



HELMANN
Academy

VISUAL ARTS INDUSTRY DAY

THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER, 2018

2:00PM - 5:00PM

ST PAUL'S CREATIVE CENTRE

INDUSTRY LEADER BIOS



Gillian Brown, Curator, Samstag Museum

Gillian Brown has been curator at Samstag since 2011, having previously worked in galleries across the private and public sectors in Melbourne. She has managed and curated over 25 large-scale contemporary arts projects for Samstag, including a major exhibition by American artist Laurie Anderson for the 2013 Adelaide Festival; the first survey of works by Daniel Crooks for the 2013 Adelaide Film Festival; in 2015 she collaborated with the renowned organisation Independent Curators International, New York to bring the experimental contemporary arts project do it to Australia, an evolving group exhibition initiated by European curator Hans Ulrich Obrist; curated Quicksilver: 25 years of Samstag Scholarships in 2016; curated Countercurrents for the 2017 Adelaide Festival; and was co-ordinating curator of After Utopia: Revisiting the Ideal in South East Asian Contemporary Art, presented at the Samstag Museum of Art in collaboration with the Singapore Art Museum, 2017. A co-founder and co-editor of the online critical arts writing platform fine print, she regularly contributes to panel discussions and judging panels, and is a member of the editorial advisory committee for arts journal Artlink. In 2018 she will spend time based at the Museum of contemporary Art & Design, Manila as part of the Asialink Arts Global Project Space Creative Exchange.



Trudy Brown, Director, BMG Art

Trudy has been working in the arts since 1965, and began her own commercial gallery in 1983.

She has been a Government Valuer for the Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme, a member of the Government Advisory Committee DETAF Curriculum Advisory Panel. She has served as a guest Juror for the Art in Architecture Awards for the South Australian Institute of Architects, as a Judge on the Panel for the Richard Cohen Annual Sculpture Awards for the Burnside Village complex and as an inaugural Judge for the Emma Hack Art Prize.

In addition to her commercial gallery activities she has undertaken corporate consultancies for hotel groups, financial institutions and has overseen commissions for corporate and private collections.



Melinda Martin, Director, Linden New Art

Melinda joined the team at Linden as Director in July 2012. Prior to joining Linden, Melinda was the Manager of National Programs and Services at the Australia Business Arts Foundation (AbaF) (now Creative Partnerships Australia) and oversaw their professional development and philanthropic programs. Melinda has also worked as the Gallery Manager at Anna Schwartz Gallery, Program Manager at Monash Gallery of Art, Studio Manager for Australian artist John Young and Research Assistant to Dr Chris McAuliffe at the University of Melbourne. She holds a Master of Fine Art & Cinema Studies from The University of Melbourne, a Post-Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies from Deakin University and a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Fine Art and Criminology from the University of Melbourne. Melinda has been a member of the Public Galleries Association of Victoria's Board from 2013 to 2018, serving as Vice President of the Board from 2014-16, has previously chaired their fundraising sub-committee from 2017-18.



Hugo Michell, Director, Hugo Michell Gallery

Hugo Michell established Hugo Michell Gallery in Beulah Park, South Australia in 2008 and has grown the gallery to be highly respected within the Australian art scene. He is committed to presenting exciting and innovative work at the forefront of contemporary art across a range of mediums. The gallery is devoted to presenting the work of both established and emerging local and national artists.

Hugo Michell Gallery has a client base which includes numerous public institutions and private collectors locally, nationally and internationally. Prior to this, Hugo was based in Melbourne and worked for Tolarno Gallery and has been highly involved in the contemporary arts scene for more than 10 years. Over the past few years Hugo Michell Gallery has collaborated with some of Australia's top galleries such as Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney and Tolarno Gallery, Melbourne.

Hugo has also been heavily involved in the Contemporary Collectors Association at the Art Gallery of South Australia since its inception and is dedicated to encouraging a greater understanding of contemporary art and to develop the permanent collection for the Art Gallery of South Australia. He currently sits on the Helpmann Academy, Visual & Performing Arts Foundation Board and assists with judging and advisory panels for numerous local organisations.



Liz Nowell, CEO, ACE Open

Liz Nowell is the inaugural CEO of ACE Open and former Executive Director of the Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia (CACSA). Between 2010 – 2015 she was based in Sydney and New York, where she worked as an independent curator, writer and lecturer, working with organisations such as the Brooklyn Museum, Desart, Sydney College of the Arts, and SafARI 2014, of which she was co-Director. Prior to this, Liz held curatorial and administrative positions at the University of NSW Art and Design, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Tandanya and Country Arts SA.



Brian Parkes, CEO, Jam Factory

Brian has been with JamFactory since April 2010. Having worked in art and design organisations for more than 20 years he is passionate about promoting the social, cultural and economic value of creativity and design. During ten years as Associate Director at Object Gallery in Sydney, he curated several important exhibitions including the landmark survey of contemporary Australian design; Freestyle: new Australian design for living.

In 2007 Brian was one of ten curators invited by Phaidon Press, London to contribute to &Fork, a book profiling 100 emerging product designers from around the world and in 2008 he was an Adjunct Curator for the Museum of Arts and Design, New York. Brian is a graduate of the Tasmanian School of Art in Hobart and also has a significant background in commercial management within museums and galleries. He managed the merchandising and retail operations at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (1998-2000) and the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra (1995-98).

Brian loves living in Adelaide and cycles to work most days. He is most at peace when bush walking with his family.



Lisa Slade, Assistant Director, Artistic Programs, Art Gallery of South Australia

Dr Lisa Slade is Assistant Director, Artistic Programs at the Art Gallery of South Australia. She is accountable for the strategic leadership and development of the artistic programs and the overall management of the Curatorial Department, Exhibitions, Public Programs and Education teams. From 2011 until early 2015 she was Project Curator at the Art Gallery, during which time she curated The Extreme Climate of Nicholas Folland, Heartland: Contemporary Art from South Australia, and from 2011 until 2014 she managed the Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art. In her role as Assistant Director, she curated the 2016 Adelaide Biennial: Magic Object, Sappers & Shrapnel: contemporary art and the art of the trenches and oversaw the development and delivery of TARNANTHI: Festival of contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art in 2017.



Tony Stephens, Director, Artbank

Tony has been working in the arts and cultural sector for over fifteen years and has significant experience providing leadership to organisations in the not-for-profit, commercial and government sectors. Tony commenced his working life as an apprentice plumber – going on to secure trade qualifications, work for several employers before starting a successful small construction company in Queensland. These formative experiences, combined with professional history and tertiary qualifications in Art History, makes him an extremely effective arts administrator.

As the Director of Artbank since 2012, Tony provides leadership and direction – ensuring the development and implementation of both the commercial and curatorial activities of the organisation.

Tony is a strong believer in the core objectives of Artbank (being support and promotion of the visual arts/artists) and is constantly exploring new ways to achieve them. Artbank, under Tony's leadership, has seen substantial reinvigoration and change. The growth in the uptake of Artbank's art leasing program is testament to Tony's approach and provides an interesting insight into current and potential audiences for Australian visual art.