



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sustaining the art of practice

25 June – 20 August 2022

EXHIBITION WEAVES COMMON THREAD CONNECTING ARTISTS'

Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery at The University of Western Australia is delighted to reopen with a new exhibition, *Sustaining the art of practice*, on display from 25 June- 20 August 2022.

Showing works from The Cruthers Collection of Women's Art (CCWA) including new commissioned work to the collection and loaned works, this exhibition makes visible the many networks of support that sustain professional artists' public practice.

The CCWA is the nation's foremost public collection of art by Australian women and non-binary artists. A unique and idiosyncratic collection spanning works from the 1890s to present day, the CCWA includes notable works of still life, abstraction, early postmodernism, and second-wave feminism.

Featured alongside *Sustaining the art of practice* is a display of selected works from the Cruthers Collection of Women's Art that highlight portraits. A key aim of the two exhibitions is to expand outwards from the CCWA holdings and place these in dialogue with contemporary narratives relating to place and identity.

The exhibitions' central theme emphasises the importance of relationships - creative, professional, and personal - that enable artists to survive and flourish.

As Kinsella notes, *Sustaining the art of practice* was developed in response to the pandemic. "In difficult moments, we draw upon our support networks and personal relationships, particularly those of friends and family to sustain us. This exhibition attempts to make visible the threads that that connect relationships between artists and their ongoing support networks built over many years. These networks sustain the artists' work in and around activism, writing, family, community, mental health, and other circles that reveal the interconnected nature of creativity."

The exhibition utilises clusters of associations that reveal unique personal connections between groups of artists as they engaged with various communities throughout Australia from the latter half of the 20th century to present day.

Works made by artists living on the APY lands, the Perth coastline, Melbourne in the 1980s and 90s, Adelaide in the 70s and 80s, and Sydney in the 80s and 90s emerge in this exhibition as case studies for how creative practice is maintained and flourishes. "Artists are engaged in swirling social relationships and part of communities that are vibrant and alive in the expression of culture - art, performance, music, poetry," Ms Kinsella said.

Groupings of newly acquired works that are tangible evidence of a friendship between Maria Kozic and Sally Jackson in Melbourne through the 1980s and into the early 90s will be a highlight on display.

The exhibition proffers portraits as a visual link to the artists' lives, giving viewers an intimate insight into the individuals who are important to artists.

A newly commissioned video installation by Badimia and Yued artist Amanda Bell, hand-made banners by Raquel Ormella, Lydia Young's photography of Ngaanyatjarra lands and Perth-based contemporary artist Jody Quackenbush's textile creations also feature in the exhibition.

Professor Helen Grace's notable photographic series *Christmas dinner, 1979*, documents the days of preparation and invisible labour performed by women in the family, as led by the matriarch on the family farm. Professor Grace's photographic series are exhibited alongside the work of Narelle Jubelin and Margaret Morgan - artist friends and colleagues who feature in her private photographic records.

Professor Grace will open the exhibition and present a talk in the gallery on Saturday 25 June at 2pm. [To register click here](#). A catalogue that features commissioned essays that trace relationships, respect and reciprocity will be available for presale from the LWAG Shop.

OPENING

Friday 24 June, 6-8pm at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.

The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery reopens on 25 June 2022. *Sustaining the art of practice* is on until August 20.

The gallery is open Tuesdays to Saturdays, 12 - 5pm, and admission is free. For more information, visit the LWAG website: 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/Sustaining-the-art-of-practice

MEDIA REFERENCE:

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