

# MEDIA RELEASE 22 JUL 21



## NEW NATIONAL GALLERY ART CASES TO TOUR COMMUNITIES ACROSS REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

The National Gallery of Australia's Art Cases touring program has been expanded thanks to the support of the Neilson Foundation.

From Geraldton to Gundaroo and Kangaroo Island to Bathurst Island, the Art Cases have been enjoyed by almost a million people since 1990. Now, they've had a makeover!

Over the past three decades, the National Gallery has toured suitcases filled with works of art that can be held and touched by people of all ages – from schools, libraries, community centres, galleries and aged care homes.

The National Gallery's Assistant Director, Artistic Programs Natasha Bullock says the touring Art Cases are an important program for the Gallery.

'Far from the confines of gallery walls and accessible from their own communities, this rare hands-on art experience provides audiences with new perspectives,' said Bullock.

From July 2021, five Art Cases will begin touring Australia with additional artworks, fresh themes and revised supporting material thanks to the Neilson Foundation.

Featuring 30 works of art by a range of Australian artists including some of the country's leading contemporary artists, the Art Cases speak to five broad themes. The themes – 'Bodies'; 'Earth'; 'Form and Function'; 'Land and Country'; and 'Past, Present, Future' – bring works of art into generative conversations with one another, providing pathways of engagement for audiences.

'The revised Art Cases have been grouped into themes to encourage learning and provoke conversation through creativity and engagement. Importantly, these new cases have been developed to be more inclusive by elevating women and First Nations artists,' continued Bullock.

For example, Wiradjuri artist Karla Dickens's *Block and tackle* explores the impacts of ongoing colonisation on the bodily experience of First Nations people, while Angela Valamanesh's biological forms encourage us to consider our

relationship with the natural world. Gamilaroi woman Penny Evans and Kaurna man James Tylor will also feature in the cases, with their own contemporary takes on traditional practices as they explore issues surrounding cultural identity and the environment.

The Art Cases program began in 1988, with a donation from Jim and Elaine Wolfensohn. The renewed National Gallery Art Cases are generously supported by the Neilson Foundation with grateful acknowledgement of founding patrons Elaine and Jim Wolfensohn.

## LIST OF FEATURED ARTISTS:

## BLUE CASE | EARTH

featuring Carmichael, Megan Cope, John Edgar, John Prince Siddon and Angela Valamanesh

## **COPPER CASE | LAND & COUNTRY**

featuring Penny Evans, Carol McGreggor, Jimmy John Thaiday, Aubrey Tigan, James Tylor and Lena Yarinkura

#### ORANGE CASE | FORM & FUNCTION

featuring Lulu Cooley, Karl Lawrence Millard, Cinnamon Lee, Gilbert Riedelbauch and Shireen Taweel

#### RED CASE | BODIES

featuring Lionel Bawden, Richard Byrnes, Karla Dickens, Matt Harding, Emily O'Brien, Neil Roberts

#### YELLOW CASE | PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

featuring Emily Beckley, Ian Howard, Carol McGreggor, Patricia Piccinini and David Wallace

## 2021 TOURING PROGRAM:

#### BLUE CASE - EARTH and YELLOW CASE - PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

Central Goldfields Art Gallery, VIC
Foster, Korumburra and Leongatha Libraries, VIC
Geelong Library and Heritage Centre, VIC
Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW

#### RED CASE - BODIES and ORANGE CASE - FORM & FUNCTION

Southern Vales Christian College, SA
Devonport Library, TAS
Burnie Library, TAS
Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW

## COPPER CASE - LAND & COUNTRY

New England Regional Art Museum, NSW Tamworth Regional Gallery, NSW Willyama High School, NSW Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW

Images available here.

## Media enquiries:

Jessica Barnes | Communications Officer | m. 0431 731 140 | e. jessica.barnes@nga.gov.au

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