

The Canberra Potter *fired-up* – August 2018



Welcome to the August issue of our online news feed *fired-up*. This month we chase off the winter blues with workshops, exhibitions and opportunities. Our current exhibition *3 in 18* features the prolific work produced by our visiting artists in residence this year and they are joined in the gallery space by a pottery 'good cause' story surrounding the collaboration between Australian master potter Alistair Whyte and Vanuatu potter Ken Naki. This is a cash and carry opportunity to help fund Alistair's ongoing involvement with this developing cottage industry. Our effervescent AIR Srinia Chowdhury is busy preparing two great workshops to suit potters at all levels of ceramic practice. Our latest *Clay Basics* course is open for booking and focusses on mould making and slipcasting run by Mark Saunders. *Open Studios* are just around the corner and a great opportunity to look behind the scenes and support your local potter! We bid a sad farewell to Robert Bell who was a great and important supporter of crafts in Australia and well known to us here at Canberra Potters. Geoff Hill the creator of the magnificent Venco pottery wheel died this month and will be remembered for his great contribution to the potters studio. Our members are represented in exhibitions from Canberra to the Southern Highlands to Far North Queensland. As ever—there's always plenty to get you **fired-up!**

3 IN 18

Artist-in-Residence Exhibition

26 July to 12 August

[Watson Arts Centre Gallery](#)

This exhibition features the work of three of this year's Canberra Potters artists-in-residence:

[Chris Dunn](#) (from New Zealand), [Peter Scherzer](#) (from Hawaii, USA) and [Srinia Chowdhury](#) (from India, our current visiting artist).

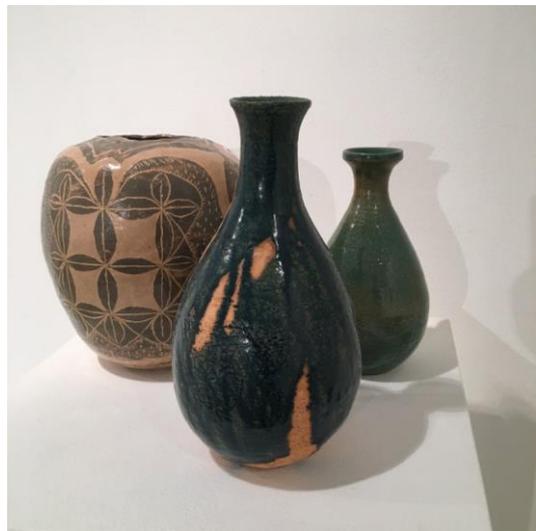


[KEN NAKI](#)

26 July to 12 August

[Watson Arts Centre Gallery](#)

An exhibition of ceramic work by Vanuatu potter Keneki (Ken) Naki incorporating traditional kastom sand-drawing designs, who has been mentored by Australian Master Potter Alistair Whyte, as part of the Pottery Development Project in South West Bay Malekula Island. The sale of work from this cash & carry exhibition go toward further tuition of Vanuatu potters.



WORKSHOPS with SRINIA CHOWDHURY Artist-in-Residence

[Workshop 1- Slab Making, surface decoration and assembly](#)

[Sunday 19 August Cost: \\$120](#)

This workshop (suitable for beginners and intermediate students) will teach the technical know-how of slab building and a number of surface decoration techniques for both sculpture and pottery. With these techniques you will be able to create a variety of forms. The demonstrations will encourage you to put techniques into practice. As part of the workshop you will be provided with the recipes of the



engobes/slips and a whole treasure of clay decoration ideas.

[Workshop 2- handbuilding sculpture and advanced surface decoration techniques](#)

[Sunday 26 & Monday 27 August Cost:](#)

[\\$240](#)

This workshop (suitable for the more experienced student) will teach the technique of handbuilding a sculpture using pinching and coiling methods and the various possibilities of making a 3D form.

You get to make a small sculpture yourself as well as taking a deeper look into surface decorations and playing with different techniques in one piece.

[CLAY BASICS–INTRODUCTION TO MOULD MAKING & SLIPCASTING](#)

[with Mark Saunders](#)

[Sunday 2 & 9 September Cost: \\$110](#)

Over two Sunday mornings you will learn the basics of slipcasting and making one piece moulds. Watson Arts Centre studio tenant Mark Saunders will take you through all the stages you need to know from mixing plaster to trimming finished pieces. This workshop is an introduction to slipcasting and easy one piece moulds. If you would like to start confidently making moulds but weren't sure where to begin this is the course for you. Suitable for people with basic clay skills.



Image: Mark Saunders

2018 MEMBERS' EXHIBITION

4 October to 4 November

Members are encouraged to start preparing their entries for this year's [Members' Exhibition](#). If you've created something in the last 12 months you'd like to exhibit in a friendly gallery environment please deliver your entry to Canberra Potters from **27–30 October**. We anticipate the usual great prizes on offer including \$1000 for our Doug Alexander Award. Entry forms will be available on the website shortly.

Image: Robyn Campbell, Doug Alexander Award winner, 2017



[EASS 2018](#)

Opens 16 August

Opening event 6pm Thursday 16 August with Dr Julie Bartholomew, Head of Ceramics, ANU School of Art & Design. The exhibition runs until 9 September.

This year's Emerging Artist Support Scheme (EASS) exhibition features the ceramic work of Mahala Hill. Mahala was selected by Canberra Potters from 2017 ANU School of Art and Design ceramics graduates for this exhibition opportunity.

Image: Mahala Hill, *Untitled*



AUSTRALIAN CERAMICS OPEN STUDIOS

18–19 August

Watson Arts Centre studio tenants Richilde Flavell and Mark Saunders will be throwing open the doors of their studios as part of this years local offering of local studio potters. Why not make a day of it and visit all our talented members taking part in this annual event including: Cathy Franzi, Chris Harford, Anne Masters, Josephine Townsend, Teffany Thiedeman and slightly further afield Ann Nicholson in Yass and Susan Hill at Murrumbateman. Visit the TACA website for a comprehensive [map](#).



WHAT FOUR

4–25 August

CGS Gallery

Exhibition opens on Saturday 4 August at 4pm. Join Watson Arts Centre studio tenants Raj Reddy and Andreas Caycedo and fellow exhibitors Jane Horton and Gemma Simpson for the opening of a group show at Canberra Girls Grammar Gallery.



AVI AMESBURY: COUNTRY: ANCIENT LANDS

Opening Sunday 5 August at 11am by
Dr Julie Bartholomew, ANU Head of
Ceramics, Senior Lecturer, ANU
School of Art

New work drawing inspiration from the Australian landscape and the artist-in-residence undertaken in Tel Aviv, Israel in 2017. Continues to 16 September. Sturt Gallery & Studios, Cnr Range Rd & Waverley Pde, Mittagong NSW 2575. Open daily 10am – 5pm (except public holidays)



www.sturt.nsw.edu.au

Image: Avi Amesbury, *Bogong High Plains to the Coast, Series*; (detail) photo: Art Atelier Photography

NORTH QUEENSLAND CERAMIC AWARD

27 July–16 September

[Pinnacles Gallery Townsville](#)

Congratulations to Caroline Walker-Grime who has had her work *Four Weeks* chosen for the Biennial North Queensland Ceramic Award award. The award aims to increase public exposure to a high standard of pottery from around the nation. A showcase for both well-known and emerging artists, this competition displays the diversity of ceramic art currently being produced in Australia.

Image: Caroline Walker-Grime, *Four Weeks* (detail)
Courtesy of the artist



PORT HACKING POTTERS GROUP 50 National Pottery Competition & Exhibition

Entries by 9 October

Entry forms will be available soon for the Port Hacking Potters Group 50th National Pottery Competition and Exhibition. The competition will be judged by three distinguished Judges. Awards include the PHPG Award, Indigenous Award, Golden Anniversary Award. Previous winners have included Anne Mossman (pictured), Robert Wood and Janet Selby. [More information.](#)

Image: Anne Mossman, *Champions Chalice*
Strata. Courtesy of the artist



AINSLIE+GORMAN ARTS CENTRE

Business Manager

Ainslie+Gorman Arts Centres is seeking an experienced Business Manager. The Business Manager performs an essential role in the Ainslie+Gorman management team, working closely with the Director and team in a dynamic and fast-paced environment.

For the full position description, including key responsibilities, selection criteria and how to apply click [AGAC Business Manager](#).



VALE GEOFF HILL

The founder of VENCO—Geoff Hill died peacefully last weekend after a short illness. He was 81. Geoff founded Venco in 1979 after he had made his first pottery wheel for a family friend. There are now over 40,000 Venco wheels around the globe. His company went on to produce a large range of studio equipment.

He was also instrumental in making wind turbines. The whole ceramics community will mourn his loss and we send our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Source: Cher Shackleton—President Ceramic Arts Association of WA



**VALE ROBERT STEWART BELL PHD
OAM**

Robert passed away peacefully on 28 July 2018 in Canberra following a long illness. He moved with his wife Eugenie Keefer Bell from WA in 2000 to take up the position of Senior Curator of Decorative Arts and Design at the National Gallery of Australia, the collection of which includes over 12,000 works in contemporary and historical ceramics, glass, textiles, metalwork, jewellery, furniture, industrial design, costume and theatre arts. He retired from the NGA on 25 November 2016. Robert was a great supporter of crafts and often attended our gallery to view our ceramic exhibitions.



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Our mailing address is:

editor@canberrapotters.com.au