



Museums & Galleries of NSW

Acknowledgement of Country

Museums & Galleries of NSW acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation and all the other Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live and work.

We pay respect to them as First Nations people with continuing connection to land, place, waters and community.

**Cover image: Justene Williams, *Two Fold* (2016)
performance at Museums & Galleries of NSW
IMAGinE Awards 2018, National Art School**
Photograph by Tim da-Rin

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CEO & Chair Report

2018 proved to be a year dominated by all things digital. With funding from Create Infrastructure, connected to the State Government's Regional Cultural Fund (RCF), our Collections and Stories prototype website project captured everyone's imagination. Research towards a state-wide collection digitisation program added to the excitement, seeking a long-term commitment to support the documentation of and access to, collections in NSW.

M&G NSW again partnered with Local Government NSW for two roundtable meetings with museum staff employed by local government. Additional partnerships with local government continued to grow with financial support provided for the Standards Review Program and the Museum Advisor Program enabling over 16 local government areas to be involved. The partnership with Museums & Galleries Queensland on the Standards Review Program, now in its 13th year, continued to strengthen the relationship between the two organisations and work done by both organisations in NSW and QLD.

On behalf of Create NSW and the Dobell Foundation, M&G NSW again managed four very competitive devolved grant programs: Audience Development Fund, Mentorships, Fellowships and Volunteer Placements, Volunteer Museum Grants, and Dobell Exhibition Grant. It was a pleasure to be able to support such vital work and exciting skill development opportunities.

The Professional Development Program was delivered, free or at low cost to participants, through several partnerships and events. The year began with M&G NSW hosting the 6th National Public Galleries Summit, which proved to be an enormously successful get-together of gallery staff from both Australia and New Zealand.

Our IMAGinE Awards capped an exciting year and achieved a record number on nominations across categories. The National Art School hosted the award announcement and presentation event.

Additionally, Sydney Living Museums, Australian Museum, Art Gallery of NSW, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences and NSW State Archives and Records continue to support and work with M&G NSW in the delivery of exhibitions, professional development programs, provision of expertise and venues that in turn support the small to medium sector. Ongoing support from the NSW State Government through Create NSW also needs to be acknowledged for the significant and ongoing commitment provided.

Dr Jennifer Barrett's 4-year term as M&G NSW Chair concluded in early 2019. In every respect the energy and output of the organisation throughout the year characterised Jennifer's leadership and contribution.



Michael Rolfe
CEO, M&G NSW

M&G NSW Staff 2018

Chief Executive Officer

Michael Rolfe

Administration and Finance

John Thompson

Gallery Programs and Touring Exhibitions

Rachel Arndt

Imogen Dixon-Smith (resigned 2018)

Olivia Welch (appointed 2018)

Susan Wachter

Museum Programs and Collections

Tamara Lavrencic

Jordan Cavanough

Aboriginal Sector Programs

Steve Miller

Melissa Abraham

Communications

Jason Gee

Emily Phipps

Programs and Events

Dale Maxwell-Smith (appointed 2018)

M&G NSW Board 2018

Dr Jennifer Barrett (Chair)

Cr Paul Braybrooks

Ray Christison

Phil Gordon

Susi Muddiman

Rebecca Olejnik

Louise Silburn

Kevin Sumption

Frank Zaknich



Opposite: Patricia Piccinini, *Ghost*, 2014
Installation view, *Soft Core* at Wagga
Wagga Art Gallery 2018
 Photograph by Jeremy Kruckel

What We Do

Museums & Galleries of NSW (M&G NSW) uses four key methods to assist museums, galleries, artist run initiatives and Aboriginal cultural centres to maximise their cultural impact within communities and across the State.

► **Services - providing programs and support**

These include the promotion of sector organisations to the public, touring exhibitions, capacity building programs, formal and informal learning opportunities, skill development workshops, seminars and events.

► **Resources - advice, fact sheets and small grant funding**

These include a range of alternative and targeted funding opportunities, for small and large projects, and widely used 'on-demand' text and rich media practical guides, case studies and research reports undertaken for and about the sector.

► **Connections - enhancing direct and social media communication**

Our programs create and provide opportunities for people to connect face to face and remotely using technology and social media.

► **Governance - promoting transparency, accountability and integrity**

We observe strong governance to ensure stability, sustainability, transparency and accountability. This keeps the organisation connected to its agreed KPI, with purposeful Board engagement, managed risk and financial health.

Our Values

- Respect for Aboriginal people and their right to cultural ownership and more generally for their diversity of opinion and knowledge.
- Relevance to contemporary cultures, government policy, industry, community and sector needs.
- Collaboration to develop and deliver services.
- Inclusivity of diversity of practices, range of knowledge, access, disability and special needs.
- Integrity to be trustworthy, accountable and transparent.

Research

2018 NSW Museum & Gallery Sector Census

During the latter part of 2018, Museums & Galleries of NSW undertook a comprehensive survey of the sector, the results of which were then made available to stakeholders and the public. It was the third major census of the small-to-medium museum and gallery sector with previous censuses having been undertaken in 2013 and 1999.

The overall objective of this study was to gain factual and reliable data for the sector on collections, staffing levels, facilities, funding and visitation.

By comparing this data against previous census findings M&G NSW was able to provide an overview and health check of the sector and build on previous research. The survey was conducted online and by phone over a 3 month period and received 377 respondents. Approximately two thirds of respondents were from regional NSW.

Key Findings ►

5.5 million

reported visitors in 2017, including over 3 million visitors across Regional NSW

4,069

exhibitions reported. Of these, 2,955 took place in Regional NSW

797

full-time equivalent employees supported by respondent museums and galleries. Over half of all organisations surveyed rely solely on volunteers.

96%

of respondents have an online presence in some form and 88% use social media. This is a significant increase from the 2013 figures which indicated only 71% had on-site access to the internet and less than half of all organisations reported having a facebook page.



10,000

objects on average per collection. 90% of organisations manage a collection, yet less than half of these collections have been fully catalogued.



21,572

events/public programs run across NSW. Of these, 15,312 took place in Regional NSW

\$150,000,000

worth of annual labour provided by 8,629 active volunteers who gave almost 5 million hours in 2017*

Note: Regional NSW includes all areas of NSW outside of the greater Sydney Metro area.

* Figure based on wage rates per hour as detailed in Unpaid Work and the Australian Economy estimates from ABS data, with increases to account for average wage since 2010



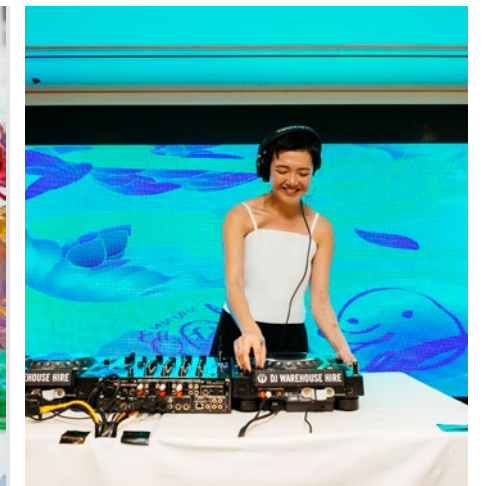
“

What an amazing conference! Thank you. And how about that astonishing dinner!!!

The conference was incredibly informative and it was great to have so many passionate arts workers in one beautiful space!

- Summit participants

”



Summit Dinner curated and facilitated by
4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art
Photographs by Document Photography

Public Galleries Summit

In partnership with Create NSW, Regional Public Galleries NSW (RPG NSW) and other sector organisations from Australia and New Zealand, M&G NSW coordinated the 6th Public Galleries Summit Australia and New Zealand, *Art & Artists*.

Presented over 3 days at Carriageworks the program included a mix of keynote speakers, plenary and parallel sessions interspersed with networking opportunities and formal dinner, hosted in partnership with 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, with support from City of Sydney.

228 delegates from NSW, Australia and New Zealand attended the summit while 218 attended the dinner including 100 local artists.



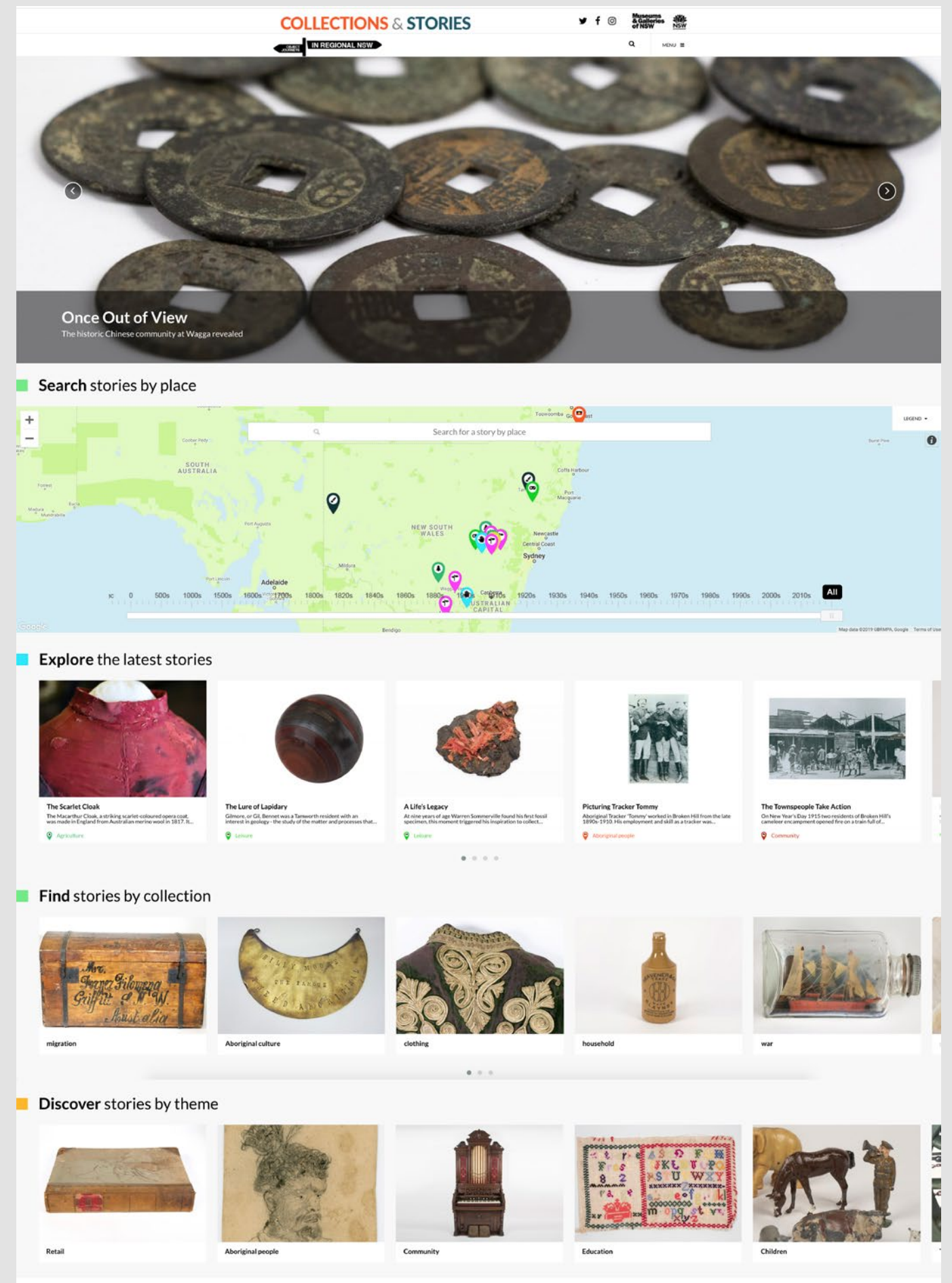
Collections and Stories

A successful application to Create NSW's Regional Cultural Fund announced mid-year led to the development of the *Collections and Stories* regional digitisation infrastructure project.

Funding to support research towards the development of a regionally based collections digitisation project and the associated preliminary business case was, through negotiation with Create NSW, supplemented with additional funds to scope and produce the *Collections & Stories* prototype website.

Three staff were contracted to successfully complete this work over a relatively short five-month period.

Above: Project staff digitising objects at Broken Hill
 Photograph courtesy of Museums & Galleries of NSW
Right: *Collections and Stories* prototype website





Collections and Stories

- 1 Cleaning the Tom Family organ at Orange and District historical society
- 2 Staff cleaning objects at the Sulphide Street Railway & Historical Museum in Broken Hill
- 3 Cleaning Kit and demonstration at Broken Hill Trades Hall
- 4 Digitisation set up at the Sulphide Street Railway & Historical Museum in Broken Hill
- 5 Measuring an object pre-digitisation in Orange.
- 6 Digitisation set-up at the Canowindra Historical Museum



Exhibition Touring Program

M&G NSW toured eight visual arts exhibitions across Australia and the state. Overall, these exhibitions travelled to 17 NSW venues including two Western Sydney venues as well as 17 venues in five other states and territories. They showcased the works of 42 living artists and included over 148 artworks and were seen by more than 156,312 people.

Touring nationally in 2018

Angelica Mesiti Relay League

Relay League represents the most ambitious exhibition to date by internationally renowned Australian artist Angelica Mesiti. *Relay League* was filmed during Mesiti's residency at the Centre National de la Danse in Paris and was created specifically for Artspace, Sydney.

David Griggs BETWEEN NATURE AND SIN

Developed by Campbelltown Arts Centre, *BETWEEN NATURE AND SIN* is a major survey of Philippines based Australian artist, David Griggs. With funding through the Australia Council for the Arts' Contemporary Touring Initiative, M&G NSW is touring the exhibition to nine galleries nationwide from 2018.

Justene Williams: The Curtain Breathed Deeply

The Curtain Breathed Deeply presents an immersive collection of video and sculptural work by Western Sydney based artist Justene Williams. *The Curtain Breathed Deeply* was curated and developed by Artspace.

Moving Histories // Future Projections

Moving Histories // Future Projections brings together some of Australia's leading female contemporary artists working across screen based media including Kate Blackmore, Mikala Dwyer and Justene Williams, Amala Groom, Deborah Kelly, Joan Ross, Soda_Jerk and Angelica Mesiti. This is a dLux Media Arts exhibition curated by Kelly Doley and Diana Smith of Barbara Cleveland.

No Human Being is Illegal (In All Our Glory)

Created for the 19th Biennale of Sydney (2014), the work comprises 20 life-sized photographic portraits by Deborah Kelly, realised through ongoing discussion, exchange and art making between the artist, the subjects and public participants. This is a MAMA exhibition toured by M&G NSW.

People Like Us

The national tour of *People Like Us* successfully concludes M&G NSW's National Touring Initiative, a four year Australian and State and Territory Government funded project. The exhibition, curated by Felicity Fenner, Director, UNSW Galleries is underpinned by a curatorial imperative to humanise new media technologies and ensure that a visit to the exhibition is an accessible, engaging and enriching experience.

Soft Core

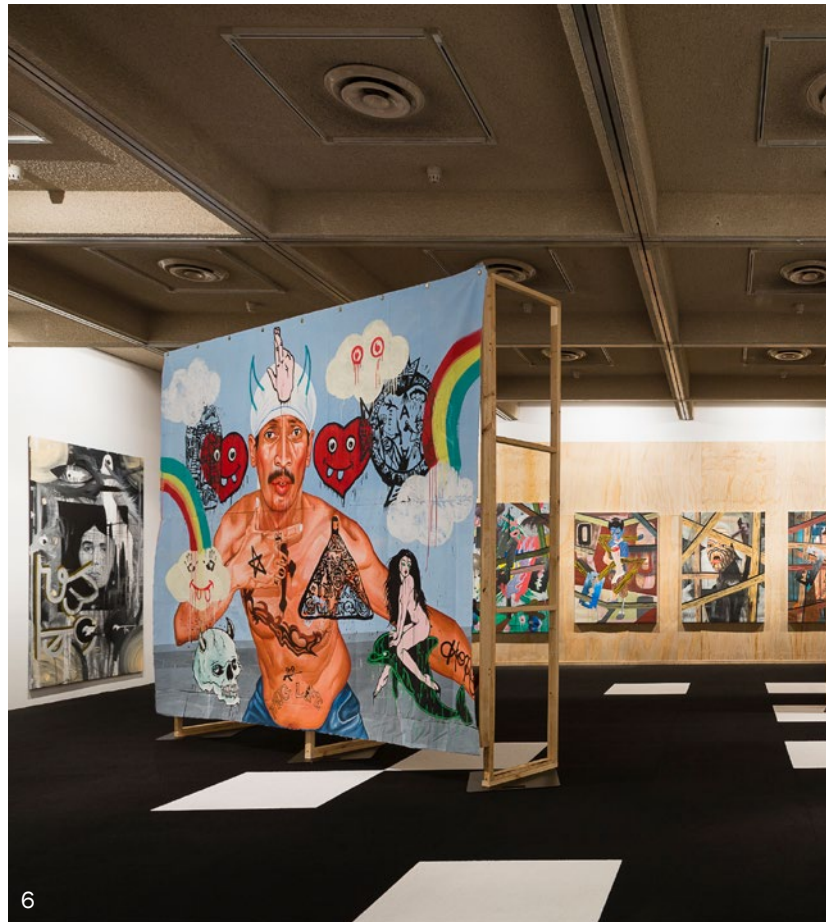
Curated by Micheal Do, in conjunction with Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, *Soft Core* presents artistic practices that explore the many facets of 'softness'. The exhibition presents existing and newly commissioned works by a diversity of artists such as Patricia Piccinini, Louise Weaver, Tony Oursler, Kathy Temin, Michael Parekowi and Todd Robinson who question the fluctuating meaning of what it means to be soft.

Tracey Moffatt & Gary Hillberg Montages: The Full Cut, 1999-2015

Montages: The Full Cut 1999-2015, curated and developed by Artspace, Sydney, presents the full suite of eight montage films by artist Tracey Moffatt and collaborator Gary Hillberg. The exhibition spans 16 years of the artist and editor's collaborative practice.

Opposite: *Moving Histories // Future Projections* on display at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, 2019
Visitors view Deborah Kelly's *LYING WOMEN* (2016)
Photograph courtesy of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery





- 1 **Soft Core** on display at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, 2018
Pictured Simon Yates, works from *The Foam Corps series* (2016)
Photograph courtesy of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery
- 2 **Angelica Mesiti, Relay League**, on display at Artspace, Sydney, 2017
Photograph by Zan Wimberley
- 3 **Soft Core** on display at Shepparton Art Museum, 2018
Pictured: Louise Weaver, *no small wonder* (2005) and Louise Weaver, *Sooty Owl* (2001)
Photograph by Serana Hunt
- 4 **Soft Core** on display at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, 2018
Pictured: Koji Ryui, *HAVE A NICE DAY* (2016)
Photograph courtesy of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery
- 5 **People Like Us** on display at UNSW Galleries, 2015
Pictured: Joan Ross, *The Claiming of Things* (2012)
Photograph by Silversalt
- 6 **David Griggs BETWEEN NATURE AND SIN** on display at Campbelltown Arts Centre, 2017
Photograph by Document Photography
- 7 **Justene Williams: The Curtain Breathed Deeply** on display at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA). Pictured: Justene Williams, *A ceremonial hat worn for eating finger cheese* [detail] (2014)
Photograph by Alessandro Bianchetti. Courtesy of PICA



In Development 2018

Arlo Mountford Deep Revolt

Working across video, sculpture and drawing, Arlo Mountford's practice questions our individual and collective memories of the artistic canon. The show, curated by Gina Mobayed, Director of Goulburn Regional Art Gallery will feature selected video works tracing a gradual distillation of the artist's ideas and promises to offer an amusing and thought provoking journey through the annals of art history.

Eugenia Lim The Ambassador

This 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art and M&G NSW initiated touring project presents Lim's most recent body of work, *The Ambassador* series. In this three-part project, Lim takes on new roles in uncovering the Australian-Asian narrative—drilling down into racial politics, the social costs of manufacturing and the role of architecture in shaping society.

Just Not Australian

Just Not Australian brings together a group of 20 living Australian artists across generations and mediums to deal broadly with the origins and implications of contemporary Australian nationhood. This timely thematic show will look to showcase the common sensibilities of satire, larrikinism and resistance in order to interrogate and interpret presenting and representing Australian identity.

Material Sound

Material Sound brings together six contemporary artists who each create an experience of sound within installations and apparatus constructed from everyday materials. Curated by Dr Caleb Kelly and developed by the Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA), *Material Sound* features newly commissioned work by artists Vicky Browne, Pia van Gelder, Caitlin Franzmann, Peter Blamey, Ross Manning, and Eric Demetriou, whose work and practice investigates sound and materials within art and performance.

Mel O'Callaghan Centre of the Centre

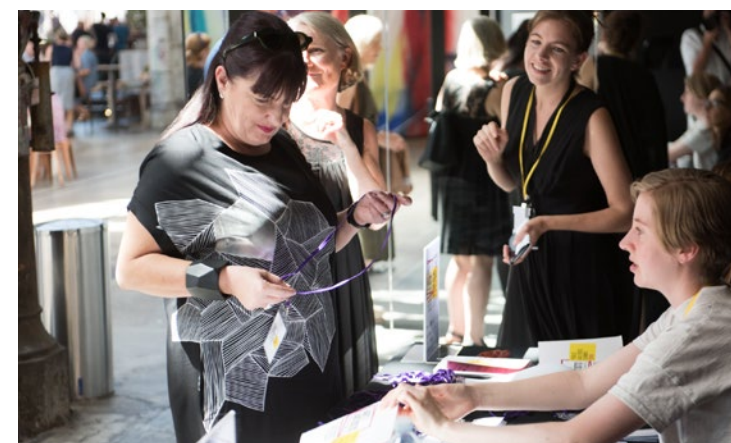
Created specifically for Artspace, *Centre of the Centre* is a major new commission that traces the origins of life and its regenerative forces, iterated through video, performance and sculpture. The Australian-born, Paris-based contemporary artist works across film, performance, installation and painting. This ambitious new commission offers O'Callaghan an opportunity to further explore her ever-expanding fields of influence and demonstrates the remarkable range of her artistic practice

Void

Void explores the multiple ways in which artists visually articulate the unknown as space, time and landscape and brings together contemporary Aboriginal artistic practice from across the country. Curated by Emily McDaniel, the exhibition will feature existing works across a range of mediums by eminent artists.

Tracey Moffatt and Gary Hillberg, *Montages: The Full Cut, 1999 – 2015, 2016*, on display at Artspace, Sydney, 2016. Courtesy the artists, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney and Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York
Photograph by Zan Wimberley





Engaging Art Initiative

Through funding from the Australia Council, the Engaging Art initiative continued in 2018. In response to sector need, and in consultation with industry professionals, three new resources were developed, released and promoted via the Alert newsletter, M&G NSW website and other NETS members nationally.

The new resources are *How to develop a public program*, *How to conduct audience research* and *Using social media to engage audiences*.

The initiative also supported a boosted PR campaign for the exhibition *Soft Core* during its tour to regional Victorian and NSW venues.

Working with Humankind PR and regional galleries, new marketing strategies and targeted media campaigns were undertaken alongside the development of media releases and contact lists. This resulted in valuable media exposure and PR

professional development opportunities for regional venues as well as an overall promotion of the exhibition and stimulation of audience numbers.

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery hosted *Soft Core* artists Tully Arnot and Simon Yates for a series of workshops and events resulting in increased return visitation and engagement with traditionally hard to reach schools and young people in the greater Wagga Wagga region.

-
- 1 **Simon Yates, *The Foam Corps* series, 2016. Exhibited as part of *Soft Core* on display at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery 2018**
 - 2 **Humula Public School students take part in a workshop with *Soft Core* artists Tully Arnot and Simon Yates at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery**
 - 3 **Tully Arnot leading a workshop on robotic soft sculpture at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery**

All photographs by Tayla Martin

Professional Development

Our regular 2018 Professional Development Program was delivered free or at low cost to participants with support from a number of partners, including: Museum Applied Arts & Sciences, Australian Museum, Cement Fondu, Local Government NSW, Australian Museums & Galleries Association NSW (AMaGA NSW) and RPG NSW.

M&G NSW ran and contributed to nine individual professional/skills development events attracting 768 participants.

Topic areas included, accessing grants and other funding, Aboriginal cultural centre development, public gallery program and engagement strategy development, local government museum manager professional networking and development of the *Collections and Stories* website.

Art & Artists, 6th Public Galleries Summit, Australia and New Zealand, 2018
Photographs by Tim da-Rin

Grants and Funding

On behalf of Create NSW, M&G NSW managed three devolved grant programs: Audience Development Fund (ADF), Mentorships, Fellowships and Volunteer Placements and Volunteer Museum (VM) grants.

In its third year the ADF grant program devolved \$45,000 across five public galleries in NSW supporting projects ranging across diverse communities and demographics from young people in new migrant and refugee communities to visual arts students facing barriers of distance in engaging with their regional gallery.

This program provided assistance to regional galleries to trial new models for engaging audiences, creating innovative public programs that engage artists and the community, increasing access and participation.

- ▶ Artspace Sydney
- ▶ 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art
- ▶ Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery
- ▶ Murray Art Museum Albury
- ▶ Shoalhaven Regional Gallery, Nowra

Opposite

Top: Volunteers from Old Courthouse Museum, Batemans Bay with consultant Angela George carry out a significance assessment. Project funded by a 2017 Project Development Grant

Middle: Weethalle Museum, 2018 Small Grant recipient, received funding to manufacture and install museum signage which provides a clear invitation to visitors for exhibition access

Bottom: Members of AMaGA Mid North Coast Chapter undertake a collections care workshop funded by a 2018 Skills Development Grant

Through the Mentorships, Fellowships and Volunteer Placements program, \$20,000 was devolved to support two Fellowships, and three Mentorships to paid museum and gallery staff, and two museum volunteer placements, from across the State.

- ▶ Iain Dawson, Bega Valley Regional Gallery
- ▶ Fellowship: Museum MACAN Jakarta, Indonesia
- ▶ Jade Kerin, Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery
- ▶ Mentorship: Art Gallery of NSW, Individual program
- ▶ Kate Tuart, Bank Art Museum Moree
- ▶ Mentorship: Sydney Living Museums, Exhibitions and Curatorial
- ▶ Hayley Ward, Armidale Regional Council
- ▶ Mentorship: Sydney Living Museums, Exhibitions and Curatorial
- ▶ Julian Woods, Bathurst Regional Art Gallery
- ▶ Mentorship: Murray Art Museum Albury
- ▶ Kenneth Brown, Macleay River Historical Society Incorporated
- ▶ Volunteer Placement: Australian Museum
- ▶ Mary Douglas, Canowindra Historical Society and Museum
- ▶ Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (Powerhouse)

The VM Grants program received 54 applications and awarded \$79,400 to 37 museums in 29 local government areas.

Project Development Grants

The Project Development Grants promote viable long-term outcomes, develop experience in working with consultants, and foster closer partnerships with councils and networking between community museums. In addition, they enable museums to grow by focusing on either more strategic or larger scale projects. Six applications for Project Development Grant funding were successful.

Skills Development Grants

Skills Development Grants provide funding to volunteer museums and museum networks for regional or state focused skill development training and networking events. Four applications for Skills Development Grants were received and approved.

Small Grants

The 2018 Small Grants show a continuation of the popularity of engaging external consultants and projects, which include the purchase of conservation materials, collection management and exhibition showcases. Twenty two applications for Small Grants were successful.

Leg Up Grants

In 2018, Leg Up Grants were used to fund training and skill development activities. Five applications for Leg Up Grants were received and approved. As this is a matched funded grant, an equal amount was invested in the program by the museums.



The Dobell Exhibition Grant

The Dobell Exhibition Grant of \$40,000, funded by the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation, was awarded to Newcastle Art Gallery for *SODEISHA: Connected to Australia*, an exhibition of the gallery's extensive Japanese ceramics from the Sodeisha school, alongside work by contemporary Japanese and Australian ceramic artists, to be presented in early 2019.

In July, M&G NSW CEO Michael Rolfe visited Lismore to attend the opening of *From Here to There: Australian Art and Walking* at the Lismore Regional Gallery, which was supported through the 2017 Dobell Exhibition Grant. The exhibition featured work by Lauren Brincat, Dean Brown, Daniel Crooks, Nici Cumpston, Rebecca Gallo, Agatha Gothe-Snape, Alex Karaconji, Noel McKenna, Sarah Mosca, Nell, Liam O'Brien and Sarah Rodigari. Alongside the exhibition ran an innovative public and education program creatively engaging both artists and the community in activities involving both art and walking and even sessions at the local pub.

The funding allowed the exhibition to expand to include more works of greater scale and the commissioning of new works by Rebecca Gallo, who undertook a series of walks in and around Lismore, collecting discarded objects and transforming them into a sculptural installations in the exhibition and Sarah Rodigari who showcased a new performance on opening night as a result of her residency about how place is historically determined, invented and retold. The exhibition was also accompanied by a catalogue documenting the show with beautiful thoughts and ideas from each artist reflecting on the act of walking and its meaning to them and in their work.

Building Improvement Grants

The Office of Environment and Heritage again supported the Building Improvement Grants for Environmental Assessment and Remedial Building Work. Fifteen applications were received and eight were supported across both these programs.

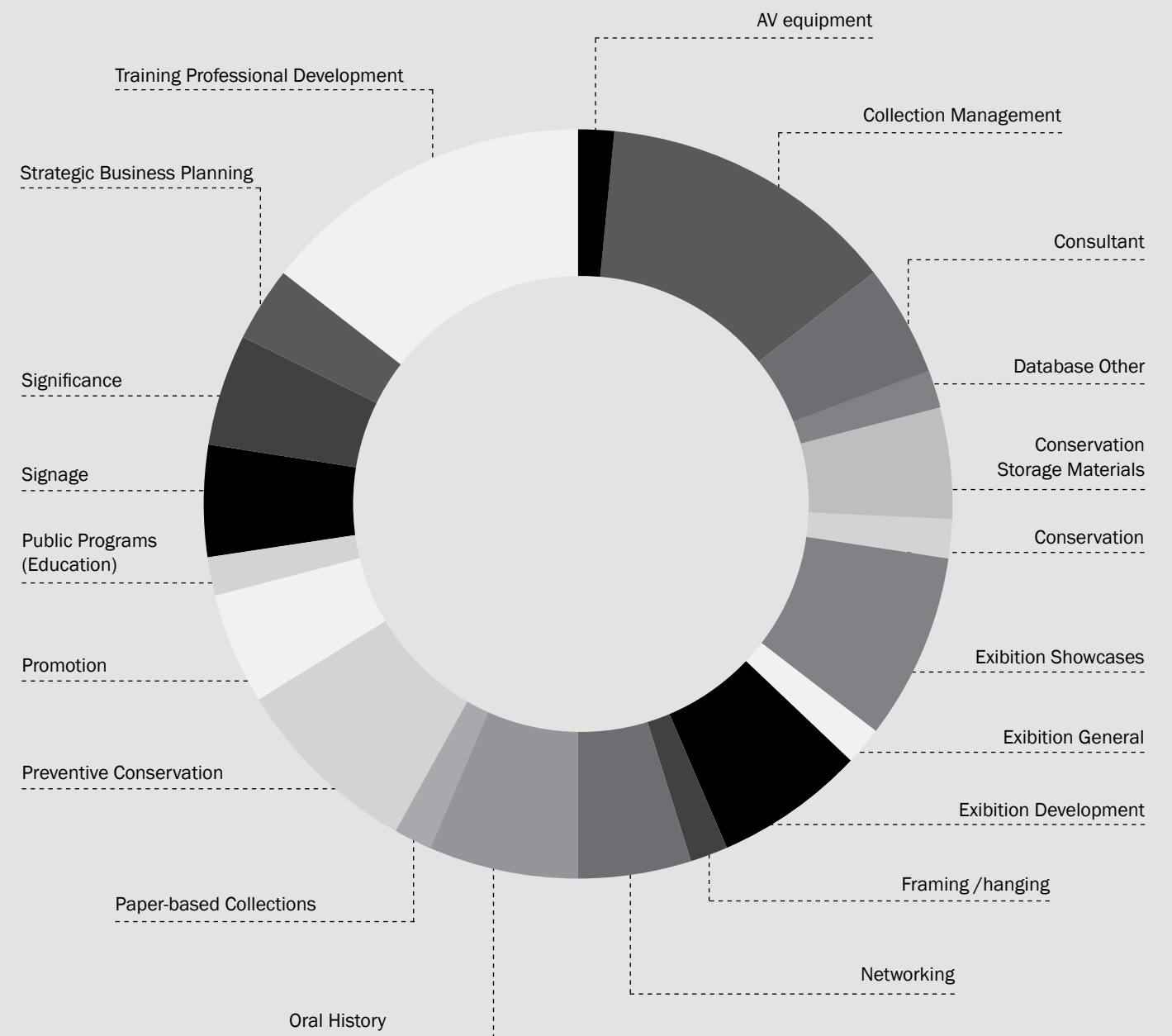
Building assessment reports were produced for the following four organisations:

- ▶ Armidale Folk Museum
- ▶ Eskbank House
- ▶ NSW Lancers Memorial Museum
- ▶ Schaeffer House

Four building works were funded for:

- ▶ Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum
- ▶ Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park and Museum
- ▶ Woodford Academy
- ▶ Old Courthouse Museum

Successful Grants by Category



Standards Review Program

In its 12th year the Standards Program ran as a non-regional model again, working with four museums, to examine their practices and policies and work together to align them with the Australian standards for public museums and galleries.

The program engaged with 20 volunteers to strengthen their practices and the ongoing sustainability of their museums.

- ▶ Mt Erin Heritage Centre, Wagga Wagga
- ▶ Bellingen Museum
- ▶ Nowra Museum
- ▶ Prince Henry Hospital Nursing and Medical Museum

Regional Museum Advisors Program

Supporting 64 museums/collecting organisations in 15 local government areas, the Museum Advisor program continued to assist the work of over 600 volunteers through the provision of advice and specialist skills. In 2018, the program ran in the following local government areas:

- ▶ Albury City Council & Greater Hume Shire [2 LGA]
- ▶ Bega Valley Council
- ▶ Bland Shire Council
- ▶ Blue Mountains City Council
- ▶ Broken Hill City Council
- ▶ Clarence Valley Council
- ▶ Eurobodalla Shire Council
- ▶ Lachlan Shire Council
- ▶ Lockhart Shire Council
- ▶ Narrandera Shire Council
- ▶ Shoalhaven City Council
- ▶ Tenterfield Shire Council
- ▶ Snowy Valleys Council
- ▶ Wollongong City Council

Significant outcomes from the 2018 program included an Augmented Reality exhibition trail and digital storytelling tours, building repairs/improvements, development of disaster plans, online museum exhibitions, development and updates of strategic plans, skills development in collections management, documentation and object conservation, reorganisation of displays and storage areas and participation in an ANU led project looking at Indigenous stone tools.



- 1 New museum-standard storage drawer for silk/heritage fabric items being set up at the New Italy Museum, made possible through a VM Grant
- 2 Local Government NSW Museum Managers Meeting
- 3 Preventative Conservation workshop at Saumarez Homestead, made possible through a Skills Development Grant
- 4 New scissor lift at Coffs Harbour Regional Museum, made possible through a Small Grant



Aboriginal Program

M&G NSW continued its secretariat support for the NSW Aboriginal Culture, Heritage & Arts Association (ACHAA) which represents Aboriginal cultural venues around the state.

ACHAA's first exhibition *From Our Place* concluded its NSW tour in February at Muru Mittigar Aboriginal Cultural Centre at Rouse Hill Farm. All loans were subsequently returned safely to their cultural venues and the bespoke exhibition showcases were donated to Muda Aboriginal Corporation in Bourke.

ACHAA's now annual conference was held at the Australian Museum from 25-26 October. The two day event included a collection tour and brought together regional Aboriginal cultural venues with Sydney cultural institutions and stakeholders such as Aboriginal Affairs, Arts Law Centre of Australia and Create NSW.

Opposite: Part of the *From our place: an exhibition from NSW Aboriginal Cultural Centres* developed by ACHAA and M&G NSW

Above left: M&G NSW Aboriginal Programs Manager Steve Miller on the road in Bourke with Muda Aboriginal Corporation Chairperson Dot Martin

Above right: Steve Miller in Trangie at the Wungunja Cultural Centre with Trangie Local Aboriginal Land Council's CEO Terrie Milgate and Chairperson Diane Smith



IMAGinE Awards 2018 at the National Art School
featuring work by Justene Williams from *The Curtain*
Breathed Deeply (2014-2018)
Photograph by Tim da-Rin



Opposite: IMAGinE Awards 2018 at the National Art School including performance work *Two Fold* (2016) by Justene Williams
 Photographs by Tim da-Rin

IMAGinE Awards

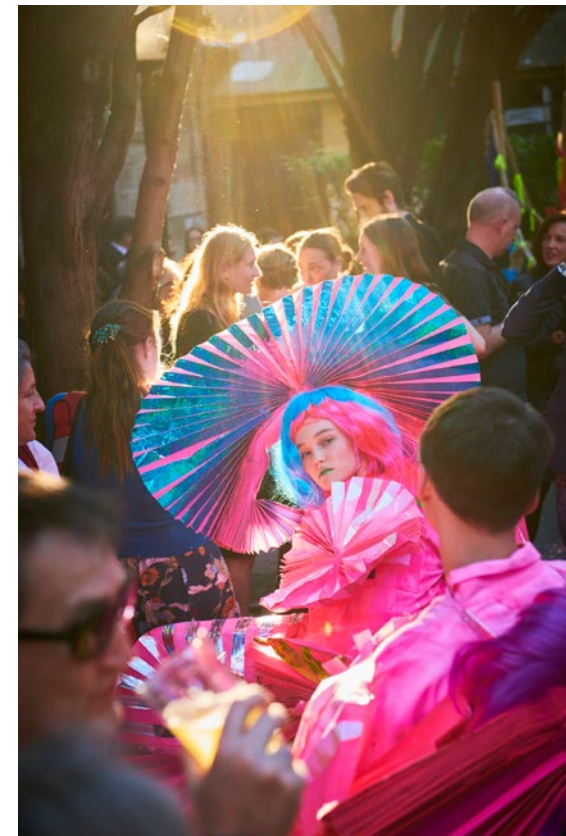
In partnership with RPG NSW, AMaGA (NSW), and the National Art School, M&G NSW presented the 11th annual IMAGinE Awards in November 2018.

A record 97 nominations were received from volunteer run and paid staff organisations in NSW, with 13 awards announced across the four categories of Exhibition Projects, Engagement Programs, Capacity Building, Capital & Sustainability Programs and Individual Achievement.

In addition, this year ACHAA presented a special award to a NSW Aboriginal Curator in recognition of their work on an outstanding exhibition in the museum and galleries sector in the past 12 months.

Winners:

- ▶ The Lock-Up
- ▶ Bathurst Regional Art Gallery
- ▶ Campbelltown Arts Centre
- ▶ Fairfield City Museum and Gallery
- ▶ Australian Museum
- ▶ Shellharbour City Museum
- ▶ Lismore Regional Gallery
- ▶ Crawford House Museum
- ▶ Bank Art Museum Moree
- ▶ C3West (Museum of Contemporary Art Australia) & Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre
- ▶ Jessi England, The Lock-Up
- ▶ Helen Price, Norfolk Island Museum
- ▶ Bianca Beetson (ACHAA Award)



Communications

Website

The M&G NSW website continues to develop and deliver highly valued information and resources to the sector.

In 2018, there were 349,141 visits to the website; with 251,917 unique users and 643,877 page views. Overall the website traffic grew by over 38% on the previous year, with visitors from NSW making up 60% of all traffic

The website maintained a listing of 476 museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural centres across NSW. These pages continue to be the only web presence and contact point for many smaller organisations. The listings received 157,634 page views, an increase of 44% over the previous year.

A refresh of the M&G NSW website was commenced with the aim of porting it to a new Content Management System, including a revised design and functionality.

Publishing

Through 2018 M&G NSW continued to publish our fortnightly e-newsletter ALERT. It featured sector news articles, jobs, resources, grant information and professional development opportunities. The sector news articles received 44,904 page views, a 39% increase from the previous year.

Online Resources

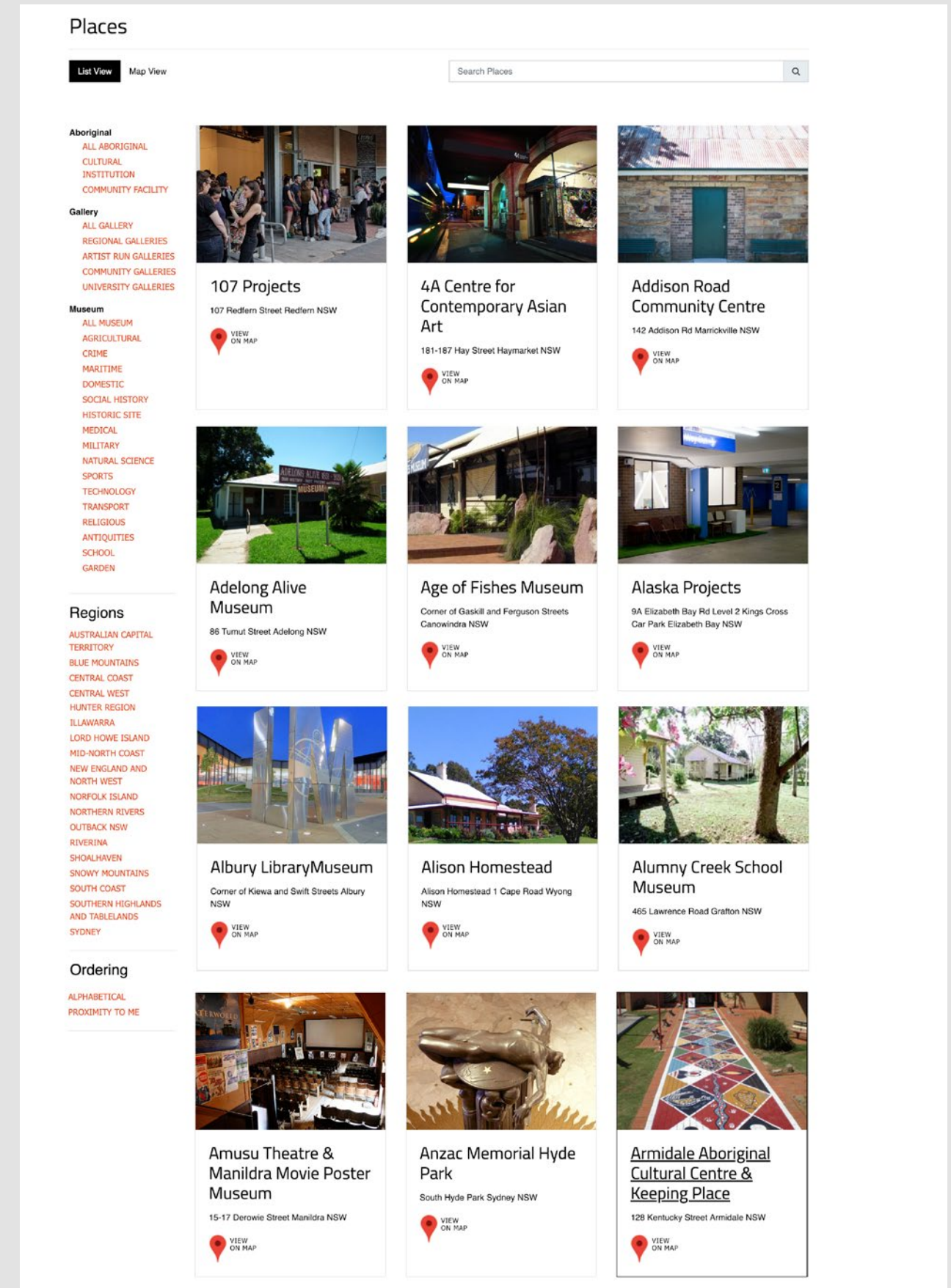
In 2018 M&G NSW developed a range of online resources including 15 video stories and interviews, 150 articles and 15 sector resources. Our sector resources pages received 89,178 page views, with an increase of 15,570 from the previous year.

ALERT e-newsletter

	2018	2017
Number of subscribers	3,154	2,757
Number published	22	22
Open rate	43.5%	43.9%

Social Media

	Facebook	Twitter	Instagram
	2,610 fans	4,401 followers	1,280 followers
	358 new fans	216 new followers	account established in 2017



Index page for Places on M&G NSW website



Opposite: Eugenia Lim, *The Australian Ugliness*, [detail] 2018, three channel video installation
Production still by Tom Ross. Courtesy of the artist

Partnerships

Partnerships continue to be a key strategy for M&G NSW to diversify support for the sector and programs run. In 2018, M&G NSW partnered with the Local Government NSW for two roundtable meetings with museum staff employed by local government. The partnership with Museums & Galleries Queensland on the Standards Program continued to strengthen the relationship between the two organisations.

Additional partnerships with local government continued to grow with financial support provided for the Standards Program and the Museum Advisor Program enabling over 16 local government areas to be involved. Additionally, Sydney Living Museums, Australian Museum, Art Gallery of NSW, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences and NSW State Archives and Records continue to support and work with M&G NSW in the delivery of exhibitions, professional

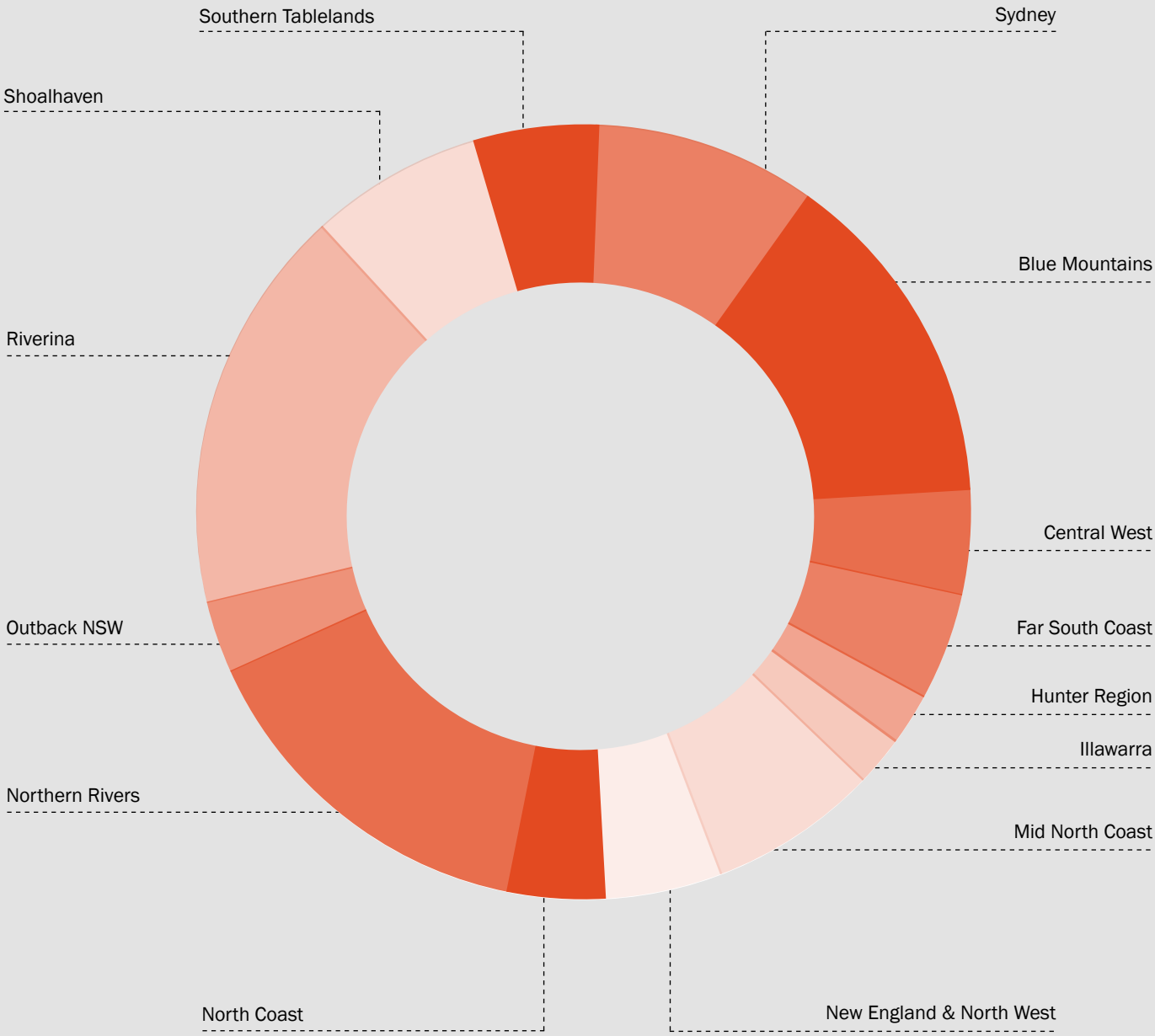
development programs, provision of expertise and venues that in turn support the small to medium sector.

Other partnerships with regionally based and Western Sydney cultural institutions Campbelltown Arts Centre, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre and Murray Art Museum Albury continued in 2018.

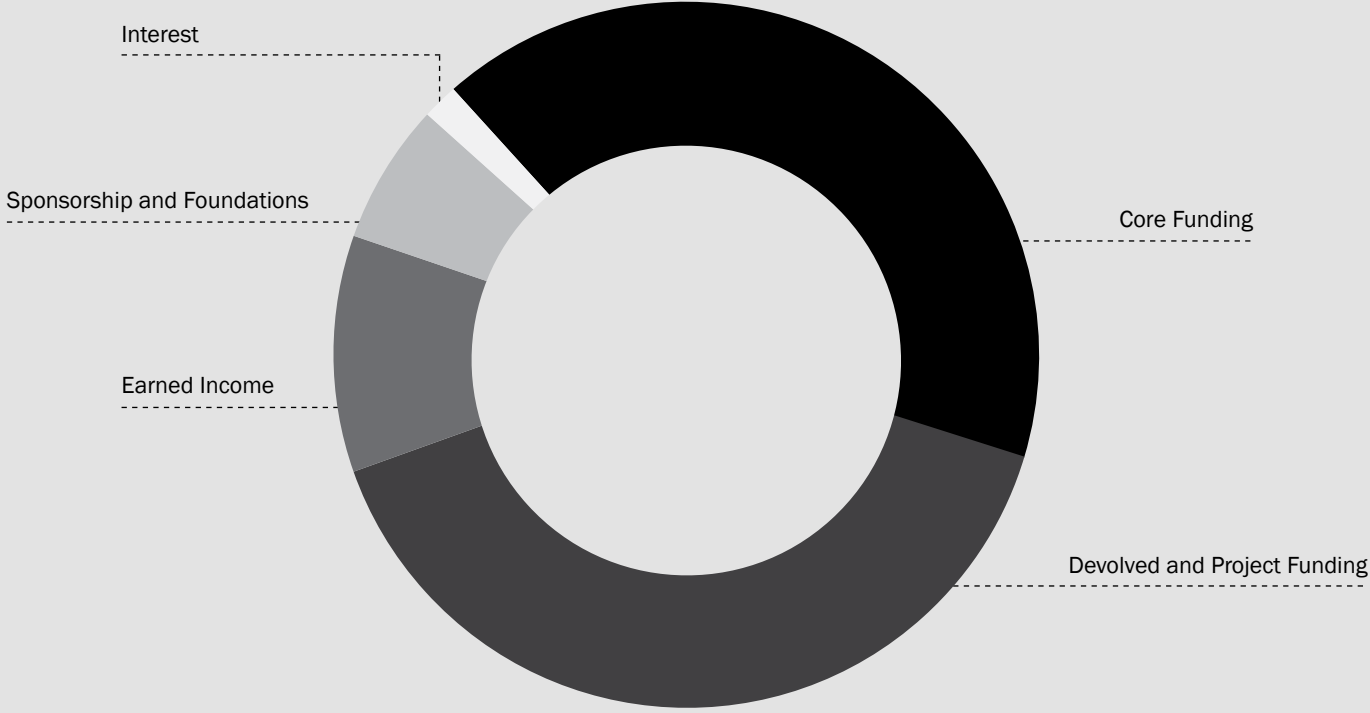
A number of new partnerships were established with Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, Bathurst Regional Art Gallery and 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art for touring projects launching in 2019, several of these attracting significant additional project funding through Create NSW, Visions of Australia and Australia Council sources.

Finances

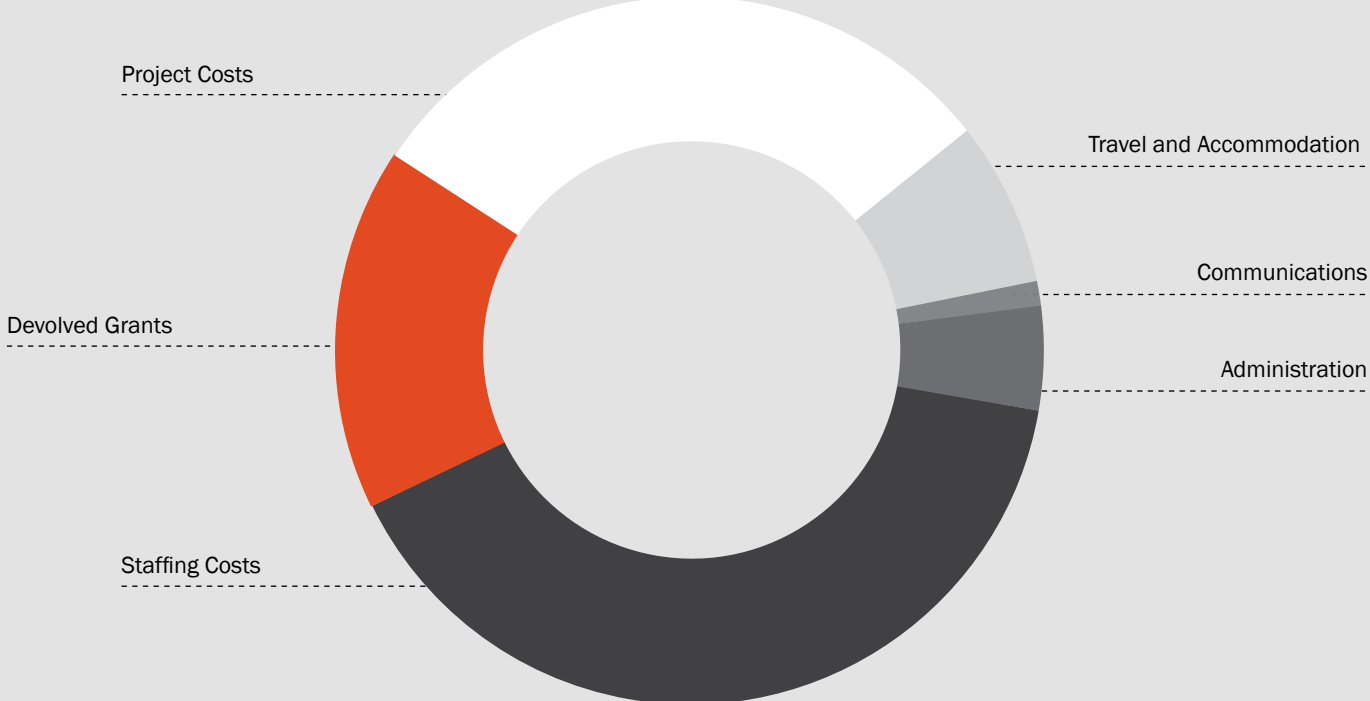
Devolved Funding by Region



Income



Expenses





Museums & Galleries of NSW

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Supported by the



Australian Government



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