

Modern & contemporary Art Gallery of New South Wales



See you at the barricades AGNSW Contemporary Collection Project 1

UNTIL 29 NOV 2015

See you at the barricades explores the complex relationship between art and protest. Full of provocative imagery and bold declarations, the exhibition grapples with the power of art-as-activism today. Reflecting on this premise both hopefully and critically, it connects recent art – from the brightly coloured posters of the notorious Guerrilla Girls to the stirring monochrome prints of Marco Fusinato – with earlier protest-art moments, among them activist graphics from the 1970s and '80s that still seize attention. The show culminates with a notable new acquisition: Sharon Hayes's installation *Revolutionary love: I am your worst fear, I am your best fantasy*. Accompanied by a publication, *See you at the barricades* is the first of the Contemporary Collection Projects, a new series of exhibitions which explore key themes in contemporary art through the Gallery's collection.

Marco Fusinato *Double infinitive 5* 2009 (detail) from the series *Double infinitives*. © Marco Fusinato. Courtesy Anna Schwartz Galler

Seven artists from the John Kaldor Family Collection

UNTIL 26 APR 2016

In 2011 John Kaldor AM made a gift of over 200 artworks to the Art Gallery of New South Wales that transformed our collection of 20th and 21st century art. For over 50 years, Kaldor has forged close personal relationships with leading artists, curators and art dealers. Today, his collection is renowned for its in-depth representation of some of the world's most influential artists.

The current display in the John Kaldor Family Gallery focuses on the practices of seven international artists who have emerged since the 1990s: collaborative duo Jennifer Allora and Guillermo Calzadilla, Paul Chan, Michael Landy, Ugo Rondinone, Wilhelm Sasnal and Daniel von Sturmer. Conceived as a group of solo shows, each section has been developed in collaboration with the exhibiting artists to reveal the ongoing dialogue between the collection and the artists who comprise it.

Additional works have been generously loaned by Jennifer Allora, Guillermo Calzadilla, Michael Landy, Daniel von Sturmer and Naomi Milgrom AO.



Paul Chan *1st light* 2005 from the series *The 7 lights* 2005–07,
John Kaldor Family Collection
© Paul Chan. Courtesy Greene Naftali Gallery, New York



Matisse and the moderns

UNTIL 25 OCT 2015

In *Matisse and the moderns*, the Art Gallery of NSW is thrilled to debut Henri Matisse's *Jazz*, arguably the most important artist's book of the 20th century. *Jazz* is an illustrated book based on twenty collages of vividly coloured paper - "improvisations in colour and rhythm" as the artist described them - accompanied by his handwritten text. Communicating an exceptional sense of joy and freedom, Matisse's memories of the classical circus, music hall, folklore and of his own travels take form in an exhilarating clash of colours, arabesques and lines. These were among the artist's first experiments in collage. Soon after, Matisse abandoned conventional painting for the 'cut-outs' that characterised the last decade of his career.

Alongside this thrilling new acquisition, *Matisse and the moderns* will also display a selection of related works by other major European modernist artists drawn from the Gallery's collection, including *Nude in a rocking chair* by Matisse's friend and rival Picasso.



Henri Matisse *Jazz* 1947, artist's illustrated book below: *The codomas* from the portfolio. © Henri Matisse/Succession H Matisse. Licensed by Viscopy, Sydney

Loud!

UNTIL 5 JULY 2015

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of International Women's Year (1975), *Loud!* is a selection of nine powerful photographs of women by women. Drawn from the Gallery's photography collection, *Loud!* showcases four contemporary artists from Australia and abroad: Miwa Yanagi, Yvonne Todd, Anne Zahalka and Rosemary Laing.

Serving as case-studies of constructed female personas, the works featured in *Loud!* examine the role photography plays in the invention of meaning and how women are routinely depicted in mainstream media. Shattering stereotypes and cultivating their own distinct images of womanhood, these compelling works are laced with humour, yet also possess a dark side.

Loud! is one of a number of photographic exhibitions that focus on women to be held at the Gallery this year. A solo installation of artist Rosemary Laing opens 11 July 2015 and *Julia Margaret Cameron: from the Victoria and Albert Museum*, London opens 14 August 2015.



Miwa Yanagi *Yuka* 2000, from the series *My grandmothers*
© Miwa Yanagi

Colourwheel

UNTIL 29 MAY 2016

Bringing together some of the brightest works from our Australian and international collections, *Colourwheel* reflects the revolution in colour that occurred in the modern age, when new technologies created new kinds of colour that changed the look of our world. Inspired by the colour wheels used by scientists and artists to understand the mysteries of colour, the exhibition also invites viewers – young ones especially – to engage in some chromatic play and experiment of their own, with a lively colour trail to follow and a children's activity area.

Colourwheel starts in the early twentieth century with the great Australian painter Roy de Maistre, who explores the connection between art and music in his vibrant hand-painted colour wheels. Among later artists in the show are Japan's Ay-O, renowned as 'the rainbow man'; Italian artist Miralda, famed for his 'coloured feasts'; and English painter Patrick Heron, a tireless crusader for the power of pure colour. From the twenty-first century there are sculptures, videos and wall paintings by Louise Weaver (Australia), Michael Craig-Martin (England) and Kay Rosen (USA).



Louise Weaver *Guido Valdez (Vendetta for love)* 2006
Private collection © Louise Weaver

New acquisitions



Colin McCahon

Teaching aids 2 1975

This painting (detail above) is the first work by Colin McCahon to enter the Gallery's collection. It explores art's power as a spiritual guide – an aid to understanding matters of life and death. McCahon was unquestionably New Zealand's greatest modern painter and is also one of the foremost painters – the most distinctive, radical and challenging – to have emerged from Australasia in the twentieth century. Admired by critics and curators and revered by many artists in this part of the world, he is also an artist recognised increasingly in the international sphere.



Grayson Perry

Map of truths and beliefs 2011

In this work, Turner Award winner Grayson Perry attempts to map the chaotic mix of beliefs that characterise life in the early twenty-first century. At almost seven metres wide, the work engulfs a viewer in a profusion of words and details. To spend time exploring the work is to undertake a visual journey, which moves from the sacred to the profane, from the mysteries of the ancient world to the consumer onslaught of the present-day world. Perry created *Map of truths and beliefs* for his critically acclaimed exhibition *Tomb of the Unknown Craftsman* at the British Museum 2011/12.



Fiona Hall

Fools gold 2012

This work (detail above) was inspired by Fiona Hall's expedition to the contested Kermadec Trench led by Pew Environmental Group in 2011. The Kermadec Trench is a 1200-kilometre channel of overlapping tectonic plates north-east of New Zealand, stretching toward Tonga. The site, a migratory path for important species of marine life and abundant with mineral rich underwater vents, is regarded as one of the most geologically dynamic yet vulnerable environments on earth. Created in the traditional methods and natural materials of Tonga, the work directs our attention to this fragile ecology. Hall is the 2015 Australian representative for the Venice Biennale.

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Exhibitions and dates may be subject to change

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