

**Friday 29 November 2019**

Theatrette, level 2, Powerhouse Museum  
 500 Harris Street, Ultimo

**PROGRAM**

8:15–8:55	Registration	
9:00–9:20	Welcome	Lisa Havilah, Chief Executive, MAAS
	Welcome to country	Indigenous elder
	Introduction to program	Deborah Vaughan, Regional Program Producer, MAAS
<b>Session 1: Re-play, Re-interpret, Re-tell</b>		
9:20–9:40	‘Stories in archives’	Delia Falconer, Senior Lecturer, Creative Writing, University of Technology Sydney
9:40–9:45	Questions — 5 minutes	
9:45–10:05	‘New directions with old knowledges’	Marcus Hughes, Head of Indigenous Engagement & Strategy, MAAS
10:05–10:10	Questions — 5 minutes	
10:10–10:30	‘Project update: developing a model for state-wide collection documentation in NSW’	Dr Kate Gahan, Freelance Historian and Michael Rolfe, CEO, Museums & Galleries of NSW
10:30–10:35	Questions — 5 minutes	
10:35–10:55	‘Tourists Paradise: not just another digitisation and storytelling project’	Debbie Sommers, Volunteer Curator, Port Macquarie Museum
10:55–11:00	Questions — 5 minutes	
<b>11:00–11:30</b>	<b>Morning tea</b>	
	Introduction to presentation	Elizabeth Rogers, CEO, Regional Arts NSW
11:30–11:50	‘Two councils, one RADO, and seven community museums: unpacking complex regional partnership projects’	Alyce Fisher, Executive Director, Murray Arts and Emma Williams, Museum Coordinator, Albury LibraryMuseum
11:50–11:55	Questions — 5 minutes	

## Session 2: Re-generate Re-pair, Re-locate

11:55–12:15	‘Telling the New Italy story: a collaboration’	Leonie Lane, New Italy Museums group volunteer and graphic designer, Woodburn
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12:15–12:20	Questions — 5 minutes	
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### 12:20–1:20 Lunch

1:20–1:40	‘When, not if: why all museums should have a disaster preparedness plan’	Kay Söderlund, Director, Preservation Australia
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1:40–1:45	Questions — 5 minutes	
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1:45–2:05	‘Turning up the heat on pests’	Rebecca Pinchin, Collection Manager, National Trust of Australia (NSW)
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2:05–2:10	Questions — 5 minutes	
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2:10–2:30	‘Making the move: relocating a regional museum to a new facility’	Tamara Hynd, Museum Curator, Shellharbour City Council
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2:30–2:35	Questions — 5 minutes	
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## Breakout sessions

2:35–3:20	<b>Each participant should pre-book one of the following four choices.</b>	
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Handling and packing objects for movement presentation and demo, Theatrette, L2	Mandy Crook, Collections Logistics Manager, MAAS and Frances Fitzpatrick, Conservator, MAAS
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Invisible mannequin demonstration, PLC Room A, L2, adjacent to Theatrette	Suzanne Chee, Conservator, MAAS
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<i>Jenny Kee and Linda Jackson: Step into Paradise</i> exhibition tour, L3, near entrance	Glynis Jones, Curator, MAAS and Alysha Buss, Assistant Curator, MAAS
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<i>Linear</i> exhibition tour, L2, adjacent to Theatrette	Marcus Hughes, Head of Indigenous Engagement & Strategy, MAAS
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<b>3:25–3:30 Theatrette</b>	<b>Wrap-up</b>	<b>Deborah Vaughan</b>
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## Speakers

### **Delia Falconer**

**Senior Lecturer, Creative Writing, University of Technology Sydney**

Delia Falconer is the author of two novels, *The Service of Clouds* and *The Lost Thoughts of Soldiers* (Picador), and *Sydney* (New South), a personal and cultural history of her home town. In 2011 *Sydney* was awarded the CAL Waverley Library Nib Award for outstanding research.

#### **‘Stories in archives’**

Learning to negotiate archives is important to writers of historical fiction and nonfiction. This paper describes the archival research and interpretation involved in writing *The Service of Clouds* and *The Lost Thoughts of Soldiers*.

### **Alyce Fisher**

**Executive Director, Murray Arts**

Alyce is passionate about Regional Arts & Cultural Development and is no stranger to the Regional Arts Network as she managed South West Arts, based in Deniliquin, from 2009–13 and rejoined the network in January 2017 as Executive Director, Murray Arts. Alyce has years of experience in developing strategic partnerships, delivering dynamic programs and inspiring young people through artistic opportunities.

### **Emma Williams**

**Museum Coordinator, Albury LibraryMuseum**

Emma has a background in both libraries and museums and has worked in the GLAM sector for over ten years. Her interests include convergence at local government, Australian popular music history, and museum and gallery access for deaf and hard of hearing visitors. Emma is the Aftermath Project Coordinator.

#### **‘Two councils, one RADO, and seven community museums: unpacking complex regional partnership projects’**

The Aftermath project explores the ongoing social history impact post World War I and joins professional and volunteer museum staff with Murray Arts, to deliver skills development, cultural tourism, and exhibition outcomes in the AlburyCity and Greater Hume LGAs. Alyce Fisher and Emma Williams discuss the amazing outcomes generated by a regional networking project.

## **Dr Kate Gahan** **Historian**

Kate is a professional historian who lives and works in regional NSW. Kate has a particular interest in regional history and a strong desire to re-examine and rework how we write and value it. In 2018–19 Kate worked for Museums & Galleries of NSW on the *Collections and Stories* Project, which involved developing a prototype website to profile regional collections and the stories they embody.

## **Michael Rolfe** **CEO, Museums & Galleries of NSW**

Michael was appointed as CEO of M&G NSW in October 2010. Previously he worked in local government, in both regional and metropolitan NSW running regional galleries in Tamworth and Mosman. From 1998 until late 2010 he was the inaugural director of Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre in Sydney's Sutherland Shire.

### **'Project update: developing a model for state-wide collection documentation in NSW'**

The lack of collection documentation in parts of the community museum and gallery sector in NSW has long been identified as a gap to be filled. Many community museums have a very small staff or are volunteer-run, and desperately want to improve the documentation of their collections in order to carry on running their physical space. Following on from last year's *Collections and Stories* prototype preview, Michael and Kate will present a status update on the project and outline training opportunities through TAFE NSW that may assist organisations prepare for and be involved in the project.

## **Marcus Hughes** **Head of Indigenous Engagement & Strategy,** **Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences**

Marcus has worked within the arts and cultural sector throughout Australia and the UK as a producer, presenter and advocate across all artistic disciplines, contexts and environments. In 2014 he addressed the 6th World Summit on Arts and Culture and was Adjunct Associate Professor at Victoria University's Moondani Balluk Indigenous Academic Unit. Marcus is a descendant of the Mununjali peoples of the Yugambah nation.

### **'New directions with old knowledges'**

In this presentation Marcus will share the journey he has undertaken in the creation of an Indigenous-led exhibition at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences and discuss the challenges and joys of bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural workers to a place where the traditional is far from the colonial — and Indigenous ways of working prevail.

## **Tamara Hynd** **Museum Curator, Shellharbour City Council**

Tamara has worked in local government museums for 15 years. She is the Curator of Shellharbour City Museum which moved to a new contemporary facility at the Shellharbour Civic Centre complex in 2018.

### **'Making the move — relocating a regional museum to a new facility'**

Relocating a museum that has had one home for 30 years can seem a daunting task. Where to start? Tamara will take you through the steps Shellharbour City Museum staff and a small team of volunteers took to plan, implement, deliver a contemporary facility in the heart of the city.

## **Leonie Lane** **New Italy Museums group volunteer and graphic designer, Woodburn**

Leonie works from her home-based graphic design/printmaking studio near Lismore. A recently retired lecturer in Digital Art and Design (Southern Cross University, Lismore), she creates displays and graphic material for museums, festivals and other community spaces. Working with the New Italy Museums' group, she has assisted in the revitalisation of the historic New Italy site.

### **'Telling the New Italy story: a collaboration'**

The development of the New Italy Museum site in the 1980s began as a desire to commemorate the expeditioners and those families who established the vibrant community of New Italy, carved out of the poor bush land of the region. Recent work to regenerate the Museum has brought descendants, community and local expertise together to collaborate towards a fresh retelling of this extraordinary story.

## **Rebecca Pinchin** **Collection Manager, National Trust of Australia (NSW)**

Rebecca Pinchin is responsible for works of art, furniture, documents, furnishings and costumes housed in over 20 National Trust properties across the state. Rebecca has also worked with Orange local government to deliver a Sustainable Collections Program for regional museums and formerly managed the state-wide outreach service of the Powerhouse Museum.

### **'Turning up the heat on pests'**

Due to their construction, historic buildings and their collections are often at a greater risk from a variety of biological decay factors. This paper will look at the application of heat, as part of a holistic approach to treat long term pest infestation issues at the Woodford Academy, one of the oldest buildings in the Blue Mountains.

## **Elizabeth Rogers**

### **Chief Executive Officer, Regional Arts NSW**

Elizabeth joined Regional Arts NSW as the Chief Executive Officer in December 2006. RANSW is the peak body and service agency for arts and cultural development across rural and regional areas of the state. Elizabeth works closely with the state-wide network of 14 regional arts development organisations and acts as an advocate for the network with the state and federal governments. In 2017 she took on the additional role as Executive Producer of Artstate, a four-year project, part conference, part arts festival that promotes the value of the arts in regional NSW.

## **Kay Söderlund**

### **Director, Preservation Australia**

Kay Söderlund is Director and owner of Preservation Australia, a private conservation business based in Sydney. Kay has worked as a conservator for over 35 years, much of that time spent working with regional and community museums. She was Director of Museums Australia (NSW) in the late 1990s, and in 2000 authored *Be Prepared: Guidelines for Small Museums for Writing a Disaster Preparedness Plan*. Preservation Australia delivers conservation workshops throughout Australia and SE Asia, along with remedial and preventive conservation services.

### **‘When, not if: why all museums should have a disaster preparedness plan’**

This presentation will address the basic principles of disaster preparedness using case studies to highlight the benefits of a good plan, and the downside of having no plan at all!

## **Debbie Sommers**

### **Volunteer Curator, Port Macquarie Museum**

Debbie Sommers works voluntarily in an independent community museum, the Port Macquarie Museum, on the Mid North Coast of NSW. She has initiated many projects to improve the Museum’s community engagement, exhibitions, programs and collection management, including digitisation, and lead the highly successful *Our Rivers Our History* regional digital storytelling project.

### **‘Tourists Paradise: not just another digitisation and storytelling project’**

The Port Macquarie Museum was awarded a 2018 Museums and Galleries NSW Project Development Grant to develop a tourism-themed virtual exhibition and interactive storytelling website. The project builds on the museum’s collection documentation activities and provides insight into the value of sharing collections and communicating stories with broader audiences. With a relatively small budget, *Tourists Paradise* demonstrates an enduring model of story sharing and visitor engagement for community museums.

## **Deborah Vaughan**

### **Regional Program Producer, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences**

Deborah has been Regional Program Producer at MAAS since 2014. From 2011–14 she was Producer of Contemporary Programs, working on Sydney Design Festival. Deborah has a background in visual art and for many years balanced a full-time art practice with teaching in the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning at The University of Sydney. From 2003–04 Deborah was Australian Museums and Galleries Online (AMOL) National Guide and Education Coordinator.

## Breakout sessions

**Please note:** to attend the Regional Stakeholder Forum you will have to book one of the breakout sessions listed below. This will allow you access to the full-day forum program.

If you are booking a ticket for a friend or colleague, you will also have to register them for a breakout session. Some breakout sessions may be full, in which case you will have to register for your second, third or fourth choice.

### **Handling and packing objects for movement, Theatre, L2**

MAAS Collections Logistics Manager Mandy Crook and MAAS Conservator Frances Fitzpatrick will discuss what is necessary for undertaking the movement of museum objects. The session will include a demonstration with discussion on packing and transport for all types of objects across all types of collections.

### **Invisible mannequin demonstration, PLC Room A, L2**

Join MAAS Conservator Suzanne Chee for a demonstration of how to make a popular style of mannequin known as the 'invisible mannequin', favoured for displaying historic garments and swimwear. Helpful conservation tips for displaying garments will also be discussed. Suzanne will demonstrate two different techniques for making mannequins: using strips of linen/canvas resembling papier-mâché and Fosshape, a synthetic fabric that heat shrinks into any shape you desire.

### **Jenny Kee and Linda Jackson: Step into Paradise exhibition tour, L3 near entrance**

Join MAAS Curator Glynis Jones and Assistant Curator Alysha Buss for a tour of this immersive exhibition, which is the first in-depth survey that captures the dynamic energy of Linda and Jenny's creative partnership. The exhibition draws on more than four decades of one of the most influential pairings in the history of Australian fashion, examining the influences, inspirations and the compelling stories behind their work.

### **Linear exhibition tour, L2, adjacent to Theatre**

Join MAAS Head of Indigenous Engagement & Strategy Marcus Hughes for a tour of the Museum's newest exhibition — *Linear*. Through the unique, diverse and personal voices of a remarkable group of Australia's First Nations Peoples this exhibition explores the concept and significance of line and lineage within Indigenous cultural narratives and practices across science, technology, design and aesthetics.