



Media Release

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Geelong Gallery appoints Humphrey Clegg as new Gallery Director & CEO



Photographer: Tara C Moore

The Board of Geelong Gallery is thrilled to announce today that **Humphrey Clegg** has been appointed as the next **Gallery Director & CEO**, following the departure of Director & CEO, Jason Smith, to the Art Gallery of South Australia on 21 February 2025.

Humphrey Clegg brings an incredible wealth of experience in the visual arts sector, with a distinguished career in the arts industry, where he is highly regarded for his leadership, fundraising and curatorial expertise.

Geelong Gallery President, Eliza Holt, in announcing Humphrey's appointment, states:

'After a rigorous search, the Board is delighted to announce that Humphrey Clegg will be the next Director & CEO of Geelong Gallery. Humphrey's vision for the Gallery and his proven ability to fundraise for transformational projects makes him an outstanding choice to lead the Gallery into its next chapter. Humphrey's experience and curatorial background will be invaluable as the Gallery continues to build on its rich legacy of artistic excellence through the growth of its collection and delivering excellent exhibition programs. Humphrey is a leader in the arts industry and has exceptional strategic and philanthropic acumen. The Board looks forward to working with Humphrey as he leads the Gallery at this exciting time in its history.'

Humphrey will join Geelong Gallery from the Art Gallery of Ballarat, where he has served as Assistant Director – Engagement since 2021. During his tenure, he has led major initiatives that significantly increased visitation, secured substantial funding for programming and collection development, and forged partnerships with leading institutions both in Australia and internationally. With over two decades of experience in the arts and

cultural sector, Humphrey's background includes senior roles at the National Gallery of Victoria, where he worked for 15 years, and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation. Humphrey has been instrumental in securing transformative philanthropic support, developing internationally recognised exhibitions, and leading major organisational initiatives.

On his appointment, Humphrey expressed his enthusiasm for the opportunity to lead one of Australia's most respected regional galleries.

'Geelong Gallery is one of the finest in the country, and it is a great privilege to play a leadership role in its next, exciting phase. I am especially looking forward to working with the Board and the team to make it a place where the whole community feels welcome and can experience the work of the most inspiring artists and designers from around Australia and beyond. Geelong is a growing international city, and I know we can play an important role in the city's very bright future.'

Humphrey will officially commence his role as Director & CEO of Geelong Gallery on Monday 7 April 2025.

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About Geelong Gallery

Established in 1896, Geelong Gallery is one of Australia's leading regional galleries, renowned for its outstanding collection of Australian and international art. Located in the heart of Geelong's cultural precinct, the Gallery plays a vital role in enriching the community through exhibitions, education programs, and innovative cultural initiatives. As it embarks on an exciting phase of transformation, Geelong Gallery remains committed to fostering creativity, learning, and engagement with the visual arts.

