

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 23 July 2014 / For immediate release

Finalists announced in Melbourne Prize for Sculpture 2014

- Victorian sculptors in line for \$60,000 prize
- The annual Melbourne Prize celebrates its 10th anniversary
- Around \$1million awarded to sculptors, writers, musicians since inception of the annual Melbourne Prize
- New \$40,000 Rural & Regional Development Award to be announced later in the year

The finalists in this year's *Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014* have been announced today – they are:

Kay Abude	John Nixon	Scott Mitchell
Louise Paramor	Spiros Panigirakis	Geoff Robinson

Judges statement: *The judges were delighted with the response to the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014. The six finalists selected all explore site, space and place in highly sophisticated ways. The works embody a rather quiet spectacle, nuanced situations and a determination to often share both the process and indeed construction of the work with the audience. The context for many works radiate out from Federation Square, connecting to other urban spaces and ultimately to spaces we cannot see. At the finalist exhibition at Federation Square (10th to 24th November) the public will be immersed in ideas and works that point to another definition of what urban sculpture can be or represent. The judges would like to thank all applicants this year for their entries.*

One of these finalists will receive the \$60,000 Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014, to be announced in November of this year. The judges this year are:

- **Tony Ellwood**, Director, National Gallery of Victoria
- **Juliana Engberg**, Artistic Director, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art
- **Professor Callum Morton**, Head of Fine Art, MADA, Monash University Art Design & Architecture and Sculptor
- **Professor Marie Sierra**, Artist & Deputy Dean and Head of School UNSW Australia Art & Design
- **Simone Slee**, Artist & Head, Sculpture & Spatial Practice, School of Art, Victorian College of the Arts, Faculty of VCA and MCM, The University of Melbourne.

The *Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014* focuses on the urban environment and the importance of sculpture, in all its forms, to inform public spaces and enrich public life. It is unique, in that it enables entrants to submit either a completed artwork, or a proposal for an artwork.

The *Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014* and Awards offer a range of opportunities to artists - including:

- **Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014 - \$60,000 cash**, generously supported by The Vera Moore Foundation, The Tallis Foundation and the Melbourne Prize Trust. **An artist fee of \$4,000 each** is provided to the six finalists in the *Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014*, which is generously made available by the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust.
- **Rural & Regional Development Award 2014 - \$40,000 cash**, generously supported by The Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation - recipient to be announced prior to the November exhibition.
- **Professional Development Award 2014 - \$10,000 cash** supported by the Professional Development Award Trust, **plus a \$2,500** Qantas international airfare credit and a professional practice opportunity provided by Sculpture & Spatial Practice, School of Art, VCA, The University of Melbourne.
- **Civic Choice Award 2014 - \$4,000 cash**, supported by the Melbourne Prize Trust and Sofitel Melbourne On Collins. Awarded to the finalist in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014 with the highest number of public votes cast at the November Federation Square exhibition and online at www.melbourneprize.org - voting commences on 10 November at the opening of the Federation Square exhibition.

Celebrating 10 years of supporting the arts in Victoria, Melbourne Prize Trust Executive Director, Mr Simon Warrender, said he is delighted with the calibre of entries received and thanked all entrants this year.

"It is testimony to the abundant talent in sculpture we have in Victoria that we have had such strong overall entries, from which a diverse list of finalists has been selected. The Prize this year has been made possible by the support and generosity of our partners and patrons, all of whom recognise the importance of fostering our creative resources," Mr Warrender added.

The **\$4,000 Civic Choice Award 2014** will be awarded to one of the six finalists in the *Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014* with the highest number of public votes. Online voting will commence from the opening of the free public exhibition at Federation Square, our exhibition and event partner, on 10 November, and concludes on 24 November. Voting will also be possible using the free finalist catalogue, which will be available at the exhibition.

--More--

Finalists announced in Melbourne Prize for Sculpture 2014 (cont.)

Mr Warrender also highlighted today the new award category offered as part of the *Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014* and Awards.

"The annual Melbourne Prize enjoys and valued strong regional and rural support. This year we are delighted to make available the inaugural **\$40,000 Rural & Regional Development Award 2014** through the generosity of The Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation, whose focus in supporting this Award is to provide opportunities to sculptors in rural and regional Victoria," Mr Warrender said.

There will be no finalists in this category, with the recipient announced prior to the November exhibition at Federation Square.

Key dates

- 23 July 2014 - Finalists announced
- Recipient of the Rural & Regional Development Award 2014 announced prior to the opening of the November exhibition.
- 10 - 24 November 2014 - Finalist Exhibition at Federation Square / commencement of public voting for the Civic Choice Award 2014 / display of the recipient of the Rural & Regional Development Award 2014
- 13 November 2014 - Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014 and Professional Development Award 2014 recipients announced
- 28 November 2014 - Civic Choice Award 2014 recipient announced

– Ends –

For more information or for interview opportunities please contact: Richard Amos or Tony Faccenda at Royce on (03) 8628 9362 or 0418 344 978 and 0411 231 433 respectively. Visit www.melbourneprize.org

Progress of the Prize can be followed via our social media platforms:

<https://www.facebook.com/MelbournePrize>
https://twitter.com/Melbourne_Prize

Notes to the Editor/reporter:

The annual Melbourne Prize is celebrating its 10th anniversary. It is one of the most valuable prizes of its kind in Australia and runs in a three-year cycle, which includes the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture (2014), the Melbourne Prize for Music (2015), and the Melbourne Prize for Literature (2016).

Since inception the annual Melbourne Prize has made available more than \$1 million in prizes and award, artist residencies, equipment/instrument grants and an annual public exhibition at Federation Square to Victorian writers, sculptors and musicians.

The *Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014* and *Awards* are made possible through the generous support of partners and patrons of the Melbourne Prize Trust, which can be seen at www.melbourneprize.org.

Government partners include the State Government through Arts Victoria and the City of Melbourne. The Prize is an initiative of the Committee for Melbourne. The design identity is by Cornwell.

Past recipients include:

2011

Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2011 - **Bianca Hester** *A world, fully accessible by no living being* 2011

Professional Development Award 2011 - **Lucas Maddock and Isaac Greener** *Apostle No.2* 2011

Civic Choice Award 2011 - **Lucas Maddock and Isaac Greener** *Apostle No.2* 2011

2008

Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2008 - **Alexander Knox** *maxims of behaviour* 2008

Professional Development Award 2008 - **Tom Nicholson** *Monument for the flooding of Royal Park* 2008

VicUrban Award 2008 - **Louise Paramor** *Tritonic Jam Session* 2008

Civic Choice Award 2008 - **Elaine Miles** *Reflections* 2007

2005

Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2005 - **OSW: Terri Bird, Bianca Hester, Natasha Johns-Messenger and Scott Mitchell** *groundings* 2005

Professional Development Award 2005 - **Karen Abernethy** *echophene* 2004

Fabrication Award 2005 - **Simon Perry** *Public Address* 2005

Civic Choice Award 2005 - **Matthew de Moiser** *Parasite* 2005

The annual Melbourne Prize alumni: 2005 to 2013



**Melbourne
Prize for
Music 2010**
David Jones

**Outstanding
Musicians
Award 2010**
Ben Northey

**Development
Award 2010**
Natalie Bartsch



**Melbourne
Prize for Urban
Sculpture 2011**
Bianca Hester

**Professional
Development
Award 2011**
Isaac Greener &
Lucas Maddock

**Civic Choice
Award 2011**
Isaac Greener &
Lucas Maddock



**Melbourne Prize
for Literature 2012**
Alex Miller

**Best Writing
Award 2012**
Craig Sherborne

**Civic Choice
Award 2012**
Tony Birch



**Melbourne Prize
for Music 2013**
Brett Dean

**Outstanding Musicians
Award 2013**
Stephen Magnusson

Development Award 2013
Kate Kelsey-Sugg

Civic Choice Award 2013
Mick Harvey

Thank you to our 2014 Partners & Patrons.



**Melbourne
Prize for
Literature 2009**
Gerald
Murnane

**Best Writing
Award 2009**
Nam Le

**Civic Choice
Award 2009**
Amra Pajalic



**Melbourne Prize
for Urban
Sculpture 2008**
Alexander Knox

**Professional
Development
Award 2008**
Tom Nicholson

**VicUrban
Award 2008**
Louise Paramor

**Civic Choice
Award 2008**
Elaine Miles



**Melbourne Prize
for Music 2007**
Paul Grabowski

**Outstanding
Musicians
Award 2007**
Genevieve Lacey

**Development
Award 2007**
Julian Langdon



**Melbourne
Prize for
Literature 2006**
Helen Garner

**Best Writing
Award 2006**
Christos
Tsiolkas

**Civic Choice
Award 2006**
Henry von
Doussa



**Melbourne Prize
for Urban
Sculpture 2005**
Open Spatial
Workshop

**Professional
Development
Award 2005**
Karen Abernethy

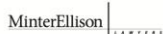
**Civic Choice
Award 2005**
Matthew de Moiser

Celebrating our 10th anniversary

Government Partners



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Diana Gibson AO



Melbourne Prize for
Urban Sculpture 2014
Finalist Artist Fees



Melbourne Prize for Urban
Sculpture 2014 Partners



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Professional Development
Award 2014 Partner



Civic Choice Award
2014 Partner



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Exhibition Signage & AV



Print Partners



IT Services

littleirrepressiblewonton.com

Names24.com.au

Exhibition Consultant



Design by Cornwell

an initiative of the Committee for Melbourne 8