FUMA NEWS | September 2021

Message from the Director

FUMA was deeply saddened to learn that Mandy Martin passed away in July following a long battle with cancer. An artist, educator and environmentalist who studied at the South Australian School of Art (1972-75) and co-founded the Progressive Art Movement (PAM) in Adelaide, she was recognised internationally for her work. In 2014 Mandy made a generous donation of Australian political prints and posters to FUMA ensuring access for current and future generations to this important legacy.

In South Australia we have been grateful for the easing of COVID-19 restrictions and opportunities to welcome back students, staff, and wider audiences. In particular, responses to our current exhibition Bee Stung Lips: Barbara Hanrahan works on paper 1960-1991 have been terrific with feedback from visitors buoyed by positive critique including in The Conversation and The Saturday Paper. We draw your attention to remaining public programs below and remind you that the show closes on 1 October – with a regional tour commencing mid-2022 in partnership with Country Arts SA.

In other news FUMA is teaming up with Assemblage, the University’s research centre for artistic enquiry and art creation, to host a monthly discussion reflecting on art and ethics in contemporary society. Known as the Flinders Aesthetics Forum or ‘FAF’, the first event featured Dr Eleen M Deprez and Dr Michael Newall who spoke about ethical responsibility in relation to curation and public portraiture. The next forum will delve into AI and art. Learn more here.

Behind the scenes work is apace for our upcoming show Sovereign sisters: domestic work curated by Dr Ali Gumillya Baker with Madeline Reece for Tarnanthi. Teaching is in full swing with FUMA now co-convening the Indigenous Art topic. We are also making headway in addressing the challenges of our collection stores (albeit slowly) and have made some excellent improvements to the FUMA foyer.

Finally, in this dispatch we welcome Alice Clanachan who replaces Nic Brown as Collections Curator while she is on maternity leave, introduce our current intern, Jen Mathews, and congratulate Wakka Wakka woman Dameeli Coates who is recipient of the IN_SITE: First Nations Emerging Curator Program 2021/2022.

Fiona Salmon
Director | Flinders University Museum of Art
Closing on 1 October 2021 Bee-stung Lips: Barbara Hanrahan works on paper 1960-1991 is the first major survey of the artist's prolific printmaking career. Including woodcuts, linocuts, screenprints, lithographs, etchings, and drypoints as well as rarely-seen paintings and collages, the exhibition considers several overarching themes bringing to the fore Hanrahan's feminist critique on the role of women and the family in domestic suburbia within an Australian context and exploring the reverberation of these concerns in the 21st century. More information and exhibition resources can be found here.

Register to attend remaining public programs here.


New catalogue and gift cards
Published to accompany the exhibition of the same name, Bee-stung lips: Barbara Hanrahan works on paper 1960-1991 offers insight into the artist’s oeuvre and new scholarship examines Hanrahan’s personal concerns as they intersect with broader cultural and social issues. Delving into her recurring themes, motivations and motifs, the essays by exhibition curator Nic Brown and contributors, Dr Jacqueline Millner, Associate Professor of Visual Arts, La Trobe University, and Elspeth Pitt, Curator, Australian Art, National Gallery of Australia, affirm the singularity of the artist’s vision and underscore its ongoing relevance in contemporary times.

FUMA has released a range of limited-edition Barbara Hanrahan gifts cards. Purchase a copy of the catalogue and/or gift cards by calling or emailing FUMA on 08 8201 2695 or museum@flinders.edu.au

Catalogue: $39.95
Gift card pack: $29.95

IN_SITE: First Nations Emerging Curator Program 2021/2022

CONGRATULATIONS DAMEELI COATES

Wakka Wakka woman Dameeli Coates completed a first class Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in July 2021 at Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts, London, where she followed a specialist pathway in Textile Design focusing on weave. Awarded the University Prize for best dissertation, her work explores ideas of identity, race and culture in sculptural form. Dameeli has recently returned to Adelaide having lived in London for the past 12 years. Before embarking on a career in the visual arts she worked in the public service and for NGOs in Indigenous rights and community development.

We look forward to working with Dameeli and supporting the development and delivery of her curatorial vision for the IN_SITE program.

IN_SITE is a collaboration between Nexus Arts and Flinders University Museum of Art (FUMA) co-led
Our new team member: Meet Alice

Alice Clanachan is stepping into the role of Collections Curator (maternity leave cover) and will contribute her expert knowledge of European prints to The Guildhouse Collections Project collaboration with FUMA.

Alice has a background in museology and art history and has been a curator in public collections for over a decade. From 2020-2021 she was Humanities Collection Manager, Digitisation at the South Australian Museum, where she oversaw the digitisation of SAM’s Aboriginal Cultures Collection. Alice was awarded the Wright and Holmes Scholarship in 2019 which enabled her to study in the Department of Prints and Drawings at the British Museum in London. From 2013-2020 she was the Assistant...
Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs at the Art Gallery of South Australia where she curated exhibitions and displays, managed collection access and digitised the works on paper collection. She has taught museum studies and art history at postgraduate level and led regional touring exhibitions of contemporary art.

Work Integrated Learning at FUMA: Meet Jen

Jen Mathews is a Masters of Information Studies student at Charles Sturt University and currently undertaking an internship at FUMA to further her learning in collections management.

I am excited to learn more about how FUMA manages and provides access to their rich and diverse collection. During my internship I will explore the systems that are used to accession, preserve and share cultural collections and the benefits of object-based learning and exhibition programming.
This segment of Take 5 pays tribute to the late artist, activist and educator Mandy Martin who sadly passed away in July 2021. Martin's generous donation of Australian political prints and posters greatly enhanced FUMA's collection. Learn more about her work and donation here.

Image: Mandy Martin, But for the 750,000 people in the world who depend directly on General Motors for their daily bread... (detail), 1975, screenprint, colour inks on paper, 63.2 x 45.4 cm (image), ed 4/25, Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Amanda Martin, Collection of Flinders University Museum of Art 5045, © the Estate of the artist