

News from Bathurst Regional Art Gallery

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WALL TO WALL: Art enthusiasts look at the works during the Bathurst Art Fair 2013. The event will celebrate its 10th anniversary when it opens in late September. Photo: CLARE LEWIS

Bathurst Regional Art Gallery will be re-opening its doors to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Bathurst Art Fair on Thursday, September 28 at 6pm.

The Art Fair will continue over the October long weekend.

Artists of all ages, mediums and backgrounds are encouraged to apply to be part of the event. Entry forms can be downloaded at www.bathurstart.com.au

The Art Fair gives local artists an opportunity to exhibit their work, and the community the chance to view and purchase locally produced original works of art in painting, sculpture, photography, printmaking and ceramics.

Since 2007, the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society (BRAGS) has organised this biennial selling exhibition to promote local artists, encourage membership to the gallery, and provide valuable assistance in the acquisition of new works for the gallery collection.

In the years since its inception, the Bathurst Art Fair has exhibited more than 1300 works and achieved sales of \$40,000.

More than 300 works will be exhibited this year by artists from across the region, including Bathurst, Lithgow, Oberon, Blayney, Cowra, Orange, Mudgee and the Blue Mountains.

Following the Bathurst Art Fair, BRAG will present a major exhibition, *The Unflinching Gaze: Photo Media And The Male Figure*, of more than 200 photographs and videos by 62 artists (24 Australian and 38 international) dealing with how the male figure has been represented in photo media over the past 140 years.

The exhibition includes 19th century artists Eadweard Muybridge and Baron Von Gloeden, contemporary artists such as Robert Mapplethorpe and Andy Warhol, the American theatre director Robert Wilson and Australian artists including William Yang, Owen Leong, Liam Benson, Tracey Moffatt, Todd Fuller and Bill Henson.

The exhibition is curated by BRAG director Richard Perram, who has selected the images of historic and contemporary photography and film.

The exhibition is also an important opportunity to inform and educate the Bathurst community and affirm the local LGBTI community.

Unflinching Gaze: Photo Media And The Male Figure is exclusive to Bathurst Regional Art Gallery and will open on Saturday, October 14 and run to December 3.

Public programs will run throughout the duration of the exhibition.

For further information, visit the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery website www.bathurstart.com.au or contact BRAG on 6333 6555

Penny May is the audience engagement officer at Bathurst Regional Art Gallery