

# PERTH INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

## Hatched: National Graduate Show Background and Exhibition Information



Image: *Hatched: National Graduate Show 2024*, installation view, Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA), 2024, image © the artist, photo: Dan McCabe

### **About Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts**

PICA is one of the nation's leading cultural centres and a hub for contemporary arts in Western Australia. Since its establishment in 1989, PICA has developed a strong reputation locally, nationally and internationally for nurturing and presenting a broad range of high-quality contemporary arts and has become known for the key role it plays in Perth's creative community as well as nationally. PICA presents an annual program of changing exhibitions, seasons in contemporary dance, theatre and performance and a range of interdisciplinary projects.

### **About Hatched: National Graduate Exhibition**

In 2025 the *Hatched: National Graduate Show* turns 34, and over the past three decades has grown to be Australia's most significant survey of recently graduated and emerging artists. This landmark exhibition continues to provide an unparalleled opportunity for talented art school graduates to present their work in a professional gallery context alongside that of their national peers.

Comprising a print publication, artist professional development program, public engagement events, networking and residency opportunities, as well as an exhibition across all PICA's gallery spaces, *Hatched* offers an important steppingstone from the

realm of education and formal study into the contemporary arts industry and community, helping recent graduates establish the foundations of a professional career as an artist. Many of Australia's leading artists were involved in *Hatched* at the beginning of their careers, and as such, the exhibition has become an important litmus test for the direction and production of contemporary Australian art.

PICA's curatorial, exhibitions, learning, public program and communications teams work closely with the selected artists to provide support and professional experience exhibiting within a major contemporary arts institution. You can see a showcase of some *Hatched* alumni artists here – <http://hatched.org.au>

### **Application and Selection Process**

Each year PICA invites tertiary institutions across Australia to nominate three of their strongest students from graduating visual arts courses to be considered for this significant national exhibition.

Tristen Harwood (art critic and writer, Melbourne); Shannon Lyons (artist, Perth) and PICA's curator will meet in January 2025 to review all applications. From the nominations, the panel will select up to 24 artists to participate in the 2025 exhibition. When reviewing the applications, the panel will be looking for practices that demonstrate the following:

- The artist has a strong creative and conceptual practice, with the potential to further their career as an artist.
- Conceptual ideas in the artworks are refined and clearly communicated in written statements.
- The artwork shows an understanding of the application of materials, methodologies and processes with a resolved presentation.

Every effort is made to ensure gender parity and ensure a fair representation of Australia's cultural and geographic diversity. At least one artist from each institution will be represented in the final selection. All applicants will be notified of selection outcomes in late January 2025.

### **Installation and Exhibition**

Selected artists will be contacted by PICA in February 2025 to begin discussing the curatorial and technical requirements of their work. The works for exhibition will be selected in conversation with PICA's curatorial team. Each artist will be paid a single loan fee of \$269.41 based on NAVA's Code of Practice rates.

It is always a pleasure to host artists for the installation and opening week program of *Hatched*. Where possible, we encourage artists to join us in Perth for this occasion, however we understand that it is not always possible for artists to travel for this period. We look forward to working closely with all selected artists to achieve the best results for their artwork in PICA's gallery spaces.

For labour-intensive artworks and installations, artists may be required to be on-call for installation support and guidance to ensure the works are installed as closely to artist intention as possible. We will also request installation diagrams and clear instructions from artists who won't be present in-person at PICA to oversee the installation of their work.

### **Freight and Transport of Artworks**

PICA will be responsible for making freight arrangements for interstate artists (outside WA), including liaison with the freight company, covering the cost of delivery, return freight and insurance.

Selected artists will need to work with their art school technicians and lecturers to safely pack the artwork and the school is responsible for confirming the freight details to PICA. Selected artists and the schools will need to confirm the freight details, including quantity and dimensions of all packed items, with PICA by early May 2025.

The safe packing and crating of the work is the responsibility of the selected artist and their school. We ask that the school staff work closely with the artist to ensure that the artwork is securely packed in appropriate packing materials. It is the responsibility of the school to cover the cost of all packing and crating materials, or other costs that may occur in relation to this. The PICA exhibitions team can assist with answering any questions about the safe packing of artworks if required.

It is important that you clearly label all packed aspects of your work to be collected by PICA's freight partner. PICA will also request installation diagrams. For labour-intensive or complex works, you may need to make yourself available via video call during the installation period to advise PICA's install technicians on your work. PICA's install technicians are accustomed to installing work without artists being physically present and will ensure that your work is installed to the highest standard.

Where possible, local artists will deliver their work directly to PICA. Local collections can be arranged with PICA's exhibitions team.

### **Hatched Residencies**

In 2025 we are pleased to continue the Hatched Residency Program, first initiated in 2018. We are able to provide accommodation and studio space for one interstate artist in partnership with North Metropolitan TAFE. Studio space will also be available for one locally based artist. The artists selected for this program will be offered an artist fee of \$1,500 each. Expressions of interest for this program will be registered in February 2025 once the artists selected for exhibition have been notified.

### **Dr Harold Schenberg Arts Awards**

2025 marks the 16th anniversary of the Dr Harold Schenberg Arts Awards, the largest prize for emerging artists in Australia. The \$50,000 prize pool provides the selected Hatched artists with financial support to take on the next chapter of their careers. The prize pool is made up of three \$15,000 Dr Harold Schenberg Arts Awards. The recipients of the awards will be determined by a selection panel comprising of a PICA representative and two independent industry experts. A \$5,000 People's Choice Award will be awarded at the end of the exhibition to the artist who receives the most votes in a public survey. These significant awards are made possible by funds bequeathed to The University of Western Australia by Dr Harold Schenberg.

### **Key Project Dates**

#### **Freight**

Where freight is necessary, all details need to be confirmed with PICA by the beginning of May, with artwork collection arranged for **Monday 16 June**.

#### **Installation**

Installation of the artworks will commence **Monday 21 July**.

If it is possible for the artist to travel, appropriate dates will be confirmed in conversation with the exhibitions team.

**Opening Night Party | Friday 1 August**

**Hatched Opening Weekend | Artists Talks and Forum Saturday 2 August**

Each year we program a series of talks and events for the opening weekend that are open to the public but programmed specifically for our exhibiting artists. These bespoke public programs are developed in response to group conversations had with the exhibiting artists.

**Exhibition Dates | Saturday 2 August – Sunday 5 October**

**Deinstallation | Monday 6 October – Wednesday 8 October**

**Return freight of artworks can take up to three weeks after collection from PICA on Friday 10 October.**