



Media Release

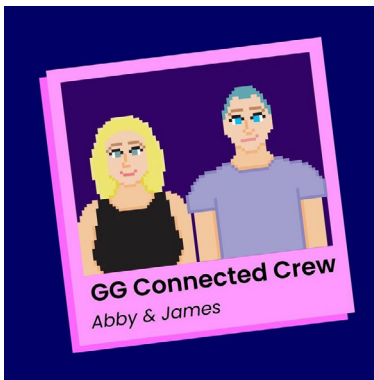
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Geelong Gallery Connected 2022— Exploring creativity through Art Club



Geelong Gallery's youth engagement project established in 2021, @GGConnected continues to develop relationships between the Gallery, emerging artists and the broader Geelong community, with a focus on young people.

At the helm in 2022, Digital Trainees **Abby Butler** and **James Forster** have teamed up to continue the GG Connected legacy with the addition of the 'Art Club'—aiming to strengthen Geelong Gallery's engagement with people in the community under the age of 25 and encourage participation in art-making activities.



Free for anyone to participate, GG Connected's Instagram presence and Art Club will collaborate with a local artist every 6 weeks to release a brief. GGConnected will bring an emerging creative practitioner's work into dialogue with a significant work from Geelong Gallery's permanent collection. The series of social media posts, Q&As and stories will culminate in in-person workshops, inviting the audience to participate, reflect and share what they have learnt.

The project begins with an Art Club brief focused on creating collage with upcycled materials. It encourages participants to use various items they could find at home, such as paper, fabrics and magazines, to reuse and create a piece of artwork.

Follow @GGconnected_ on Instagram for more.

About the trainees

Abby Butler (she/her) is a graphic designer and printmaker. Her methodical design process involves a hands-on, experimental approach that aims to create tactile and playful concepts. Working predominantly in branding and publishing, Abby is passionate about generating thoughtful ideas for her clients to create unique and noteworthy designs.

In 2019, Abby joined the Geelong Gallery team as a volunteer, assisting with the Digitisation Lab project and on the gallery floor. Abby has recently graduated from Deakin University Geelong with a Bachelor of Design (Visual Communication) and was given the opportunity of designing the bespoke trophies for the 2021 Deakin Alumni Awards with her colleagues. Instagram: @abby_does_design

James Forster (he/him) is a self-taught artist and creative based on the Surfcoast. He is the creator of the zine 'Pleasantville'. His practice consists of illustrations, videography, collages and most recently music. James holds a strong interest in fashion and has completed a Bachelor of Fashion (Merchandise Management) from RMIT.

