

Throwing shapes: Cutting-edge exhibition celebrates 60 years of clay-making in Brisbane

Over 300 new works from local artists on display at Museum of Brisbane.

From functional to fine art, **Clay: Collected Ceramics** at Museum of Brisbane (MoB) will showcase a curated collection of contemporary ceramics that elevates the earthen art form and cements its place in shaping the stories of Brisbane.

Clay: Collected Ceramics will feature modern artworks by renowned local artists that break the mould and highlight the shape-shifting relationship between the potter and their product.

The curated collection will include newly commissioned works, never seen before from cutting-edge Brisbane ceramic artists, Bonnie Hislop, Steph Woods, Kenji Uranishi, Jane du Rand and Nicolette Johnson.

Ceramic artist Kylie Johnson (Paper Boat Press) will share her lifetime passion for collecting pottery with a selection of pieces that smashes the perception that functional and beautiful are mutually exclusive. Built from Kylie's extensive private collection, this deeply intimate installation will include an astounding selection of local and international talent hand-selected by the collector throughout her career.

Spanning 60 years of hands-on creativity, the exhibition features works by ten renowned makers including Carl McConnell (1926–2003), one of Queensland's most significant post-World War II potters as well as Gwyn Hanssen Pigott, Milton Moon, Lyndal Moor and Kevin Grealy.

Artist-in-Residence Jody Rallah will contribute a mural which will see the Yuggera, Biri Gubba and Warangu artist use her handmade coolamons (cultural vessels traditionally made of tree bark) to create a new mural especially for the exhibition.

At the entrance to the exhibition a display called *Commune* will collate around 300 memory vessels lent by Brisbane's ceramicist community for the museum's largest artist-sourced display to date.

MoB will also take visitors behind the artworks and into the workshop in an exclusively commissioned film that delves into the hidden intimacy of the artist studio.

Museum of Brisbane Acting CEO Cathy de Silva said the practice of ceramics has formed an integral part of various cultures around the world for centuries as a storage vessel of both traditions and tales.

"As a material, clay can change its form under the hands of its maker – so too can each piece's very purpose," Ms de Silva said.

Clay: Collected Ceramics at Museum of Brisbane will dive deeper into the personal processes of creating and collecting pottery pieces and celebrate the makers who have used this medium to create and shape the contemporary landscape of local art."

Details:

Clay: Collected Ceramics

Saturday 13 May – Sunday 22 October 2023

Tickets: Free entry

Museum of Brisbane, Level 3, City Hall

Clay: Collected Ceramics MEDIA RELEASE

From earth-toned pottery to otherworldly porcelain pieces that dare to defy utility, *Clay: Collected Ceramics* is a celebration of contemporary ceramics and cutting-edge makers.

Interviews are available with Sarah Engledow (Curator), Cathy de Silva (Acting CEO) and artists on request.

Media Contacts

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About Museum of Brisbane

Housed within iconic Brisbane City Hall, Museum of Brisbane (MoB) celebrates the creatives and history makers to deepen an understanding of place. We reflect Brisbane's people and passions and its ever-evolving cultures. Museum of Brisbane is Brisbane City Council's leading history and art museum, where you can experience our city's vibrant culture. museumofbrisbane.com.au

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