

# Finalists' Catalogue



Melbourne  
Prize for  
Urban Sculpture  
2023

# Table of Content

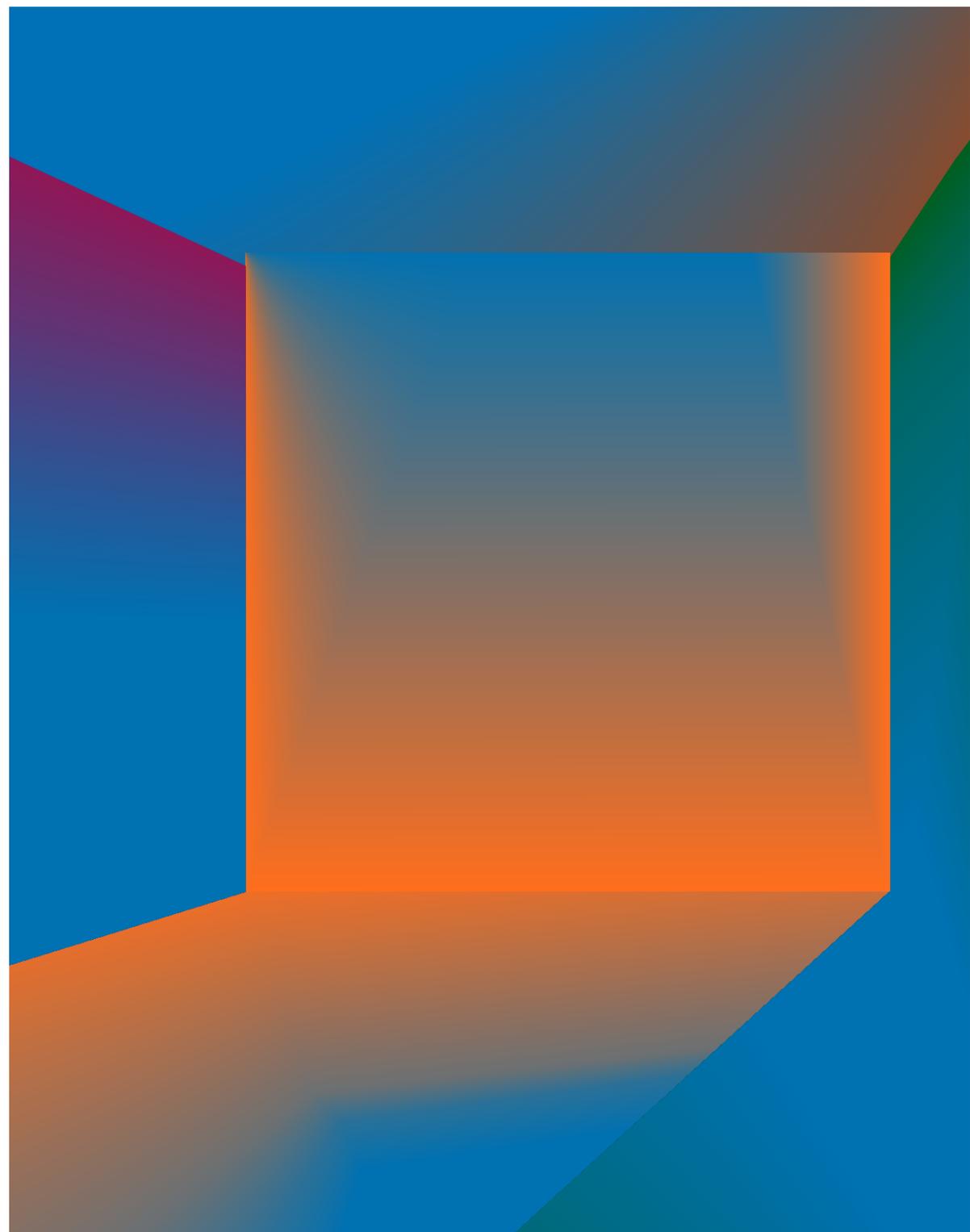
03	Civic Choice Awards
04	Our 2023 Partners and Patrons
05	We Acknowledge
06	Fed Square
07	Prizes
08	Government Partners
09	Playground Studio
10	Judges
11	The annual Melbourne Prize 2005 - 2023 Alumni
12	Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023
13	2023 Finalists
14	Finalist – Maree Clarke
16	Finalist – Vipoo Srivalasa
18	Finalist – Kent Morris
20	Finalist – Joy Zhou
22	Thank You
23	The annual Melbourne Prize and Melbourne Prize Trust
23	History

# Civic Choice Award

Cast your vote in the Civic Choice Award 2023 at [melbourneprize.org](https://melbourneprize.org)  
The finalist with the highest number of votes will win.

By casting your vote, you have a chance to win an overnight stay at  
the Sofitel Melbourne On Collins.

Supported by:



# Thank you to our 2023 Partners and Patrons

## Design by **PLAYGROUND**

Major Patron	Government Partners	Event Partner and Finalist/Judges Fees	Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023 Partner	Patrons	Founding Partners	Creative Partner	Corporate Partner
	 			Diana Gibson AO  	  MinterEllison		
Professional Services	Catering Partner	Website Design and Management	Signage	Media Communications	Print Partners	Banners	Trophies
 <b>Jamison Alliott</b> <small>CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS BUSINESS ADVISORS</small>		 The Mighty Wonton			  		

# We acknowledge

From the founder and executive director of the annual Melbourne Prize Trust.



In our operations this year, we acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which the Melbourne Prize Trust operates, the People of the Kulin Nation, and pay our respects to the elders, past, present and future. Kutcha Edwards is as our Cultural Advisor for this year's program.

Thank you for your interest in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023, which is one of the most valuable arts prizes in country, positioning Melbourne and Victoria as a place of opportunity for artists.

Congratulations to the finalists in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023 - Maree Clarke, Kent Morris, Vipoo Srivilasa and Joy Zhou.

This catalogue provide information on the four finalists and their work. An Augmented Reality Finalists' Exhibition is held at Fed Square between 1 and 15 November, where visitors can learn about each artist. Vote for the Civic Choice Award 2023 at [www.melbourneprize.org](http://www.melbourneprize.org).

The annual Melbourne Prize, now in its 19th year, continues its objective to provide opportunities to Victorian writers, musicians and for 2023, sculptors, demonstrating the importance of recognising and rewarding creative talent.

The criteria of the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023 this year allows for the \$60,000 prize funds to be used for professional development of the winner's sculpture practice.

To alleviate the cost of entry this year, there were no requirements, as part of the judging criteria, for the finalists to submit a finished or proposed work for display at Fed Square. We will make available, to the non-winning finalists, the sum of \$1,000 + a \$1,000 Qantas gift voucher, supported by Fed Square.

Artists practicing in expanded fields of sculpture, including public installation, new media, performance, sound-based and socially engaged practice were encouraged to apply, plus entries from artists at all stages of their practice, including First Nations people and artists from all genders and cultural, linguistic and diverse backgrounds.

Importantly, thank you to our three judges, Emily Floyd, Katharina Prugger and Kate Ten Buuren and to the many partners, who are acknowledged in this catalogue, for your generous support, which has made it possible to offer this year's activities.

Yours sincerely,

**Simon Warrender OAM**

Executive Director and Founder  
Melbourne Prize Trust and annual Melbourne Prize



Thank you to Fed Square for supporting the November awards at The Edge and the 2023 Augmented Reality finalists' Exhibition in the Square between November 1 and 15 and the finalist fees.



The prestigious annual Melbourne Prize celebrates and supports emerging and established Victorian artists across a range of disciplines, and each year we look forward to being part of it.

This year, we are delighted to also be working with the Prize to present a free augmented reality presentation at Fed Square, showcasing each of the four finalists from 1-15 November and along with hosting the awards ceremony, to be providing the gifts awarded to each runner-up finalist.

We congratulate Simon and the wonderful team for their tireless work in continuing to foster and grow the impact of the Melbourne Prize - and congratulations to each of the truly extraordinary nominees.

**Katrina Sedgwick**  
Director & CEO  
Melbourne Arts Precinct Corporation

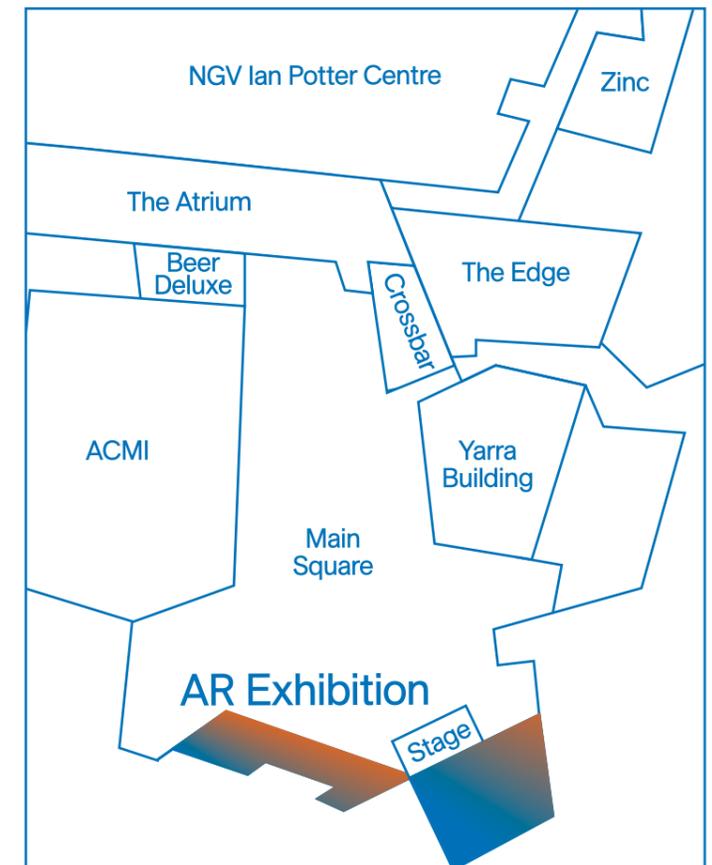
MAP Co, through our work at Federation Square, is proud to be both a long-standing exhibition and events partner of the annual Melbourne Prize, and the home of this celebrated event for the past 19 years.

When it opened 21 years ago, Fed Square quickly became the heart of Melbourne. It is our town square, and through our foundational Civic and Cultural Charter, it is a meeting place, a place of gathering and celebration and protest. It houses three of our most beloved institutions - The Ian Potter NGV Australia, ACMI and the Koorie Heritage Trust. And it is a place for artists and arts organisations to connect with the community.

Now, it has become the gateway to the Melbourne Arts Precinct, and as MAP Co works with our partners to deliver the Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation, Fed Square has become the first stop on a journey through Melbourne's renowned arts corridor.

Learn about the four finalists in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023 at the Augmented Reality Exhibition, located at Fed Square, on the main steps, corner of Swanston and Flinders St – See the map for details.

See the large screen for finalists' presentation.



## Key Dates

Entries Open  
15 May 2022

Entries Close  
3 July 2023 — 5pm Sharp

Finalists Announced /  
Voting Opens In Civic Choice Award 2023  
5 September 2023 at [melbourneprize.org](http://melbourneprize.org)

Augmented Reality Finalist  
Exhibition At Fed Square /  
Catalogue Released  
1 - 15 November 2023

Winners Announced  
15 November 2023 at [melbourneprize.org](http://melbourneprize.org)

Civic Choice Award 2023 / Voting Closes  
15 November 2023 At 5pm

Civic Choice Award 2023 / Winner Announced  
16 November 2023 At [Melbourneprize.org](http://Melbourneprize.org)

# Prizes

## Melbourne Prize For Urban Sculpture 2023

**\$60,000** - The Prize will be awarded to a Victorian sculptor to provide the winner with direct professional development opportunities to develop their practice.

Entrants must provide information on how the Prize funds will be used for a clearly defined initiative/s or project/s that will develop the entrant's practice, building on their previous professional work.

Artists practicing in expanded fields of sculpture, including public installation, new media, performance, sound-based and socially engaged practice were able to apply for the Prize.

### Winner Announcement

The winner will be announced at [www.melbourneprize.org](http://www.melbourneprize.org) at 6.45pm on November 9th.

Supported by Major Patron  
The Vera Moore Foundation



## Civic Choice Award 2023

This Award will be given to a finalist in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023 with the highest number of votes cast during the public voting period.

Vote and have a chance of winning an overnight stay at the Sofitel Melbourne On Collins.

### Winner Announcement

The winner will be announced at [www.melbourneprize.org](http://www.melbourneprize.org) on November 16<sup>th</sup>

To vote, visit [melbourneprize.org](http://melbourneprize.org)  
Voting closes at 5pm on November 15<sup>th</sup>

Supported by

MELBOURNE  
PRIZE TRUST™

S O F I T E L  
MELBOURNE ON COLLINS

# Government Partners

Melbourne Prize

For Urban Sculpture

2023



Artists and their creative endeavours span every part of our city.

None more so than those who create the works that surprise and delight in our urban realm.

Plotted throughout our city's streets and parks, passed by hundreds of thousands of people each day as they live, work and play in the city, urban sculpture shapes the cultural and social identity of Melbourne.

This is why the City of Melbourne is incredibly proud to support the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture in 2023 celebrating the talented creatives who contribute enormously to the fabric of our city.

Congratulations and I wish you every success.

**Sally Capp AO**  
Lord Mayor

Design and art direction by

Melbourne Prize

For Urban Sculpture

# PLAYGROUND®

**PLAYGROUND is the Foundation Creative Partner of the annual Melbourne Prize.**

Driven to unearth the genius idea at the heart of every brand, PLAYGROUND creates intelligent, insightful brand solutions—beautiful, simple and effective. Ideas that engage and connect. Ideas that ruffle and riot. Ideas that elevate brands from where they are to where they want to be – and then higher.

[playgroundstudio.com.au](http://playgroundstudio.com.au)

2023

9

# Judges

## Judges Statement

*We were impressed by the remarkably high standard of applications that came through from artists working across sculptural practices, and wish to congratulate all applicants and finalists.*

*The Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture boasts an impressive history showcasing experimental excellence in the field of sculpture. Each iteration of the prize has redefined the possibilities for public art and we look forward to sharing the extraordinary vision of the four 2023 finalists.*

*The finalists demonstrate a diversity of practices across sculptural forms, including working with new media, sound, installation, natural materials and more. We were excited by their work in communities, collaborating with audiences and presenting work in the public realm. Their works each have the power to inspire, shift perspectives and engage people in new conversations.*

### Kate Ten Buuren



Photo credit: Phoebe Powell

Kate Ten Buuren is a Taungurung curator, artist and writer working on Kulin Country. Her interest in contemporary visual art, film and oral traditions is grounded in self-determination, self-representation and the power of knowing one another.

Kate is an active member of First Nations arts collective this mob who make space for young artists to connect and create on their own terms. She is Senior Curator, First Nations at MAP Co and has held previous curatorial positions at ACMI and Koorie Heritage Trust. Most recently, Kate curated *How I See It: Blak Art and Film* at ACMI, an exhibition spanning moving image, installation, documentary, photography and video games. *Collective Movements*, an exhibition of First Nations collectives, collaborations and creative practices from across Victoria which Kate co-curated, is currently on a state-wide tour.

Kate is an alumna of the Wesfarmers Indigenous Arts Leadership program (National Gallery of Australia), Australia Council for the Arts International Curators Program (Asia Pacific Triennial x TarraWarra Biennial) and Footscray Community Art Centre's Emerging Cultural Leaders Program.

### Emily Floyd



Photo credit: Phoebe Powell

Born in 1972 on unceded Wurundjeri Country, Emily Floyd lives and works in Naarm/Melbourne. Over two decades of practice, the artist has produced a major body of sculpture within the public realm, including installations for the Shanghai Library East; Ningbo Central Park; Sydney Modern; 56th Biennale di Venezia and Heide Museum of Modern Art.

Floyd was a joint recipient of the 2020 Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture, her work is held in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Australia; Museum of Contemporary Art Australia; National Gallery of Victoria; Bendigo Art Gallery; Monash University Collection; Queensland Art Gallery & Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane; Victoria and Albert Museum and The British Museum.

Emily Floyd is represented by Anna Schwartz Gallery, she is an Australia Council for the Arts and Sydney Myer Fellow.

### Katharina Prugger



Photo credit: Phoebe Powell

Katharina is Curator of Contemporary Art at the National Gallery of Victoria. She holds a Master of Art Curatorship from the University of Melbourne and has over ten years of experience in the field of contemporary art, working at galleries in Munich, Berlin, London and Melbourne.

Since joining the NGV in 2017, Katharina has been part of the NGV Triennial and Melbourne Now curatorial teams and co-curated exhibitions and collection displays including *We Change The World*.

# The annual Melbourne Prize 2005 – 2023 Alumni

2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2015	2014	2012	2010	2008
Melbourne Prize for Literature 2021 Christos Tsiolkas	Beth Arnold Mikala Dwyer Emily Floyd Nicholas Mangan Kathy Temin Field Theory	Melbourne Prize for Music Deborah Cheetham AO	Melbourne Prize for Literature Alison Lester	Melbourne Prize for Sculpture Daniel von Sturmer	Melbourne Prize for Literature Professor Christopher Wallace-Crabbe AM	Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture Geoff Robinson	Melbourne Prize for Literature Alex Miller	Melbourne Prize for Music David Jones	Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture Alexander Knox
Professional Development Award 2021 Evelyn Araluen	Rural & Regional Development Award 2020 Laura Woodward	Distinguished Musicians Fellowship 2019 Erkki Veltheim	Best Writing Award Maria Tumarkin	Rural & Regional Development Award Fayen d'Evie	Best Writing Award Andrea Goldsmith	Professional Development Award Kay Abude	Best Writing Award Craig Sherborne	Outstanding Musicians Award Ben Northey	Professional Development Award Tom Nicholson
Writer's Prize 2021 Eloise Victoria Grills	Professional Development Award 2020 Isadora Vaughan	Development Award 2019 Mojo Juju	Readings Residency Award Jamie Marina Lau	Public Artwork Design Concept Award Emma Anna	Writers Prize Kate Ryan	Civic Choice Award Kay Abude	Civic Choice Award Tony Birch	Development Award Natalie Bartsch	Vic Urban Award Louise Paramor
Civic Choice Award 2021 Maxine Beneba Clarke	Civic Choice Award 2020 Field Theory	Beleura Emerging Composers Award 2019 Andrea Keller	Civic Choice Award Louise Milligan	Professional Development Award Bridie Lunney	Civic Choice Award Robbyn Annear	Rural & Regional Development Award Aleks Danko			Civic Choice Award Elaine Miles
2022		Civic Choice Award 2019 Kaiit Waup		Civic Choice Award Sarah crowEST			2011	2009	
Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 Missy Higgins					2016		Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture Bianca Hester	Melbourne Prize for Literature Gerald Murnane	2007
Professional Development Award 2022 Jess Hitchcock					Melbourne Prize for Music Kutcha Edwards	2013	Professional Development Award Isaac Greener & Lucas Maddock	Best Writing Award Nam Le	Melbourne Prize for Music Paul Grabowsky
Beleura Emerging Composers Award 2022 Annie Hui-Hsin Hsieh					Outstanding Musicians Award Scott Tinkler		Civic Choice Award Isaac Greener & Lucas Maddock	Civic Choice Award Amra Pajalic	Outstanding Musicians Award Genevieve Lacey
Civic Choice Award 2022 Liza Lim					Beleura Award for Composition Kate Neal				Development Award Julian Langdon
							Development Award Kate Kelsey-Sugg		
							Civic Choice Award Mick Harvey		



# Melbourne Prize

## \$60,000 Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023

The Prize will be awarded to a Victorian sculptor to provide the winner with direct professional development opportunities to develop their practice.

Entrants must provide information on how the Prize funds will be used for a clearly defined initiative/s or project/s that will develop the entrant's practice, building on their previous professional work.

Artists practicing in expanded fields of sculpture, including public installation, new media, performance, sound-based and socially engaged practice were able to apply for the Prizer.

Supported by Major Patron, The Vera Moore Foundation.



## \$12,000 Civic Choice Award

Visit [melbourneprize.org](http://melbourneprize.org) to cast your vote for a finalist to win this award. Voting closes at 5pm on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Supported by



## Finalists

Maree Clarke

Kent Morris

Vipoo Srivalasa

Joy Zhou

# for Urban Sculpture 2023

# 2023

Maree Clarke  
Vipoo Srivilasa  
Kent Morris  
Joy Zhou

# Finalists

# Maree Clarke

@ree\_clarke



Photo credit: Eugene Hyland

Maree Clarke is a Yorta Yorta/Wamba Wamba/Mutti Mutti/Boonwurrung woman who grew up in northwest Victoria, mainly in Mildura, on the banks of the Murray River. Maree has been a practicing artist living and working in Melbourne for the last three decades. She has been instrumental in the reclamation of southeast Australian Aboriginal art practices, reviving elements of Aboriginal culture that were lost – or lying dormant - over the period of colonisation, as well as a leader in nurturing and promoting the diversity of contemporary southeast Aboriginal artists.

The artist's continuing desire to affirm and reconnect with cultural heritage objects and items held in Museum collections has seen a revivification of the traditional possum skin cloaks, together with the production of contemporary designs of organic kangaroo teeth necklaces and river reed necklaces, as well as 3D printed kangaroo teeth (including 18 carat gold plated teeth) and echidna quills for body adornments, and glass eel traps.



Photo credit: Tom Ross

## Sculpture practice

Maree has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. In 2021-2022 she held a major survey exhibition, Maree Clarke – Ancestral Memories at the National Gallery of Victoria, with an abridged version later shown at the Australian Embassy in Paris (2022-2023). Other major recent exhibitions include *Between Waves*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne (2023); *Vivid Sydney*, Sydney (2023); *Tarnanthi*, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide (2021); *The National*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (2021); *Reversible Destiny*, Tokyo Photographic Museum, Tokyo Japan (2021); and the King & Wood Mallesons Contemporary Art Prize, for which she was awarded the Victorian Artist award. In 2020 she was awarded the Linewide Commission for the Metro Tunnel project (current) and was the recipient of the 2020 Australia Council Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Fellowship.

This year, 2023, Maree was successfully nominated as a Victorian Finalist for Australian of the Year Award, and in May completed the Pilchuck Glass Residency in Washington State, USA in conjunction with the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, Washington, USA. She was also awarded the prestigious Yalingwa Fellowship for her significant contribution to contemporary art and culture in Victoria.

Maree's sculpture, painting, and multimedia installations of painting and photography explore the customary ceremonies, rituals and language of her ancestors and reveal her long-held ambitions to facilitate cross-cultural dialogue about the ongoing effects of colonisation, while simultaneously providing space for the Aboriginal community to engage with and 'mourn' the impact of dispossession and loss.

Maree's sculpture, painting, and multimedia installations of painting and photography explore the customary ceremonies, rituals and language of her ancestors.



Photo credit: Eugene Hyland



Photo credit: Tom Ross



Through the combination of form and material, Maree's work acknowledges the convergence of traditional practices and contemporary culture.

The project entered in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023

The project entered for the Prize brings together recent experimental pieces created during Maree's two 2023 glass residencies in the USA, and is heavily inspired by her work with microscopic river reed images drawn from her research undertaken at the University of Melbourne. The work constructs a three- to four-meter-long microscopic river reed-patterned canoe, made from 20 suspended 'floating' sections, mimicking her previous work with large glass eel traps.

Alongside these new pieces, extant works in glass and photography could be included to add context. Through the combination of form and material, Maree's work acknowledges the convergence of traditional practices and contemporary culture.

Career Highlights

- 2023 - Munro Library interior and roof terrace commission, Melbourne
- 2023 - Awarded the Yalingwa Artist Fellowship, Melbourne
- 2021 - 2022 Survey exhibition, Maree Clarke – Ancestral Memories at the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 2022 - 2023 Survey exhibition, Maree Clarke – Ancestral Memories at the Australian Embassy, Paris
- 2020 - current Commission for the Metro Tunnel Project, Melbourne

All images are courtesy of Maree Clarke & Vivien Anderson Gallery.

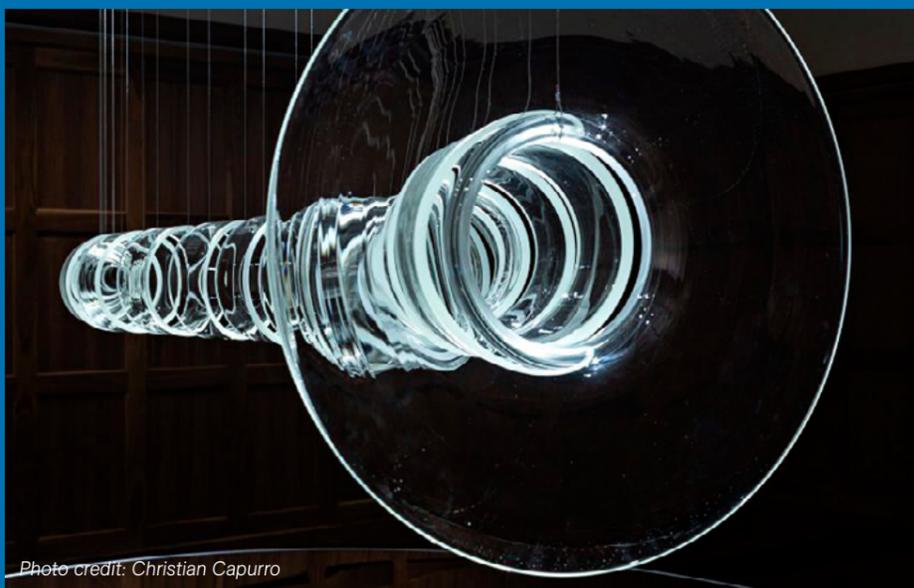


Photo credit: Christian Capurro



Photo credit: Tom Ross

Vipoo Srivilasa is an art world globetrotter! First stop: Bangkok, where he earned his ceramic art degree and worked as a pot plants designer for two years. In 1995, Australia beckoned for postgraduate studies – because who can resist koalas and kangaroos? He landed at Monash's Frankston campus, lured by ocean views only to learn Aussie waters are chillier than Koh Samui's waters!

Next, it was Hobart where he completed his Master's in ceramics. His downtime? Hobart Dock, spying on seahorses, stingrays, and starfish as they did their daily activities. Grad cap thrown, he zoomed to Adelaide to kickstart his full-time artist life at the JamFactory. But Melbourne beckoned him back in 2000, leading to the birth of his own art studio, Clay Lab, in 2016. Vipoo respectfully acknowledges that his artistic voyage unfolds on the traditional lands of Indigenous Australians.



Photo credit: Simon Strong

### Sculpture practice

Thai-born, Melbourne-based ceramicist Vipoo Srivilasa is internationally renowned for his blue-and-white porcelain figures and participatory projects, which are informed by his experiences as an expatriate artist living in Australia.

His ceramic sculptures focus on critical social issues including Australian migration, pandemic-induced isolation, and marriage equality, inspiring us to honour our everyday heroes. Through his work, he fosters healing and contemplation, urging viewers to find beauty and joy amid challenges. He believes ceramics, with its community values of skill-sharing and inclusivity, is the ideal medium for this message.

Srivilasa has exhibited extensively overseas, including at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe, USA; Clayarch Gimhae Museum, South Korea; Ayala Museum, Philippines; Museu de Ceràmica l'Alcora, Spain; and the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre, Thailand.

His work is represented in important international collections, including the Henan Museum, China; Roopanakar Museum of Fine Arts, India; The Birmingham Alabama Art museum, USA and in the National Gallery of Australia.

Vipoo's efforts have gained scholarly recognition, including a feature in "Ceramics: An Atlas of Forms.", which situates his work in a long history of ceramic practice.

Beyond art, Vipoo is a committed community builder. He's orchestrated fundraisers including Ceramics for Charity for earthquake victims and Clay for Australia for bushfire relief, showcasing the transformative power of art in supporting communities.

In 2021, the American Ceramic Society named Srivilasa Ceramic Artist of the Year for his contribution to the international clay community.



Photo credit: Simon Strong

Vipoo's ceramic sculptures focus on critical social issues including Australian migration, pandemic-induced isolation, and marriage equality...

vipoo.com  
@VipooArt



Photo credit: Zan Wimberley

# Vipoo Srivilasa

The funds will facilitate a two-month research trip to five Thai provinces specialising in large-scale mythical animal stucco sculptures.



Photo credit: Simon Strong

## The project entered in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023

My goal is to master Thai stucco art, a versatile, affordable, and durable medium similar to ceramics. This technique overcomes size limitations of ceramic kilns and opens up new possibilities for community projects, enabling larger scale creations, outdoor installations, and efficient time management.

The funds will facilitate a two-month research trip to five Thai provinces specialising in large-scale mythical animal stucco sculptures. Additionally, I'll undertake a week-long masterclass on 3D stucco forms, armature, and rendering, followed by a two-week intensive mural painting course, focusing on powder paint, liner brush techniques, and gold leaf gilding.



Photo credit: Simon Hewson



Photo credit: Simon Strong

## Career Highlights

- 2023 - Awarded Visual Arts and Crafts Strategy (VACS) Major Commissioning Projects program from the Australian Council For The Arts.
- 2022 - Commission from The National Portrait Gallery, Canberra for Portrait 23 exhibition.
- 2021 - Awarded Ceramic Artists of The Year by The American Ceramic Society.
- 2020 - Commission from Queensland Art Gallery Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane for the Asia Pacific Triennial 10 (APT10).
- 2018 - Awarded National Sports Museum Basil Sellers Creative Arts Fellowship.



Photo credit: Simon Strong

# Kent Morris

Kent's art practice explores identity, connection to place and the continuing evolution of cultural practices...



Photo credit: Nat Rogers

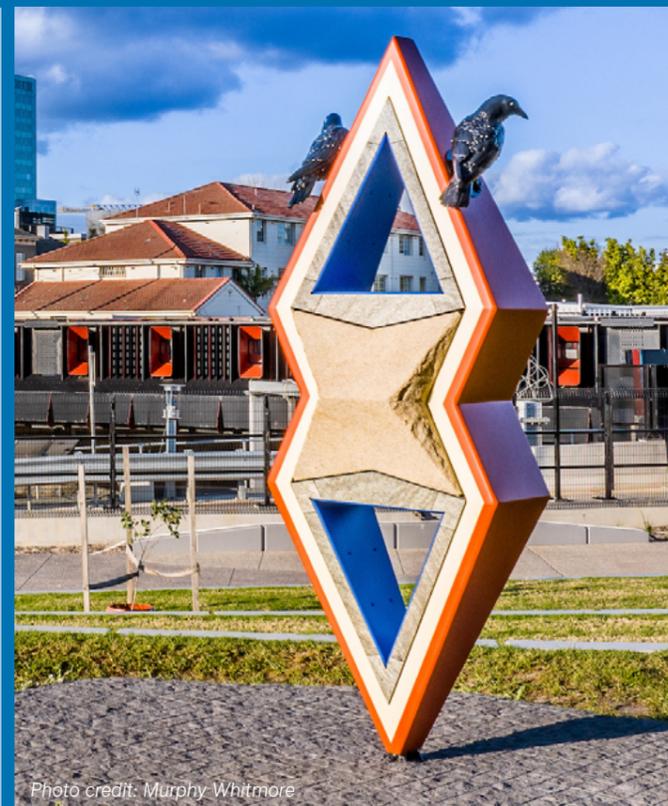


Photo credit: Murphy Whitmore

Kent Morris is a Barkindji artist living on Yalukit Willam Country in Naarm/Melbourne. Through a variety of three-dimensional and digital processes, Kent engages audiences by manipulating the built environment, technology and nature into new forms that reflect Indigenous knowledge systems reshaping western frameworks, exploring complex histories and First Nations cultural continuity since time immemorial.

One of the central motivations for Kent's work is to provide a dedicated and considered space for the exchange of stories, histories, images and insights and to give visual representation to that which is often unseen. His art practice explores identity, connection to place and the continuing evolution of cultural practices whilst engaging audiences to question long held frames of reference.

The interaction of native birds with the built environment has evolved to become a key theme of the artist's work; the interaction explores ideas of resilience, adaption, continuity, and ongoing disruptions to ecological systems.

[kentmorris.com.au](http://kentmorris.com.au)  
 @kent\_morris\_artist

## Sculpture practice

Kent Morris holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Monash University and a post-graduate Diploma in Fine Art from Victorian College of the Arts and is an alumnus of the National Gallery of Australia's Wesfarmers Indigenous Leadership Program. Central themes in his art practice are the connections between contemporary Indigenous experience and contemporary cultural practices and their continuation and evolution.

In 2017 and 2021, Kent's artworks were featured in the Tarnanthi Festival of Contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art and were shortlisted for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards each year from 2016 - 2020 and again in 2022. Kent has exhibited widely throughout Australia and has worked on large scale architectural commissions for building interiors at Monash University and Australian Unity in Melbourne.

He has also completed major public works including digital projects for the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art and the University of Technology, Sydney. In 2022, a large scale temporary public sculpture was commissioned by Federation Square which included a sonic composition by James Henry, dynamic light design by Studio John Fish, and augmented reality technology by creative tech company PHORIA; this work was also exhibited at the 2023 Adelaide Festival.

This year a permanent public work has been installed at Siding Reserve in South Yarra as part the Metro Tunnel Legacy Artwork Program. Kent was also commissioned to design one of the Melbourne Art trams as part of the 2019 Melbourne International Arts Festival.



Photo credit: Kristan Laemmle-Ruff

### The project entered in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023

As my art practice moves further into the realm of three-dimensional works in public spaces, my project focuses on the development and creation of a series of small works based on the ideas I have been exploring in recent concept designs for large public sculptures.

This would provide the opportunity to explore and develop a range of physical works, increasing my formal, material and conceptual knowledge within an accessible three-dimensional framework outside the public art commissioning process. The opportunity to create this series of works would increase and expand my public sculpture knowledge, technical understanding and design vocabulary.

### Career Highlights

- 2023 - Metro Tunnel Siding Reserve Commission
- 2023 - Adelaide Festival
- 2021 - University of Technology Sydney Broadway Screen Commission
- 2019 - Kluge Ruhe - University of Virginia artist residency and exhibition
- 2017 & 2021 - Tarnanthi Festival



Photo credit: Richard Glover



Photo credit: Jacquie Manning

This would provide the opportunity to explore and develop a range of physical works, increasing my formal, material and conceptual knowledge within an accessible three-dimensional framework outside the public art commissioning process.

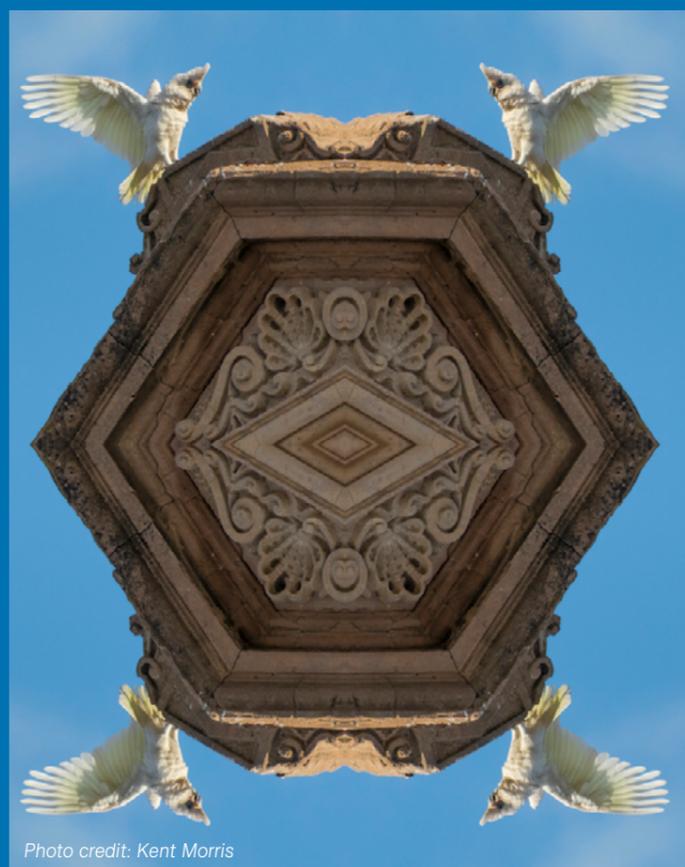


Photo credit: Kent Morris



Photo credit: James Morgan



Photo credit: Joy Zhou

Expanding from their background in interior design, Joy's practice reframes space through relationships, unfolding experiences in everyday life by engaging with the affective interior and exterior conditions.



Photo credit: Murray Enders

# Joy Zhou

@joyzhou945

## Sculpture practice

Joy Zhou's practice mainly situates in the public realm where their central concerns ponder on the temporal dynamics of social relations. As this innovative creative practice emerges, encounters and events are always unfolding along their processes - through the discovery of unnoticed objects, arrangements of things immediately available, and decoding of languages embedded within the space and their context.

Joy is developing an embodied research methodology drawing from their intersectional experience and working with bodily subjectivity. This practice continuously anticipates the unknowns, aiming to disrupt the inscribed norms, and amplify unseen existence in everyday life. As such, many of their projects start with going out for a walk and seeing what happens.

Expanding from their background in interior design, Joy's practice reframes space through relationships, unfolding experiences in everyday life by engaging with the affective interior and exterior conditions. Rather than working with a fixed medium, the choice of their materials or subjects is informed by existing conditions where the outcomes of their projects are always situation-responsive. While developing a spatial practice, Joy's projects have involved sound as a primary medium.

They engage the spatial dimension of sound to recontextualise the objects with an intangible sculptural presence, positions sound as a time-based material that can mediate sensory focuses from the visual spectacles to auditory immersion. It is also imperative to acknowledge that the realization of Joy's practice would remain unattainable without the invaluable support from all the more-than-human and human collaborators.

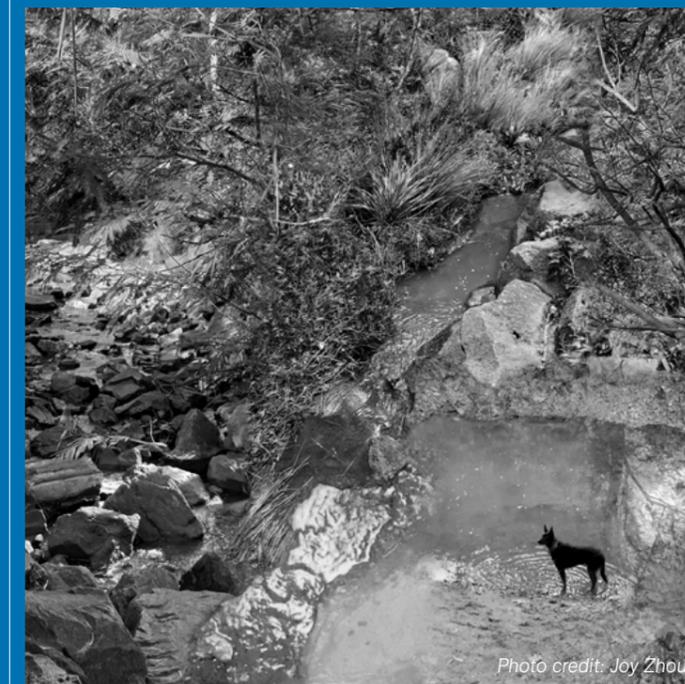


Photo credit: Joy Zhou



Photo credit: Tiger Yuanlong



Photo credit: Devika Bilimoria



Photo credit: Devika Bilimoria

The prize funds would support my emerging transdisciplinary practice, broadening my capacity to work in public urban spaces.

## Career Highlights

Joy led and produced public art project A Creek Chat which was presented in 2022 with support from the City of Melbourne and the Victoria Government as part of the City Activation Grants Program.

The development of A Creek Chat was supported by the Testing Grounds and the City of Melbourne in 2021 through the Test Sites program, with mentorship and producing support which expanded their capacity to work on temporary public art projects. Joy graduated with a Bachelor of Interior Design (Honours) from RMIT University, and is the recipient of Graduate Residency, which is a part of RMIT Culture's 2023 program.

In early 2023 Joy was invited to participate in the inaugural Quarry Pedagogies camp, a space fostering engagement with multi-disciplines of creative thinkers and process-centred explorations, encouraged them to reconsider the relationship between connection, production, and consumption

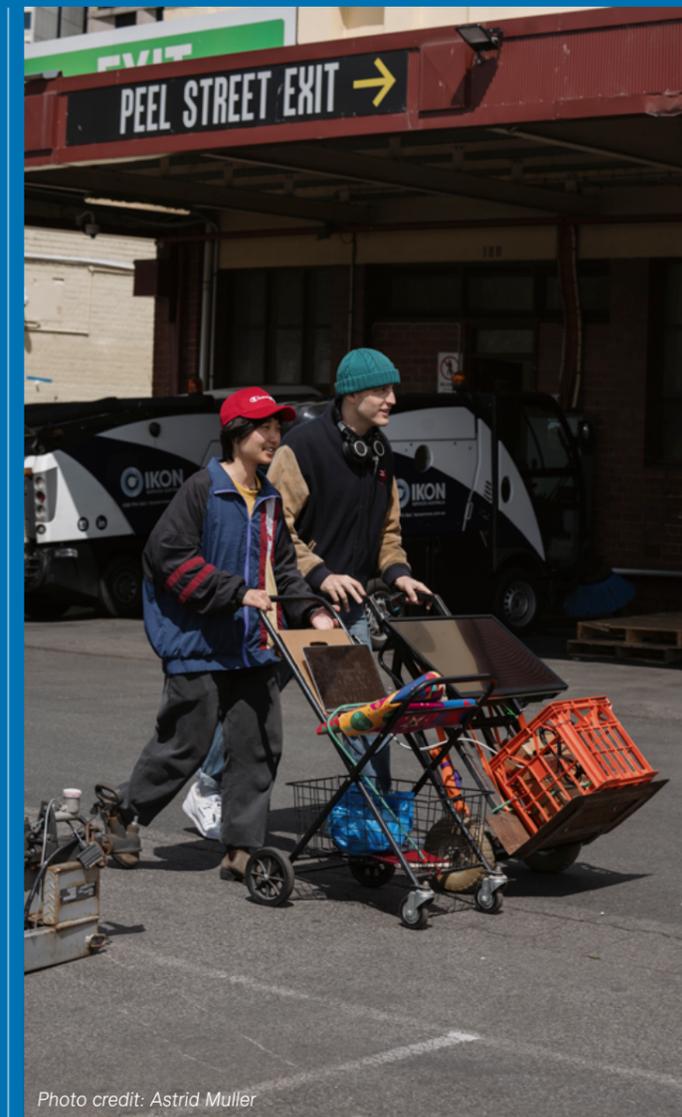


Photo credit: Astrid Muller

## The project entered in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023

The prize funds would support my emerging transdisciplinary practice, broadening my capacity to work in public urban spaces. I would be expanding on a process-driven research project, MANY FESTO, responded to text in Fed Square's Experience Lab EOI, reconsidering language and significations embedded within the contexts. The prize will allow me to deliver an ambient sound-based installation in the carpark, involving further research and experimentation.

This project will incorporate amplifying devices to translate unseen events in the architectural space and engage the audience through sound and listening. The awarded funds can facilitate collaborative opportunities with experienced peers and mentors, that contribute to my professional development. I am committed to maintaining a sustainable artistic practice, and enhancing accessibility to my projects.



Photo credit: Joy Zhou

# Thank You

Now in its 19th year, the annual Melbourne Prize would like to thank the many partner organisations who have made this year's Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture possible.

Many of the partners have been with the Prize from the start in 2005. Thank you to all the entrants and finalists this year.

The Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023 would not be possible without the generous patronage of our Major Patron and sole Prize patron, **The Vera Moore Foundation** – thank you to Trustees **Ian RM Morrison** and **Roger Blythman**, and Secretary **David Richardson AO OBE**. The Civic Choice Award is supported by the **Melbourne Prize Trust**.

The Melbourne Prize Trust would like to thank the **Victorian Government**, through **Creative Victoria**, and the **City of Melbourne**, as our Government Partners, for their generous and ongoing partnership and generous support.

Thank you to our founding Events Partner, **Fed Square**, for continuing to be the 'home' of the annual Melbourne Prize - the team this year have been so helpful. Fed Square have generously supported the Augmented Reality Finalists' Exhibition, awards evening and the finalist and judges' fees.

The dedication of the three 2023 judges, **Emily Floyd**, **Katharina Prugger** and **Kate Ten Buuren** is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to our Cultural Advisor, **Kutcha Edwards**.

Founding Partners **Ernst & Young**, **Minter Ellison** and **Committee for Melbourne** helped establish the Prize and continue to be involved in the annual activities. **Committee for Melbourne** generously provide the office for the Trust – thank you.

The design for each annual Prize is created by our Foundation and Creative Partner **Playground Studio** in South Melbourne, who have been partners since inception. Thank you to **Sally Dobell**, **Adit Wardhana**, **Kim Hankin**, **Libby Broadbent** and this year's designer **Stanley Darmawan**. The inspiration for the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023 branding evokes how the expanded fields of sculptural practice can bring spaces to life, activating and defining their identity.

The Trust greatly appreciates the generous support of Corporate Partner, **Sofitel Melbourne On Collins**, **Melbourne's Hotel for the Arts**, for hosting our finalist welcome event and making accommodation available to a voter in the Civic Choice Award.

We are fortunate to have a number of patrons who have supported this year's program. These including founding patron **Diana Gibson AO**, **The Yulgilbar Foundation** and **The Scanlon Foundation**.

There are a number of organisations who have been with the annual Melbourne Prize for many years and we would like to thank for their ongoing partnership. **Royce** provides strategic media and communications advice, along with **Grant Thornton** who undertake the annual audit of the Trust and to **Jamison Alliott** for accounting services.

**Rothfield**, **Ellikon** and **Spicers Paper** are our Print Partners. Thank you to **Premier Graphics** for being our signage partner, **Evan Evans** for supporting digital printing, to **Lee Wong**, **Aitor Mauleon** and **Celine David** of **The Mighty Wonton** for our website and IT management.

Thank you to **Fundere Fine Art Foundry Melbourne** for crafting the unique presentation trophies for the awards and for fabricating the miniatures of *The Magic Pudding* sculpture (located at the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne), which are now sold out. Thank you for **Barry Iddles** of **360Q** for catering the awards at Fed Square.

Thank you to the Board of the Melbourne Prize Trust, including **Dr Janine Kirk AO (Chairman)**, **Pamela Warrender OAM**, **Professor Andrea Hull AO**, **Anthony Poynton**, **Clive Scott AM**, **Simon Warrender OAM** and **Gerald Dalbosco**.

The Trust would like to thank the many organisation supporting the sculpture creative sector in Victoria, who support this year has been invaluable. The many sector journals, peak bodies, commercial organisation and websites made it possible to promote the prize during the entry period.

The Trust is fortunate to have the support of a number of people whose contribution this year is greatly appreciated. These include Melbourne Prize Social Media Managers **Sarah Kempson** and **Susan Owens**, members of Committee for Melbourne's Secretariat and the many volunteers who help at awards.

Thank you one and all for supporting this year's activities, which provide opportunities to the Victorian music sector.

[melbourneprizetrust.org](https://melbourneprizetrust.org)

# The annual Melbourne Prize and Melbourne Prize Trust

## History

Launched in 2004, the annual Melbourne Prize recognises and rewards excellence and talent, inspires creative development and enriches public life by providing career development opportunities to Victorian sculptors, writers and musicians.

Run by the Melbourne Prize Trust, the annual Melbourne Prize is one of the most valuable arts prizes in Australia. Now in its 19th year, the Prize is funded by support from the private and public sectors.

To date, approximately \$3 million has been made available to Victorian artists via the annual Melbourne Prize, plus exhibitions, residencies and travel. The Trust is listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations and has Deductible Gift Recipient status.

The annual Melbourne Prize is one of the most valuable creative development initiatives of its kind in Australia and runs in a three-year cycle.

The current cycle is:

- Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2023
- Melbourne Prize for Literature 2024
- Melbourne Prize for Music 2025

The annual Melbourne Prize is unique, celebrating artistic excellence under the banner of Melbourne – Australia’s cultural capital.

The annual Melbourne Prize announcement are made through this website, along with an event held at Federation Square each November. A digital catalogue is produced for the November awards and the public has the ability to vote for a finalist to win the Civic Choice Award.

The annual Melbourne Prize increases the public’s exposure and access to the creativity of our community and enhances Melbourne’s reputation as a cultural capital and center of opportunity for artists.

The origins of the Trust date back to the establishment of the children’s garden precinct at the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne and the commissioning of *The Magic Pudding* sculpture in 2000. Proceeds from the sale of limited-edition miniatures of this landmark sculpture contribute to the Trust.

–

*The 2023 design and identity is by Foundation Creative Partner [www.playgroundstudio.com.au](http://www.playgroundstudio.com.au)*

*Sarah Kempson manages the social media for the annual Melbourne Prize. Susan Owens manages Twitter for the Prize.*

The Melbourne Prize Trust was established as an Income Tax Exempt Charity and Deductible Gift Recipient in 2005 and commenced the annual Melbourne Prize in 2005.

The founder of the Trust, Simon Warrender OAM, announced the annual Melbourne Prize, following the unveiling of his project being the commissioning of *The Magic Pudding* sculpture, as a centrepiece of a new children’s garden precinct in Melbourne’s CBD. The prize is established to provide opportunities for artists and recognise and reward excellence and talent, inspire creative development and enrich public life.

The first three-year cycle of the annual Melbourne Prize commenced with the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2005.

The Trust funds the annual Melbourne Prize through cross-sector partnerships from the government and private sectors, and private patrons. The annual Melbourne Prize is open to Australian citizens or Australian permanent residents and residents of the State of Victoria.

Please visit [melbourneprizetrust.org](http://melbourneprizetrust.org)



Melbourne  
Prize for  
Urban Sculpture  
2023