* (still, detail), 2015–16, various wet specimens, corals, pigment, acrylic bones, laboratory glass, collection of the artist, image courtesy and © the artist.

## The National 2019: New Australian Art

29 March – 23 June 2019

Level 1 Galleries, Free Entry

MCA, Art Gallery of New South Wales (AGNSW) and Carriageworks present the work of 65 emerging, mid-career and established Australian contemporary artists living across the country and abroad.

A major collaborative venture, *The National 2019* is the second edition of a six-year initiative exploring the latest ideas and forms in contemporary Australian art.

The 2019 exhibition is curated by MCA Curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collections and Exhibitions, Clothilde Bullen with MCA Curator, Anna Davis; AGNSW Curator of Photographs, Isobel Parker Philip; and Carriageworks Senior Curator of Visual Arts, Daniel Mudie Cunningham.

As in its first year, the exhibition showcases new and commissioned work by contemporary Australian artists encompassing a diverse range of media including painting, video, photography, sculpture, installation, drawing and performance.

*The National 2019* continues the project's curatorial ambitions as a large-scale survey of contemporary Australian art with three distinct exhibitions that explore overlapping themes including hierarchy and power, dystopic futures, and ritual and improvisation.

MCA's exhibiting artists are Lucas Abela (NSW), Abdul-Rahman Abdullah (WA), Kylie Banyard (VIC), Hannah Brontë (QLD), Janet Fieldhouse (QLD), Daisy Jupulija, Lisa Uhl, Sonia Kurarra, Tjiliga Nada Rawlins exhibiting as a group (WA), Eugenia Lim (VIC), Ross Manning (QLD), James Nguyen (NSW), Julia Robinson (SA), Tina Havelock Stevens (NSW), Curtis Taylor (WA) and Ishmael Marika (NT) exhibiting as a collaboration, Teo Treloar (NSW), The Unbound Collective: Ali Gumillya Baker, Simone Ulalka Tur, Faye Rosas Blanch and Natalie Harkin (SA), Willloh S. Weiland (TAS), Kaylene Whiskey (SA), Mumu Mike Williams (SA).

**Co-curators: Clothilde Bullen and Anna Davis**

**Eugenia Lim**, *The Australian Ugliness* (still, detail), 2018, multi-channel high-definition video installation, colour, sound, image courtesy and © artist, photograph: Tom Ross.



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## Michael Armitage

28 June – 22 September 2019  
Level 1 North Gallery, Free Entry

Born in Nairobi, 1984, Michael Armitage is one of Kenya's most exciting young artists. His lush, often large-scale paintings merge the traditions of European modernism with the subjects and materials of East Africa.

Living and working between Nairobi and London, Armitage paints with oil on Lubugo bark cloth – a culturally-significant material of the Buganda people in Uganda. The bark cloth is traditionally used as a burial shroud or in ceremonies. Replete with ripples, stitches and holes, Armitage stretches it across a frame to form the textured surface of his paintings.

Armitage knits together narratives from folklore, his memory, current affairs, popular culture and the history of East Africa. His paintings are grounded in the social fabric and political dynamics of his homeland.

This will be the artist's first exhibition in Australia, presenting recent work with a suite of new paintings that reflect on the recent Kenyan elections and the political rallies and dissidence that followed. Sumptuous and explicit in their representation of the human body, Armitage's paintings reconsider cultural traditions and stereotypes, spinning the exoticizing gaze of Western art history into a different direction.

**Curator: Natasha Bullock**

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## Shaun Gladwell: Pacific Undertow

19 July – 7 October 2019  
Level 3 Galleries, Free Entry

*Pacific Undertow* will be the largest survey exhibition to date of the work of London-based Australian artist Shaun Gladwell, best known for his videos representing the body in motion.

From early paintings and the renowned video *Storm Sequence* (2000) through to newly-commissioned Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR and VR) works, *Pacific Undertow* spans two decades of the artist's practice. It brings together different media to trace the Gladwell's persistent obsessions with colonial and art histories, forms of everyday urban performance and mortality.

The exhibition title, *Pacific Undertow*, is taken from a pivotal video piece. It resonates with a sense of elemental forces, motion, centrifugal energy and the heft of gravity: key principles that inform Gladwell's work.

From drawing to VR, from scrutinising marks made by the hand of the artist to the viewer's complete immersion in an imaginary world, *Pacific Undertow* is the artist's explorative journey through the technological possibilities of 21st century art.

**Curators: Natasha Bullock and Blair French**

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## Guan Wei: MCA Collection

11 October 2019 – 2 February 2020

Level 1 North Gallery, Free Entry

This exhibition of the work of Chinese-Australian artist, Guan Wei, drawn from the MCA Collection, centres on *Feng Shui* (2004), an immense multi-panelled painting originally commissioned for Melbourne's Bureau of Meteorology building.

Comprising 120 panels and measuring some 18 meters long and over 5 meters high, *Feng Shui* represents humans, water, earth and sky existing in harmonious relationships. The work will be presented alongside a key series of works on paper by Guan Wei from 1989.

Guan Wei first came to Australia in 1989 in the wake of the Tiananmen Square uprising, invited to take up an artistic residency at the Tasmanian School of Art in Hobart, and returned to settle permanently in Australia in 1990. More recently, he has divided his time between Sydney and Beijing where he maintains a studio. Using a characteristic blue, white, and soft pink palette, his work depicts stylised human figures and mythological creatures that address questions of identity, migration, belonging and exile.

Curator: Manya Sellers

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## Primavera 2019: Young Australian Artists

11 October 2019 – 9 February 2020

Level 1 South Galleries, Free Entry

*Primavera* is MCA's annual exhibition of young Australian artists aged 35 and under.

Since 1992, the *Primavera* series has showcased the works of artists in the early stages of their career. Each year, a curator is invited to select artists from across Australia that they feel represent current trends and styles emerging in the next generation. Many artists featured in *Primavera* have gone on to exhibit nationally and internationally, such as Shaun Gladwell, Mikala Dwyer, Rebecca Baumann, Jonathan Jones and Jess Johnson.

*Primavera* was initiated in memory of Belinda Jackson—a talented jeweller who died at the age of 29—by her parents, Dr Edward Jackson AM and Mrs Cynthia Jackson AM, along with their family.

*Primavera 2019* will be the 28th edition of the exhibition and curated by Sydney artist Mitch Cairns. Cairns has exhibited widely in public museums, commercial galleries and artist-run-initiatives since graduating from the National Art School in 2006. His recent exhibitions include a solo show at Heide Museum of Modern Art (2015), and an in-depth presentation as part of *Painting. More Painting.* at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (2016).

Cairns was the recipient of the 2017 Archibald Prize, the 2012 Brett Whiteley Traveling Art Scholarship, and is represented by The Commercial, Sydney.

Curator: Mitch Cairns



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## SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART SERIES



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### Sydney International Art Series 2019/20

8 November 2019 – 16 February 2020

Level 3 Galleries, Ticketed

Every summer, the Sydney International Art Series brings the world's most outstanding exhibitions to Sydney, Australia. Through this program, MCA has presented the work of major international artists including Pipilotti Rist, Anish Kapoor, Yoko Ono, Grayson Perry, Tatsuo Miyajima and David Goldblatt.

The Sydney International Art Series is made possible by the collaboration of Destination NSW – the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency – the Art Gallery of New South Wales and MCA.

Details of the 2019-2020 exhibition will be announced in late 2018.

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### C3West 2019

C3West partners with Landcom to venture into new terrain, both geographically and conceptually. In 2019, the program goes beyond Western Sydney and into the communities of Rouse Hill and Bella Vista in north-west Sydney.

Recent C3West projects have concentrated on social inequalities, namely: Australia's Stolen Generations, the place of women in the public domain and food insecurity. For 2019, this new C3West collaboration focuses on demographics and patterns of community behaviour.

The collaboration is occasioned by the NSW State Government's major infrastructure project, the 23-kilometre Sydney Metro Northwest: Australia's first metro system of driverless trains. Comprising two artist-led projects, this initiative will support the sustainable development of places and communities along the Sydney Metro Northwest corridor, encouraging existing communities to embrace the new rail network.

In tandem with the opening of their new station Tallawong, one artist will work with Rouse Hill communities to examine community attitudes to different modes of transport and to encourage a culture of active public transport use. Meanwhile, in Bella Vista, a second artist will lead a project focused on the gap in the population of 18 to 40-year-old people in the broader Hills district.

Through community engagement, the artist will seek to understand why this gap exists, unearth the implications it has for the community and explore how that demographic can be encouraged to stay in the area.

C3West artists will be engaged by December 2018, with their projects completed by the end of 2019.

**Curator: Anne Loxley**

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**Angelica Mesiti**, *Trains Approaching* (still, detail), single channel high definition video, colour PAL, 16:9, stereo sound, duration: 5:10 minutes. Co-commissioned as part of *The Being-Again*, by C3West on behalf of Museum of Contemporary Art Australia and Hurstville City Council. Image courtesy and © the artist.

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## MCA Touring Program 2019

MCA's Touring Program has been inspiring audiences regionally, nationally and internationally for over 15 years. It presents unique exhibitions and projects alongside a range of education resources and programs, thereby allowing audiences to connect with contemporary art and artists.

In 2019, this continues with *John Mawurndjul: I am the old and the new*. The touring dates for the program include:

Murray Art Museum Albury, NSW	8 Mar – 26 May 2019
Glasshouse Port Macquarie, NSW	26 Jul – 22 Sep 2019
Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, NSW	7 Dec 2019 – 19 Jan 2020
Cairns Regional Gallery, QLD	7 Feb – 29 Mar 2020
Charles Darwin University Art Collection & Art Gallery, NT	17 April – 28 June 2020
Tweed Regional Gallery, NSW	10 July – 20 Sep 2020
Bunjil Place Gallery, VIC	2 Oct – 29 Nov 2020

*John Mawurndjul: I am the old and the new* was developed and co-presented by the MCA and Art Gallery of South Australia (AGSA), in association with Maningrida Arts & Culture.

It has been curated by Clothilde Bullen and Natasha Bullock from MCA, as well as Nici Cumpston and Lisa Slade from AGSA. Lead Cultural Advisor Keith Munro (MCA) worked in close collaboration with John Mawurndjul AM; Kay Lindjuwanga, Ananaias Jawulba and Maningrida Arts & Culture staff: Michelle Culpitt, Zebedee Bonson, Derek Carter; and interpreter/translator Dr Murray Garde.

This touring project has been assisted by the Australian Government's Visions of Australia program.

**Exhibitions & Touring Programs Manager: Shinae Stowe**

## MCA Key Public Programs 2019

### Celebrating Difference

9 & 10 March 2019

Over a long weekend, the events, talks, tours and workshops of Celebrating Difference will centre around access and inclusion.

The program will highlight how both MCA and Tate work with diverse audiences, linking to International Women's Day on 8 March where we will celebrate women working in art and science.

In MCA's National Centre for Creative Learning, we'll publicly open our Bella Room commission – Paint me in by artist Lara Merrett. In the dedicated space, visitors will be able to engage with the piece via a truly sensory experience throughout the weekend-long event.

The MCA Collection galleries on Level 2 will host works acquired by the MCA and Tate International Joint Acquisitions Program, supported by Qantas.

### Conversation Starters

1 & 2 June 2019

**Free and ticketed events**

Conversation Starters - MCA's annual program of events including films, talks, workshops and performances - explores and responds to key themes relating to one of our featured exhibitions. It has something for everyone, from all ages and backgrounds, and asks audiences to take part in conversations about truly global issues.

In 2019, the third iteration of Conversation Starters will take inspiration from one of Australia's most exciting artists, Janet Laurence. The program will focus on the crucial and topical agendas within Laurence's art, such as ecology, fragility, human relationships and climate change.

**Public Engagement Manager: Yaël Filipovic**

**John Mawurndjul** (left to right): *Nawarramulmul (Shooting star spirit)*, 1988, Museum of Contemporary Art, purchased with funds donated by Mr and Mrs Jim Bain, 1989; *Ngalyod*, 2012, Museum of Contemporary Art, purchased with funds provided by the MCA Foundation, 2015; *Nialyod (Female rainbow serpent)*, 1988, Museum of Contemporary Art, purchased with funds donated by Mr and Mrs Jim Bain, 1989. All images © John Mawurndjul, licensed by Viscopy 2018.

*MCA Conversation Starters 2018*, photograph Anna Kucera.

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DAVID GOLDBLATT

## SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART SERIES

Strategic Sponsor



Presenting Partner



Principal Exhibition Patrons

Catriona and  
Simon Mordant AM

Media Partner



### PRIMAVERA 2018: YOUNG AUSTRALIAN ARTISTS

Exhibition Patron

Cynthia Jackson AM

### COMPASS: MCA COLLECTION

MCA Collection  
Partner



Exhibition Patron

Susan Rothwell

### MCA COLLECTION: TODAY TOMORROW YESTERDAY

MCA Collection  
Partner



### JANET LAURENCE

Exhibition Patron

Noel Cressie

### THE NATIONAL 2019: NEW AUSTRALIAN ART

Major Supporter



### MICHAEL ARMITAGE

Exhibition Patron

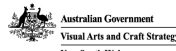
GRANTPIRRIE  
Private

### GUAN WEI: MCA COLLECTION

MCA Collection Partner



Government Partners



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9 Nov 2018 – 3 Feb 2019

**MCA COLLECTION:**  
**TODAY TOMORROW YESTERDAY**  
Ongoing

**JANET LAURENCE: AFTER NATURE**  
1 Mar – 10 June 2019

**THE NATIONAL 2019:**  
**NEW AUSTRALIAN ART**  
29 Mar – 23 Jun 2019

**MICHAEL ARMITAGE**  
28 June – 22 Sep 2019

**SHAUN GLADWELL:**  
**PACIFIC UNDERTOW**  
19 Jul – 7 Oct 2019

**GUAN WEI: MCA COLLECTION**  
11 Oct 2019 – 2 Feb 2020

**PRIMAVERA 2019:**  
**YOUNG AUSTRALIAN ARTISTS**  
11 Oct 2019 – 9 Feb 2020

**SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART**  
**SERIES 2019/20**  
8 Nov 2019 – 16 Feb 2020