

**MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Shaun Tan: The Art of Story**

**Discovering *The Lost Thing* – Book to film**

**14 July to 18 August 2016**

The Grace Cossington Smith Gallery is delighted to present a visual exploration of the process of creating Shaun Tan's *The Lost Thing* story from picture book to animated film.



Shaun Tan <http://www.shauntan.net/> is a multi-award winning Australian author and illustrator. His many books include *The Arrival*, *The Red Tree*, *Tales from Outer Suburbia*, *The Bird King* and *Rules of Summer* and *The Singing Bones*. *The Lost Thing* <http://www.thelostthing.com/> published in 2000, is a story about identity and belonging.

The exhibition includes works and inspiration for the picture book: early sketches and roughs, final original illustrations and a dummy book. It explores the ten year collaborative process with the film team at *Passion Pictures* to create the 15 minute long animated film of *The Lost Thing*. Shaun's personal notes and comments, character sketches, pencil storyboards, soft pastel stills and texture paintings reveal this process.

The exhibition will show the animated film and a short film documenting the complex stages of its process of digital development from early structural stages to the final digital masterpiece, incorporating alternate and experimental pieces of film and sound.

*The Lost Thing* animation, directed by Shaun Tan and Andrew Ruhemann and narrated by Tim Minchin, has won many film awards in Australia and around the world including the 2011 Academy Award, The Oscar, for short animation.

The exhibition, curated by Books Illustrated Gallery, is held in conjunction with Abbotsleigh's Literary Festival, 8-10 August 2016 <http://www.abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au/community/litfest>

The **Grace Cossington Smith Gallery** is a not-for-profit gallery, run by Abbotsleigh, serving the public through free admission and a changing exhibition program. The Gallery is open Monday to Friday from 10 am-5 pm and Saturday 9am – 4pm. Enter via Gate 7, 1666 Pacific Highway Wahroonga.  
Phone: 02 9483 7878

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Image: Pete's House, film still

High Res images available.

**Short statement 50 words**

*Shaun Tan: The ART of STORY* Discovering *The Lost Thing* – Book to Film

This exhibition explores the creation of Shaun Tan's multi-award-winning animation and acclaimed picture book *The Lost Thing*. It features a range of original drawings, paintings and other developmental work created by Tan for these two projects