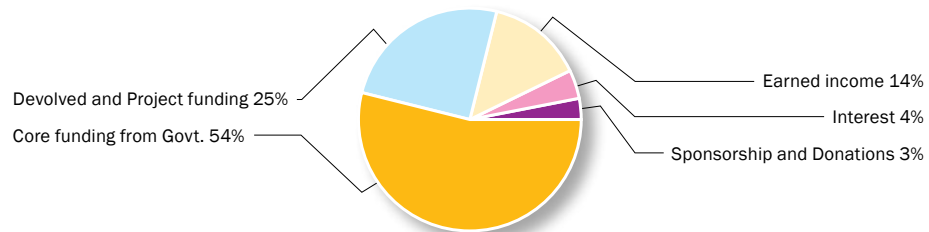
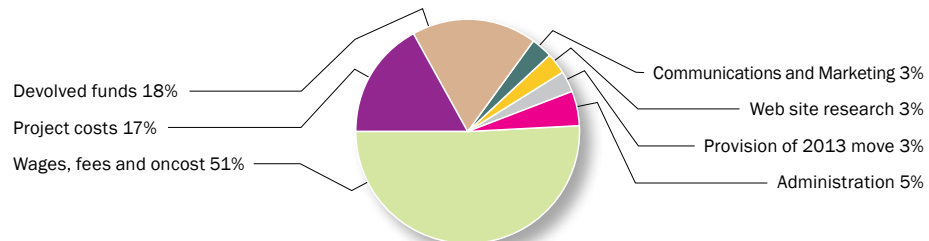


FINANCIALS

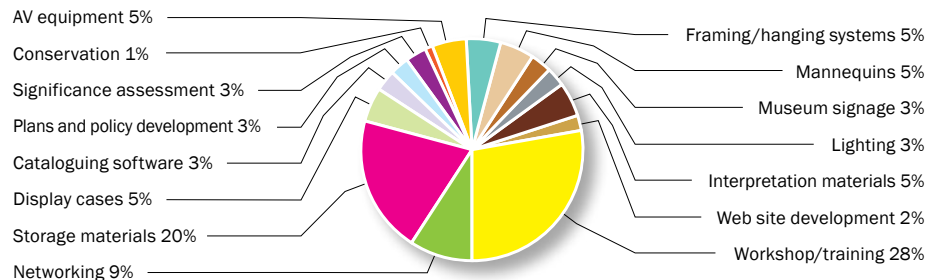
Income by Category



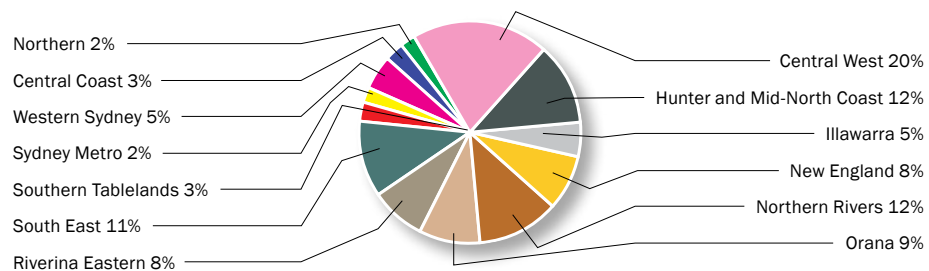
Expenditure by Category



Areas of Museum Practise Funded



VIM Grant Program Distribution of Funds by Region



M&G NSW BOARD

Chair: Professor Colin Rhodes

Cr. Allan Smith

David Sherley

Oliver Frankel

Frank Howarth

Belinda Hanrahan

Liz Gillroy

Dan Brush

Alison Page
(Resigned February 2012)

Professor Larissa Lavarch
(Appointed July 2012)

M&G NSW CEO

Michael Rolfe

2012 STAFF BY PROJECT AREA

Finance and Administration
Michael Huxley and Elizabeth Swinburn

Gallery Programs and Touring Exhibitions
Rachel Arndt, Lillian Lim, and Jasmin Dessmann

Museum Programs and Collections
Sarah-Jane Rennie (to May),
Tamara Lavrencic and Phoebe Arthur

Professional Development
Cassie Charlton (to June), Kate Major

Aboriginal Sector Programs
Steve Miller and Aunty Jenny Munro

Information and Resources
Andrew Brettell, Katie Duncan, and Alison McLeod

Front cover: Dadang Christanto, *Survivor*, 2012, performance at Gosford Regional Gallery. Image courtesy of the artist and Gosford Regional Gallery. Photography: Victoria Grant, Essence Images

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**Museums
& Galleries
NSW**



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Museums & Galleries NSW is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.



Museums & Galleries NSW

ANNUAL REVIEW 2012

MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL ROLFE CEO M&G NSW

2012 saw the continuation of many long term, popular and well subscribed Museums & Galleries NSW programs and services. It also saw work commence on the creation of a of a new 'game changing' digital strategy for the organisation. Our 2012-14 Strategic Plan identified the need to better service our constituents and their programs using a web presence that reflects museum and gallery best practice. And that is what we set about doing, with a decision made by the board in October to proceed with the creation of a new mobile friendly website, scheduled for launch in the 2nd half of 2013. Of course our work on the ground continued. We negotiated a new suite of grants devolved from Arts NSW in support of volunteer museums to be launched in 2013. The Copyright Agency Limited renewed commitment to our Artist or Curator in Residence program for a further two years and new museum advisor positions were established across the state.

I wish to acknowledge ongoing support provided by the NSW State Government through Arts NSW and the Federal Government through the Australia Council for the Arts. I also value greatly the effective working relationships M&G NSW has developed with our major cultural institutions in support of museum, gallery and Aboriginal cultural centre activity in NSW.

MESSAGE FROM COLIN RHODES (M&G NSW CHAIR 2010 - MARCH 2013)

During my last year as Chair of M&G NSW, I have continued to be heartened by the achievements within the sector as we work to improve access and opportunities for the diverse range of creative individuals involved within the heritage and arts community and for the varied audiences we reach.

The 2012-2014 Strategic Plan continued to set us on a clear path for a future based in service to our rich and varied sector. We built on the recommendations of the Aboriginal Summit in 2011 by exploring the feasibility of an Aboriginal Culture and Heritage Association in consultation with Aboriginal communities and organisations across NSW and in Sydney.

M&G NSW has worked to advocate the value of the arts, acknowledging achievements through the IMAGInE awards, delivering development programs such as Standards and investing in a new web presence to promote NSW heritage and visual arts culture with a vibrant, media rich and mobile online experience.

Projects like these ensure the sustainability and growth of the sector into the 21st century.

TRIBUTE TO COLIN RHODES, MESSAGE FROM OLIVER FRANKEL (M&G NSW CHAIR MARCH 2013-)

In 2010 Colin Rhodes became Chair of M&G NSW at a time of change for the organisation. He steadied the company through a period when it had no permanent CEO and played a crucial role in recruiting our current Chief Executive, Michael Rolfe. With Colin's support, Michael and his team have reinforced M&G NSW's focus on supporting the small to medium museum, gallery and Aboriginal keeping place sector throughout the state.

It is in no small part due to Colin's efforts as Chair that I have inherited a vigorous and healthy organisation committed to supporting and growing small to medium regional NSW arts organisations and promoting their resilience and capacity in programming and storytelling. As Chair, I look forward to building on Colin's valuable legacy.

GALLERY PROGRAMS AND TOURING EXHIBITIONS

M&G NSW continues to tour exhibitions of contemporary visual art, craft and design to communities across Australia. In 2012, 9 exhibitions toured to 32 venues across 5 states and were seen by over 108,000 people. They showcased the works of 114 living artists and included over 200 works of art and objects across various mediums. Touring exhibitions provided valuable audience development opportunities for host galleries, leading to the execution of 287 associated public program events and the distribution of educational resources produced or supported by M&G NSW to 240 schools.

ARCHIBALD PRIZE 2011 and 2012

The Art Gallery of NSW (AGNSW) *Archibald Prize* is one of Australia's oldest and most prestigious art awards. Since its inception in 1921 the prize has been awarded to some of Australia's most important artists and continues to attract record audiences. This popularity results in the exhibition tour being booked out years in advance.

LIFE IN YOUR HANDS: ART FROM SOLASTALGIA

Curated by Robyn Daw and organised by Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, *Life in Your Hands* features the work of 9 contemporary artists and craft/design practitioners that explore the notion of 'solastalgia' – the impact of environmental stresses, loss of connection to past, and economic and political change on the mental wellbeing of communities.

SURVIVOR: DADANG CHRISTANTO

Survivor: Dadang Christanto is a major art project by contemporary Indonesian-Australian artist Dadang Christanto, initially developed in 2008 as a live protest against an environmental disaster in Java, Indonesia. Curated by Gallery 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, *Survivor* consists of a participatory performance and subsequent exhibition that reflects upon human survival and what it means to endure tragic historical events, loss and death.

HOW YESTERDAY REMEMBERS TOMORROW

Curated by Artspace, the exhibition draws upon previous recipients of the prestigious Helen Lempriere Travelling Art Scholarship who are now accomplished artists and key figures pushing the boundaries of contemporary art. *How Yesterday Remembers Tomorrow* highlights how an artist's practice develops over time through research, experimentation and refinement by positioning early works alongside more recent projects.

SENSE OF PLACE

Sense of Place features the work of eight Australian artists united by their exploration of the boundaries of national identity, cultural propriety and social paradigms, all through the medium of moving image. Organised by dLux MediaArts, *Sense of Place* includes artists Kate Murphy, Justin Shoulder, Sarah Goffman, John A Douglas, Brendan Lee, Laith McGregor, Darren Sylvester and Liam Benson.

LIGHT SENSITIVE MATERIAL: WORKS FROM THE VERGHIS COLLECTION

Curated by Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, *Light Sensitive Material: Works from the Verghis Collection* is a vibrant selection of contemporary photographic, light and digital media works from the private collection of Rachel Verghis, one of Australia's youngest art collectors.

STUDIO: AUSTRALIAN PAINTERS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY R. IAN LLOYD

STUDIO: Australian Painters Photographed by R. Ian Lloyd reveals a broad cross-section of painters from across Australia working in a variety of studio environments; whether it be an inner city loft, a kitchen table or the sandy earth of the outback.

THERE'S A WAR ON! WORLD WAR II AT HOME (Small Scale)

There's a War On! World War II at Home showcases the varied experiences of the men, women and children who fought the war on the home front. The exhibition draws attention to the important role regional towns played in supporting the war effort and the permanent imprint left by World War II on many country towns.

MUSEUMS PROGRAMS AND COLLECTIONS

The Museums Standards program ran in the Eastern Riverina region in partnership with seven local councils, strengthening the museum practices and sustainability of nine local museums and engaging over 230 volunteers. The 2012 Program continued the partnership with Museums & Galleries Services Queensland (M&GSQ) working with nine museums and galleries in Wide Bay Burnett (North).

The Regional Museum Advisor Program, established in 2000, provides funds for a Museum Advisor to work with museums within a local government area for 20 days per year. Supporting 76 museums in 20 local government areas, the Museum Advisor program continued to support the work of over 400 volunteers through the provision of advice and specialist skills.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In 2012 M&G NSW delivered professional development events at no or low cost to almost 600 participants from across regional and metropolitan NSW. Topic areas included: video conferencing, Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plans, use of database software, collection management, conservation, digitising collections and oral history.

ACCESS TO FUNDING

Partner: South East Arts

DIGITISING COLLECTIONS

Partners: Powerhouse Museum, State Library of NSW

CULTURE CLASH

Partner: Historic Houses Trust

DEFYING DISTANCE

Partners: Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Regional Public Galleries of NSW

MUKURTU FREE WORKSHOPS

Partners: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive, State Library of NSW

and Indigenous Student Services, Charles Sturt University

IT's A RAP

Partner: Historic Houses Trust

A DAY AT THE MUSEUM

Partners: Australian Museum, Regional Public Galleries of NSW

TELLING IT HOW IT IS: ORAL HISTORIES FOR MUSEUMS

PROF SUSANNE KÜCHLER'S VISIT

Partner: Museum & Gallery Services Queensland

GRANTS

With increased funding from the NSW Government through Arts NSW, M&G NSW managed three devolved grant programs: Incoming Touring Exhibition Grant, Mentorships and Fellowships and Volunteer Initiated Museum (VIM) Grant programs.

Over \$20,000 was devolved through fellowships and mentorships to 8 museum and gallery professionals and \$85,000 through the VIM program to support the work of over 3000 museum volunteers across 47 local government areas in NSW.

The Incoming Touring Exhibition grants devolved \$50,000 to 10 galleries across 8 regions of NSW to support the intake of touring exhibitions and associated public programs. From 2013, the grant program will be transitioning to focus on providing curatorial support and the creative development of new exhibition programs.

The Artist and Curator In-Residence Program (ACR), funded by the Copyright Agency Limited's (CAL) Cultural Fund, funded two regional galleries to engage artists or curators to undertake a residency activity within the gallery's community. Through this support, the program aims to further encourage audience engagement with innovative and adventurous contemporary art.

ABORIGINAL SECTOR

Delegate recommendations from the 2011 summit held on Aboriginal keeping places, knowledge centres and cultural centres, and M&G NSW's responses to these recommendations, were made public and reported to government in 2012. One of the clear recommendations from the delegates was the establishment of an Aboriginal Culture and Heritage Association. To examine the feasibility and level of interest in this recommendation a series of consultations took place with Aboriginal communities and organisations across NSW in Sydney, Penrith, Eden, Huskisson, Corindi Beach, the Hunter-Matildal region, Lismore, Moree, Walgett, Brewarrina, Warren, Dubbo, Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Leeton, Deniliquin and Albury. In light of the positive response, M&G NSW will facilitate the establishment of the association in 2013 and provide the secretariat for its initial phase.

The ability of Aboriginal communities to gather, store and disseminate their own material culture and knowledge so they own, control and benefit from their intellectual property was high on the agenda in every consultation. This aligns with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Article 31.a and 31.b which requires Governments to do all they can to support these objectives. With support from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive (ATSIDA) at the University of Technology Sydney, State Library of NSW and Indigenous Student Services, Charles Sturt University, M&G NSW was able to stage workshops in Sydney and Wagga to introduce the Mukurtu database freeware. This collection database offers limitless possibilities for customizing Indigenous protocols around access across all media. As a result, at least four Aboriginal communities are progressing use of the 1.0 version with assistance from US based Universities Berkley and Washington State and many other communities have expressed enthusiasm for getting involved.



Steve Miller (left) with Roy Barker Jr., Les Barker and his daughter Miah Barker accept the IMAGinE award for Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer Contribution on behalf of Uncle Roy and Aunty June Barker at the 2012 IMAGinE awards. Photography by Mimi Kelly.

In 2012, M&G NSW registered its Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) with Reconciliation Australia. The RAP provides quantifiable directions for our work to contribute to closing the gap of disadvantage between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. It also identifies a sense of place for our office in Woolloomooloo through local Aboriginal connections and understanding. The actions fit within our Business and Strategic Plans and the RAP has been endorsed by the M&G NSW Board and Reconciliation Australia.

“... M&G NSW SEEKS TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE IN THE RECOGNITION AND RENEWAL OF ABORIGINAL CULTURE, HERITAGE AND ARTS IN NSW.

High profile Aboriginal academic and author Prof. Larissa Lavarch was appointed to the Board of M&G NSW, an initiative of engaging Aboriginal leadership at the highest level of the organisation that has been a guiding principle almost since its beginnings. As with the RAP plan, M&G NSW seeks to lead by example in the recognition and renewal of Aboriginal culture, heritage and arts in NSW.

2012 IMAGINE AWARDS

In partnership with the Local Government Association of NSW and Shires Association of NSW, Regional Public Galleries Association of NSW, and Museums Australia (NSW), Museums & Galleries NSW presented the 5th annual IMAGinE awards. The four categories; Collection Management, Education and Public Engagement, Education and Audience Development and Individual Achievement, received a total of 70 nominations from volunteer and paid organisations across NSW with 13 awards granted at the event in November held at White Rabbit Gallery.

RESEARCH

As part of its research program, M&G NSW undertook an audience survey for the 17th Biennale of Sydney. This built on the methodology of the 2008 and 2010 Biennales and included an in-depth survey that looked at other cultural activities and cultural expenditure of Biennale audiences.

2012 also saw the extension of the strategic audience evaluation study, *Guess Who's Going to the Gallery*, in partnership with Museum & Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ). With over 3,000 responses, the Queensland report was released in March 2013 to provide a parallel data set to the NSW State report. Both of these reports add a greater understanding of audiences for the visual arts and crafts, providing organisations with clearer directions for both programing and communication strategies.

RESOURCES

A NEW WEBSITE

In October 2012, M&G NSW successfully procured the Interaction Consortium to begin building a new website scheduled for launch in September 2013. The website will be a hub for news, advice and services for regional small to medium museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural centres. The website's

core work is to maximise the digital value of the skills and knowledge of the sector by providing a hub for news, advice and services for regional small to medium museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural centres.

In addition, the website will promote NSW heritage and visual arts culture in the regions with a vibrant, media rich and mobile online experience. Visitors will be able to explore regional destinations and activities, discover hidden gems on cultural trails and design their own travel itineraries with a geolocational interface.

“... THE WEBSITE WILL PROMOTE NSW HERITAGE AND VISUAL ARTS CULTURE IN THE REGIONS WITH A VIBRANT, MEDIA RICH AND MOBILE ONLINE EXPERIENCE.

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN (RAP)

The online RAP continues to be available on the M&G NSW website to provide quantifiable directions for our work to contribute to closing the gap of disadvantage between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

EXHIBITIONS REGISTER

Two editions of the Exhibitions Register were published on the M&G NSW website in February and August 2012 and were directly promoted to galleries and museums across the state and nationwide. The August Register included 48 Exhibitions from 36 arts organisations including galleries, museums and our National Exhibitions Touring Support (NETS) partners, as well as independent curators and artists.

CONSULTANTS REGISTER

The Consultants Register continued to offer the sector free references to consultants with a variety of expertise relevant to museums and galleries.