



2024 Geelong Contemporary Art Prize shortlist announced



Peter Atkins
Fruit and vegetables 2022
synthetic polymer paint on board
Courtesy of the artist and Tolarno Galleries,
Melbourne, and GAGPROJECTS, Adelaide



Euan Heng
Art thou pale for weariness 2024
oil on Linen
Courtesy of the artist and Niagara Galleries,
Melbourne

Geelong Gallery has announced the shortlist for the *2024 Geelong Contemporary Art Prize*. This \$30,000 acquisitive prize will again present outstanding works by emerging and established Australian artists from around the country.

The 2024 finalists are **Peter Atkins, Stephen Benwell, Natasha Bieniek, Seth Birchall, Maggie Brink, Johnathon Bush, Eleanor Louise Butt, Fernando do Campo, Ella Dunn, David Egan, Louise Gresswell, dana harris, Euan Heng, Duain Kelaart, Dane Lovett, Travis MacDonald, Viv Miller, Jan Murray, John Pastoriza-Pinol, Rosslynd Piggott, Kenny Pittock, Steven Rendall, Rachael Robb, Huseyin Sami, Georgia Spain, Ebony Truscott, Kate Vassallo, Trevor Vickers, Jake Walker, Amber Wallis and Louise Weaver.**

The 2024 judges, **José Da Silva**, Director of UNSW Galleries, **Jane Devery**, Senior Curator, Exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, and **Jason Smith**, Director & CEO of Geelong Gallery, had the task of selecting the shortlist from 560 entries.

Of the selection process and 31 finalist works the judges commented: 'we appreciated the opportunity to view an inspiring array of works and approaches to contemporary painting by so many artists working around Australia. The 31 finalists exemplify what we see as the constantly dynamic and vital field of contemporary Australian painting. The finalists' works are of exceptional aesthetic refinement and conceptual diversity, and are distinctly thought-provoking in their reflections and representations of 21st century culture and experience.'

Geelong Gallery is grateful to the Dimmick Foundation, whose support helps to grow the collection and

supports Australian artists and contemporary painting.

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Background

The *2024 Geelong Contemporary Art Prize* continues a long tradition of prize exhibitions staged by Geelong Gallery. From the late-1930s, the Gallery has awarded acquisitive prizes variously for paintings, watercolours and prints, sponsored by a variety of individuals and corporate supporters. In the mid-1990s, the Geelong Art Gallery Foundation established a contemporary painting prize—the *Geelong Contemporary Art Prize*—with the aim of showcasing the work of contemporary Australian practitioners and enriching the Gallery's collection of contemporary Australian art through the acquisition of a winning work. From 2004–10 the prize was restyled as the *Fletcher Jones Art Prize* in acknowledgement of the sponsorship of Fletcher Jones. In 2012, with the generous support of the Dimmick Charitable Trust (now Dimmick Foundation), the award was renamed the *Geelong Contemporary Art Prize*.

Over the past 20 years, works by **Naomi Hobson (2022), Diana Georgetti (2021), Andrew Browne (2018), Kate Beynon (2016), Rob McHaffie (2014), Paul Ryan (2012), Tim McMonagle (2010), Nadine Christensen (2008), Sam Leach (2006) and Juan Ford (2004)** have been acquired through this nationally significant painting prize.

The official announcement will be made on Friday 9 August at 6:00pm, where the recipient of the \$30,000 prize will be announced.

Exhibition partner

Dimmick Foundation