

MEDIA RELEASE

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Mandorla 2018 Selection Panel Members Announced

The Selection Panel for the 2018 Mandorla Art Award have been announced. This panel determines the shortlist of artworks to be displayed at the Finalists Exhibition in June 2018 at Turner Galleries. Consisting of two arts professionals and one theologian the panel is looking for artistic excellence and demonstrated responses to the theme of Revelations 21:1-2.

“And then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.” (Rev 21:1-2).

Curator and artist Claire Bushby
Theologian Professor Bill Loader
Curator and Artist Janis Nedela

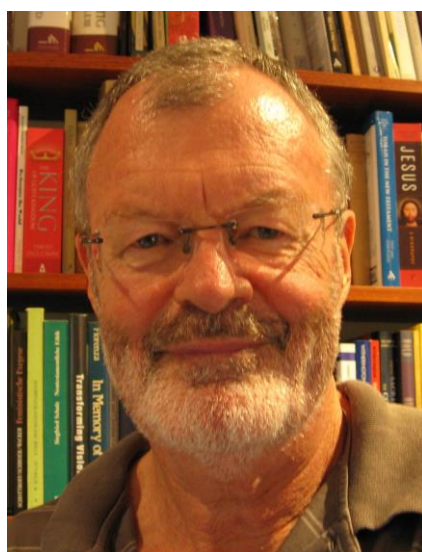
Claire Bushby

Claire Bushby is an artist and curator based in Perth. In 2015, she completed a Master of Arts (Visual Arts) at Edith Cowan University investigating collective production and participatory practice. She works from her studio at Gotham Studios, Northbridge and has performed a wide range of roles in Perth arts organisations including Heathcote Museum & Gallery, Paper Mountain, His Majesty’s Theatre and Spectrum Project Space. In 2014 she completed an Asialink residency at Taipei Artist Village, Taiwan and she received DCA funding for a residency at Listhús in Ólafsfjörður, Northern Iceland. Claire has been included in exhibitions in Shanghai, Taipei, London, Sydney and Perth. From 2015-17 she was a Co-Director of Paper Mountain (Artist Run Initiative) in Northbridge and is currently Coordinator of Spectrum Project Space at Edith Cowan University, Curator for the Uniting Church in the City’s annual Stations of the Cross exhibition and an Artsource WA Board member.



Professor Bill Loader

Bill is Emeritus Professor of New Testament at Murdoch University, Extraordinary Professor at North-West University, South Africa, a Minister of the UCA and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. From 1978-2005 he was NT Lecturer at the Perth Theological Hall and for some of that time its Principal, a role to which he returned 2014 - 2016 in an honorary capacity. He is Assistant Secretary of the Society for New Testament Studies responsible International Initiatives coordinating Liaison Committees in Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and the Asia Pacific to promote New Testament research. He has written extensively across the field of New Testament studies, including 10 major research books as well books for a wider readership and many articles in journals and book chapters. He also writes lectionary resources for preachers on his website which are widely used in Australia and internationally. Bill is both a scholar of international standing and an enthusiastic communicator of scholarship to the wider public. Bill gave the lecture which set the theme for the Mandorla Art Award for 2018.



Janis Nedela

A Co-Director of Gallery East Art Services since 1993, Jánis served on the curatorial staff of the Art Gallery of WA for 14 years to 1993. He lectured in Art Management and Art History at the Central Metropolitan College of TAFE (Mt Lawley College and WA School of Art, Design and Media) for 7 seven years to 1996, and was Exhibition Programmes Manager for CRAFTWEST, Centre for Contemporary Craft, Perth 1996-1998. Since 2014, he has been on the curatorial team for Kerry Stokes art collection, as an assistant curator.

Jàn is an Authorised Valuer for the Commonwealth Government's 'Cultural Gifts Program' Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme (TIAS established 1981), a preferred Provider for the Acquisition of Art and Craft by the State Government of Western Australia, a member of the Arts Consulting Association of Australia (ACCA incorporated 2006), and a member of The Asian Arts Society of Australia. From 2012-2014, he served on the Board of Artsource, Western Australian's leading representative visual arts organisation.

Jánis is also a working artist who has exhibited locally, nationally and internationally. His practice has included printmaking, ceramics, 3-D, mixed-media, painting, computer animation and performance art.

For several years his studio has been his back pocket. But this has since changed as with his partner David Forrest CBE, he undertook the somewhat daunting task of building a new studio out at the Cockburn Industrial Complex, Bibra Lake. In 2005 Jánis was awarded a Creative Development Fellowship from ArtsWA.



About the Mandorla Art Award

The Mandorla Art Award for contemporary religious art is Australia's most significant thematic religious art prize, attracting some of the country's finest artists since its 1985 inception. For more information, visit www.mandorlaart.com

Entries for the 2018 award are currently open and will close on 12 March. The Selection Panel will choose the artworks to be shown in the finalist's exhibition, to be held at Turner Galleries in Perth from 1 – 30 June 2018. Artists working in a range of mediums are encouraged to enter. Following the finalists exhibition, selected works will be chosen to tour to New Norcia Museum and Art Gallery, St Mary's Cathedral Perth and St John of God Healthcare.

Please contact Chairperson Angela McCarthy or Curator Kristy Gough for media interviews or photos.

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About St John of God Health Care

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