



MEDIA RELEASE

MEDIA contact:
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High resolution images are available.

Exhibition of finalists: Saturday 18 July to Saturday 15 August 2026 Opening and awards presentation: Wednesday 22 July 2026, 6–8pm

The Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith art award is pleased to present 52 works by leading and emerging artists from across Australia. The theme of this art award is 'Making Connections', a theme inspired by the work of Abbotsleigh Old Girl and artist Grace Cossington Smith who made connections with her changing world through her drawing and painting.

This theme encapsulates the essence of art and the human experience. Each artist featured in this exhibition possesses a distinctive way of seeing the world, selecting thought-provoking aspects of their experiences to share and inviting us to connect with their unique visions.

The Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith art award, launched in 2014, invites submissions from Australian artists. The prizes are:

The Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith art award \$25,000 acquisitive

The Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith early career artist award \$5,000 non acquisitive

The Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith local artist award \$5,000 non acquisitive

The opportunity to collaborate with 3:33 Art Projects

The 2026 winners will be determined by guest judges Anna Davis, curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, and Barry Keldoulis, Artbank Client Services Coordinator.

Previous winners of the award include Virginia Keft (2024), Nadia Hernández (2021), Catherine O'Donnell (2018), Mark Titmarsh (2016), Jake Blaschka (2015), and Margaret Loy Pula (2014).

Gallery opening times:

Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm

Social Media:

[f https://www.facebook.com/gcsgallery](https://www.facebook.com/gcsgallery)

[@gcsgalley](#)

The Grace Cossington Smith Gallery respects and acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land as the First People and Custodians of this country.



Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith art award 2026

FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

The Grace Cossington Smith Gallery today announces that 52 works by leading and emerging artists are shortlisted for the 2026 awards:

- The Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith art award \$25,000 acquisitive
- The Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith early career artist award \$5,000 non acquisitive
- The Abbotsleigh Grace Cossington Smith local artist award \$5,000 non acquisitive
- The opportunity to collaborate with 3:33 Art Projects

Ron Adams	NSW	Louise Gresswell	VIC
Kim Anderson	VIC	Craig Handley	NSW
Sally Anderson	NSW	Tina Havelock Stevens	NSW
Susan Andrews	NSW	Petrina Hicks	NSW
artHITects	NSW	David King	NSW
Susan Baird	NSW	Frankie L Abroon	NSW
Richard Bardsley-Smith	NSW	Nerissa Lea	TAS
Emma Beer	ACT	Michael Lindeman	NSW
Lee Bethel	NSW	Tom Loveday	NSW
Ynja Bjornsson	NSW	David Newson-Tran	NSW
Yvonne Boag	NSW	Anh Nguyen	NSW
Clare Brodie	NSW	Adam Norton	NSW
Lucia Canuto	NSW	NOT	NSW
Tam Cao	NSW	Lori Pensini	WA
Tsz Chan	NSW	Tim Price	NSW
Tristan Chant	NSW	Debbie Pryor	SA
Donovan Christie	SA	Marisa Purcell	NSW
Xanga Connelley	NSW	Lucy Roleff	VIC
Inga Dalrymple	NSW	Jennifer Rosnell	NSW
Julia Davis	NSW	Peter Sharp	NSW
Tamara Dean	NSW	Chantelle Stewart	NSW
Amy Dynan	NSW	Kate Tucker	VIC
Edward Essing	NSW	Kate Vassallo	ACT
Shannon Field	VIC	David Wells	QLD
Cutler Footway	QLD	Anna Weston	QLD
Dianne Gall	SA	Cynthia White	NSW

The 2026 winners will be determined by guest judges Anna Davis, curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, and Barry Keldoulis, Artbank Client Services Coordinator, and announced on the evening of 22 July 2026. The Exhibition runs from Saturday 18 July to Saturday 15 August 2026.



ABBOTSLEIGH

 Grace
CossingtonSmithGallery

Gallery hours Tuesday to Saturday 10 am-5 pm | FREE ENTRY | Gate 7, 1666 Pacific Highway, Wahroonga | 02 9473 7878 gcsgallery@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au
| www.gscgallery.com.au | An Anglican Pre K-12 Day and Boarding School for girls

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