



# Media release

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## Message from the Geelong Gallery Board

Tuesday 7 April 2020



Geelong Gallery collection  
installation view, Geelong Gallery  
works by Eugene von Guerard  
Photographer: Andrew Curtis

In response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, the Geelong Gallery Board last night decided to extend the temporary closure of the Gallery.

As a consequence of Federal and State Government directives, the Board of Geelong Gallery last night agreed that the Gallery will remain temporarily closed beyond the published date of Monday 13 April—until such time as government and health authorities deem it reasonable to re-open.

The Board and Senior Management have made some important changes to the 2020 exhibitions program:

**The Look**—returned to  
National Portrait Gallery

**Rone in Geelong** rescheduled to  
27 February–16 May 2021

**Geelong contemporary art prize**  
rescheduled to 29 May–22 August 2021

**Blanche Tilden—ripple effect:  
a 25 year survey** rescheduled to  
8 May–1 August 2021

**Geelong Gallery Director & CEO, Jason Smith** said “Public, learning and outreach programs associated with our original exhibition plan will be postponed in line with our revised exhibition dates. Several programs will be rescheduled in line with our new exhibition dates. Over the coming weeks the Gallery team will implement ticket credits or refunds to *Rone in Geelong* ticket holders and any associated Learn and Public programs. It would be greatly appreciated if ticket holders, our members and the broader community could be patient while we implement these changes.”

Jason Smith continues “I want to reassure the community that as soon as we are advised it is safe to re-open our doors, we shall do so.

Current exhibitions *Collection leads: Kate Beynon—kindred spirits, Jacky Redgate—HOLD ON, Going public—portraits from the Colin Holden Collection and Resonance+Reflection—design ideas for an expanded Geelong Gallery*, will remain on display when we re-open, in addition to an exceptional rehang of our collection.”

**Geelong Gallery President, Gerard Mullaly** said “These are challenging times. However, Geelong Gallery remains focussed on our true purpose—providing enriching art experiences to our community. We understand that engagement in the arts is essential to our community wellbeing and is particularly important in times of uncertainty. As our staff continue to explore and enhance the way in which we communicate and engage, we encourage the community to follow us on social media and via our website to access our growing range of digital resources and programs.”

Geelong Gallery is soon to release a new outreach program—**Gallery on Tour**. Available from Term 2, this program will bring key works from the collection to educators and students with engaging activities, videos and Gallery Educator-led video conferencing.

Further communications regarding Geelong Gallery’s return to operations will be published via the Gallery website, e-communications and through social media channels over the coming weeks or months as the situation evolves and in response to Government advice.

The Gallery will be contacting all *Rone in Geelong* ticket holders to notify patrons of the options including credits or cancellation. We can be contacted on 5229 3645 or [info@geelonggallery.org.au](mailto:info@geelonggallery.org.au)

Please consult the [Department of Health and Human Services](#) guidelines for further information.

