

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Cristina Asquith BAKER, Gemma BEN-ARY, Dorothy BRAUND, Lina BRYANS, Mary EDWARDS, Linda FARDOE, Margaret FRANCIS, Adrienne GAHA, Bessie GIBSON, Melissa McDOUGALL, Clare McFARLANE, Gina MOORE, Margaret MORGAN, Maisie NEWBOLD, Susan NORRIE, Kathleen O’CONNOR, Jean SUTHERLAND, Eveline SYME, Yvette WATT, Julie WILSON-FOSTER, Sue WYATT – from the Cruthers Collection of Women’s Art

12 February - 10 December 2022

NEW EXHIBITION CONSIDERS WHAT LIES BENEATH THE PAINTED SURFACE

A new exhibition of paintings by Australian artist Susan Norrie and portraits from The University of Western Australia’s Cruthers Collection of Women’s Art (CCWA) will open next month at The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery at UWA.

Curated by CCWA’s Lee Kinsella, the exhibition is an exploration of the performative nature of painting and identity.

Portraits from the Cruthers Collection of Women’s Art feature works by Christina Asquith Baker, Gemma Ben-Ary Dorothy Braund, Lina Bryans, Mary Edwards, Linda Fardoe, Margaret Francis, Adrienne Gaha, Bessie Gibson, Melissa McDougall, Clare McFarlane, Gina Moore, Margaret Morgan, Maisie Newbold, Susan Norrie, Kathleen O’Connor, Jean Sutherland, Eveline Syme, Yvette Watt, Julie Wilson-Foster, Sue Wyatt.

“Portraits are understood as visual representations of individuals – but the apparent ease with which we can read these images conceals how they have been produced,” Ms Kinsella said.

“Artists have made countless decisions as they have applied pigmented oil paints to canvas. Artists Sue Wyatt and Mary Edwards have been Archibald Prize finalists, and both engage with portraiture as a means of asserting particular identities in the public realm.”

A chronological display of portraits from the CCWA collection will feature opposite a wall of enigmatic and predominantly dark paintings by Norrie.

“Norrie desires to break open the apparently seamless skin of paintings to reveal the motivations and social conventions of their making,” Ms Kinsella said.

“Her works are conceptual in that they engage with the subjective processes of both making and viewing art. Norrie’s paintings present lush and beguiling surfaces that allude to uncanny and potentially troubling currents beneath.”

Following a refurbishment of the gallery in June, additional paintings by Norrie will be hung alongside student responses to her practice.

“I’m excited to be working with an engaged group of students as we research the strong holdings of work by Susan Norrie at UWA,” Ms Kinsella said.

“Susan has been extremely generous in agreeing to be part of this process and it is a unique learning opportunity for UWA students to be able to engage directly with an artist of Norrie’s standing.”

OPENING

Friday 11 February, 6-8pm at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.

The exhibition runs from Saturday 12 February to Saturday 10 December 2022 - the gallery is closed for renovations from 24 April reopening on 25 June. LWAG is open Tuesdays to Saturdays, 12 – 5pm, and admission is free. For more information, visit the [LWAG website: uwa.edu.au/lwag](http://uwa.edu.au/lwag)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[Images: Images available here please note all images must be accompanied by captions provided](#)

[Website: uwa.edu.au/lwag/Exhibitions/From-the-Cruthers-Collection-of-Womens-Art](http://uwa.edu.au/lwag/Exhibitions/From-the-Cruthers-Collection-of-Womens-Art)

MEDIA REFERENCE:

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