



# Media Release

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## The Look Coming to Geelong Gallery in 2020

Geelong Gallery  
7 March to 3 May 2020

Open daily 10am to 5pm  
Closed Good Friday



Bryan Brown, 2008 by Adam Knott  
Collection: National Portrait Gallery

Geelong Gallery is pleased to present a powerful new exhibition from the National Portrait Gallery, *The Look*. As the first venue on the national tour, and the only Victorian destination, Geelong Gallery will host the exhibition consisting of 68 portraits that provide a comprehensive line-up of identities and styles.

*The Look* is a visually stunning photographic exhibition showcasing striking portraits curated from the National Portrait Gallery's collection of works.

The exhibition features subjects from all walks of Australian life; young, old; Indigenous, non-Indigenous; women and men; household names and people who may be completely unknown to many of us.

National Portrait Gallery (NPG) Curator, **Joanna Gilmour** explains that *The Look* highlights some of the most striking contemporary photographic portraits in the NPG collection.

'Often our collection-based exhibitions are focussed on a specific thing—a specific artist, medium, time-frame, historical theme or profession, for example. The guiding curatorial principle for *The Look* has been to celebrate a diverse group of sitters who are united in owning and rocking their distinct 'Look'.'

'It's a way that we can spill a guilty secret: that portraiture can be perky, sexy, sly, wry, honest, contemplative or relaxed; and that sometimes it's perfectly fine to admire a portrait not just because the subject is compelling, inspirational or distinguished, but simply because they exude their own unique style. We also take pride in being able to dismantle the misconception that portraiture is all about crusty old oil paintings of dead white males.'

Geelong Gallery Director & CEO, Jason Smith, says 'People love portraiture because it generates an immediate connection between viewer and subject. We are delighted to be working with the National Portrait Gallery to host *The Look*. Following the success of our presentation of the 2017 and 2018 *Archibald Prize* exhibitions from the Art Gallery of New South Wales, we know our local and wider regional audiences will be thrilled with the exceptional range of Australians portrayed in *The Look*. A comprehensive public and education program will be released in the coming months and this will further explore the people, life stories and artists behind many of the works in this fascinating exhibition.'

The works span five decades, from the *George Spartels* early 1970s portrait by Ivan Gaal to *Tilman Ruff* 2019 by Nikki Toole, and include works by photographers Adam Knott, Julian Kingma, Michael Riley, Petrina Hicks, Tracey Moffatt, David Rosetzky, Ingvar Kenne, Andrew Maccoll and more.

Famous faces in the exhibition include; Nicole Kidman, Heath Ledger, Carla Zampatti, Bryan Brown, Lee Lin Chin, Megan Gale, Cate Blanchett, Rachel Griffiths, Ian Thorpe and Layne Beachley just to name a few.

*The Look* exhibition opens at Geelong Gallery on Saturday 7 March 2020.

Entry prices apply: Adult \$11 | Concession \$9 | Members \$8 | Child \$6 | Family \$28



Geelong Gallery  
55 Little Malop Street  
Geelong VIC 3220 Australia

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Open daily 10am – 5pm

Drop-in tours  
Saturday and Sunday



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Saturday 7 March to Sunday 3 May 2020  
Closed Good Friday

A National Portrait Gallery touring exhibition

## NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

Exhibition program partners



Learn program partners



**Australian Government**  
National Collecting Institutions  
Touring & Outreach Program

This exhibition is supported by the National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program, an Australian Government program aiming to improve access to the national collections for all Australians



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