



1. Todd Fuller, *Lust*, 2011, flocked terracotta, 44 x 66 x 34cm. Showing in *Lust*, a group exhibition at Brenda May Gallery from 5 to 30 July. Curated by Gordon Elliot.

2/ Agnieszka Golda and Martin Johnson, showing in the *Last Exile* at Wollongong City Gallery in Gallery 1. A large scale collaborative installation of interconnected objects, textiles and paintings that explore the way migrant and non-migrant bodies negotiate the space they both occupy. Until 31 July 2011.



New South Wales

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Vale Brenda Humble 1933 – 2011

Brenda Humble was a core member of a group of committed women artists and art lovers who have contributed greatly to the Sydney art scene for more than 50 years. Graduating from the National Art School in 1960, Brenda held over 16 solo exhibitions in Sydney and was a finalist in the 1974 Wynne Prize, the 1982 Waverley Art Prize and the 1981 Mornington Peninsula Drawing prize amongst others. In 1982, Humble won the Portia Geach Memorial Prize for her portrait of Virginia Hall. Humble's most public work was a product of her community involvement and activism – a poster she designed titled *Who Killed Juanita*. In August 2009 the artist was honoured with a retrospective that explored her painting of the 1970s and '80s, *Brenda Humble: Art as Activism*. The exhibition explored Brenda's involvement in the activism in the Kings Cross area during that period, her work on the Green Bans and the disappearance of Juanita Nielsen.

Ann Lewis AO 1934 - 2011

Dr Ann Lewis AO was a great patron of Australian contemporary art. Her generosity as a collector, philanthropist and gallerist was legendary. In the 1960s Lewis established Gallery A in Sydney, which showcased many artists who have since become major figures in Australian art including Rosalie Gascoigne, John Olsen, Robert Klippel and Clement Meadmore. She was one of the first advocates of Australia's Indigenous art. Lewis held many positions on arts boards over the years. Ann was a member of the National Gallery of Australia Council, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art and the Museum of Contemporary Art. She was also Chair of the Visual Arts and Craft Board, Commissioner for Australia at the Venice Biennale and the Deputy President of the International Council of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Born in Moree, NSW, Anne Lewis always had a strong commitment to regional Australia. Major recipients of gifts from her collection are the Newcastle Region Art Gallery, Moree Plains Art Gallery and more recently, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney. In 2009 Ann was awarded the Australia Council Visual Arts Medal in recognition of her philanthropic and ambassadorial roles; in this same year she was further acknowledged in the Queen's Birthday Honours by receiving an AO for service to the visual arts as an ambassador for Australian art.

MCA News

MCA's summer exhibition, *Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life 1990-2005*, closed in April after achieving record-breaking attendances (182,937 visitors). The museum has announced its new board members: photographer Rosemary Laing and business people Ari Droga (to chair the MCA Foundation), Katie Page and Scott Perkins, to replace retiring directors Mikala Dwyer, Sue Cato and Catherine Harris. MCA also announced 4 commissions for its new wing, which is due to open in March 2012. The first year will see Hany Armanious produce a work for the new sculpture terrace and Emily Floyd create a sensory environment for the Bella Room, a space created to host learning programs for children with special needs. Brook Andrew will install a permanent work, which responds to the remains of the old colonial naval dock that sits underneath the MCA extension. Grant Stevens has also been commissioned to produce a video for the foyer featuring the names of building donors. The MCA closed in June but will run offsite exhibitions at venues including the National Art School while the construction of the new wing is underway.

On the move

Sydney's Martin Browne Fine Art will change its name to Martin Browne Contemporary when it moves to new, larger premises in Paddington in July. Sally Breen has relocated Breenspace from Waterloo to Level 3, 17–19 Alberta Street Sydney to be closer to the CBD. After 10 years, Conny Dietzschold Gallery, one of the founding galleries at Waterloo's 2 Danks Street complex, is relocating to 99 Crown Street in East Sydney.

Singleton Arts Festival

Explore the cultural heart of the Hunter Valley this month when the 2011 Singleton Arts Festival showcases open days and displays by painters, potters, printmakers, textile artists and writers, and performances by local and international musicians, Singleton bush poets and more. Also featured is the annual Singleton Art Prize exhibition and the Singleton Art Collection's first exhibition. 3-17 July. www.singletonartsfestival.com.au

Aboriginal arts initiatives

NSW Arts Minister George Souris recently announced \$100K in funding for 9 Aboriginal art initiatives through the NSW Aboriginal Regional Arts Fund (ARAF). Among the successful recipients were Arts Northern Rivers for The 'Fabric of Our Culture' Project, Saltwater Freshwater Arts Alliance Aboriginal Corporation for The Burrin Weaving Workshop, and West Darling Arts Inc for The Wilcannia Artist Professional Development Workshops. www.arts.nsw.gov.au

Regional Arts Fund open

Applications are open for the Regional Arts Fund (NSW), available for projects commencing after 1 January 2012 in the categories of New Initiatives, Partnerships and Residencies and Mentorships. Applicants can also now apply online. Closes 12 Aug. www.regionalartsnsw.com.au

Rivers and Resilience

A travelling exhibition by historians Allison Cadzow and Heather Goodall and Liverpool City Council, *Rivers and Resilience* uses historic and contemporary images, photographs, documents and maps to explore the stories of Aboriginal people who have lived alongside the Georges River, Sydney. At Hurstville City Museum & Gallery, MacMahon St, Hurstville. to 14 July.

Award-winning 'Lake Coat'

The making of a ceremonial possum skin cloak to revive Aboriginal cultural practices was recognised at the 2011 Local Government Cultural Awards ceremony at Parliament House, Sydney in May. The possum skin cloak community project was organised by Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery and its Aboriginal Reference Group, and involved over 40 community members including elders and school children over a period of 4 months. The *Lake Coat* is currently on display at the Australian Museum Sydney until 31 July.

More winners

Congratulations to Catherine and Jennifer Strutt (aka the Strutt Sisters) who won the Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre's Open Art Prize 2011 for their work *Home*. The Strutts are represented by Damien Minton Gallery who is currently celebrating his 10th anniversary with a group exhibition in the sisters' hometown of Newcastle, where Minton first established his gallery before moving to Sydney. Sculptors James Rogers (NSW), Marcus Tatton (Tas) and Alessandra Rossi (WA) were announced as the recipients of the Helen Lempiere Scholarships for 2011, worth \$30K each. Dubbo's Tom Riley is the winner of the inaugural Macquarie Photography Prize for his work *Lake Anney Boatman*. The winner of the Head On Portrait Prize - 2011 People's Choice Award is Alex Vaughan for her photograph *Les and Eileen*. The runner-up is Gary Ramage for his photo *Best Mates*. They join the other 2011 Head On winners: Stephen Dupont, Shauna Greyerbiehl, James Brickwood and Katrin Koenning.

Appointments

The Art Gallery of New South Wales recently promoted Wayne Tunnicliffe to Head Curator of Australian art, and appointed Kirsten Downie (ex-National Gallery of Australia) as Assistant Director of Marketing, Development and Membership. Louise Teggart, formerly with National Trust of Australia (NSW), is the new Head of Special Projects & Exhibitions, for Historic Houses Trust. The Board of Arts Upper Hunter appointed Jane Ogden as the new Regional Arts Development Officer, replacing Bridget Nicholson who has relocated to Melbourne.