

2020 Dobell Exhibition Grant

The 2019 round of the Dobell Exhibition Grant was assessed on 24 October 2018 by a four-member panel consisting of:

- Michelle Belgiorno, Trustee, Sir William Dobell Art Foundation
- Dr Lee-Anne Hall, Lecturer, Museum and Heritage Studies, University of Sydney
- Paula Latos-Valier, Art Director, Sir William Dobell Art Foundation
- Rachel Arndt, Gallery Programs & Touring Exhibitions Manager, Museums & Galleries of NSW

The panel assessed 12 applications from publicly funded and regional galleries across NSW. A very competitive and varied range of proposals was received.

After much deliberation and debate, the Panel unanimously decided to award the Dobell Exhibition Grant of \$40,000 to Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA) for their proposed exhibition *Notes from the Field*.

The Panel felt that this exhibition and the proposed public programs fully addressed the aims of the grant program which is to capture the imagination and interest of the public and expand audiences for the visual arts as well as provide opportunities for artist or curator engagement with diverse audiences. They also were impressed with MAMA's demonstrated knowledge of and strategies for engaging with their audience, targeting key tested community interests such as environment and ecological concerns relevant to the area. MAMA plan to also build on their multicultural outreach program, Culture Connects, by harnessing the recent migrant community's interested in learning about Australia through the natural environment.

The Panel was very impressed overall with the ambition and high calibre of all 12 applications and the timely and pertinent themes addressed. They also re-iterated the importance of relevant and succinct supporting material.

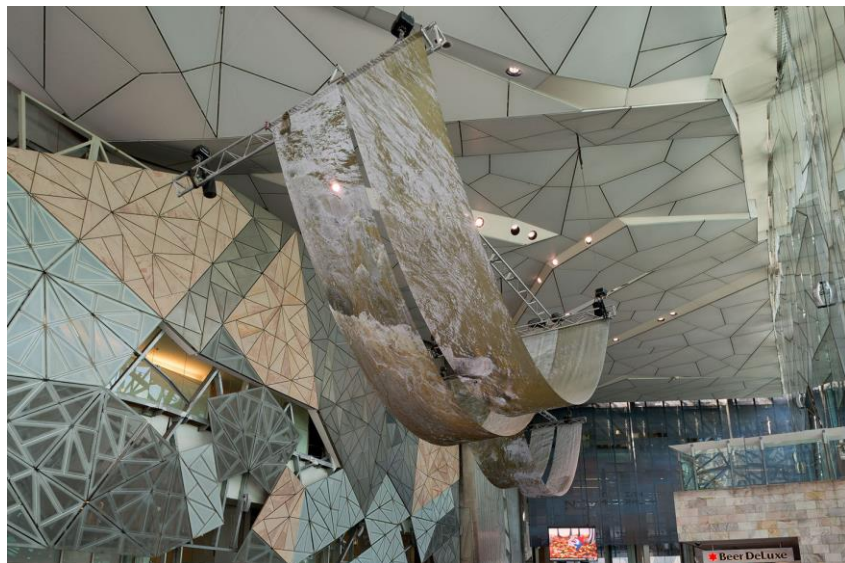


L and R: Curator and artist Philip Samartzis - Fieldwork location: Jungfrauoch, Switzerland, 2019, photograph by Philip Samartzis.

2019 Dobell Exhibition Grant Recipient

Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA) - *Notes from the Field*

Notes from the Field explores the practice of fieldwork as a vital creative process by examining ways artists deploy fieldwork to undertake research, formulate ideas and express creativity.



Andrew Tetzlaff, *Yarra (suspended)*, 2015, Federation Square, Melbourne, Victoria
Photo by Christian Capurro

The exhibition will be presented from 19 June - 30 August 2020 and is a collaboration between MAMA and the Bogong Centre for Sound Culture's [B-CSC], celebrating its tenth anniversary and its significant contribution as a regional arts initiative. The exhibition is curated by Madelynne Cornish (B-CSC), Philip Samartzis (B-CSC) and Michael Moran (MAMA). *Notes from the Field* will include new artworks from national and international artists working across various disciplines including printmaking, photography, installation, moving image, sound, music and dance.

Australian and international artists include Daniela d'Arielli [IT], Andrew Tetzlaff, Jeremy Baker, James Geurts, Felix Wilson, Lesley Duxbury, Madelynne Cornish, Shannon Leah Collis [US], Michael Vorfeld [DE], Shelley Lasica, Eugene Ughetti, Philip Samartzis and Bridget Chappell.

Notes from the Field invites artists to share their working methodologies as an integral part of the process of production and exhibition. This exchange of knowledge will provide audiences with a unique insight into the artists' thinking and creative processes to reveal the attendant complexities underpinning them. As part of *Notes from the Field*, B-CSC will also establish its first dedicated residency program for Aboriginal artists, working closely with MAMA's Curatorial Officer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Programs to ensure meaningful engagement.

During the exhibition, a series of free public performances and artist talks will be held at the museum and in neighbouring community venue. Additional performances will be staggered across the ten-week season re-engaging audiences. iPads will be used to disseminate pre-recorded artist interviews, photo documentation of fieldwork, and soundscape compositions from the B-CSC archive. The exhibition and attendant performance and public engagement programs will be used to frame the work the B-CSC has undertaken in the Australian Alps since 2010 investigating the social, industrial and environmental changes shaping the region.

For more information about the Dobell Exhibition Grant please contact: Susan Wachter, Gallery Programs Coordinator, 02 9339 9916, susanw@mgnsw.org.au

The Dobell Exhibition Grant is supported by the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation and managed by Museums & Galleries of NSW.