

Friday 29 May 2015

'MAKE IT HAPPEN' WOMEN'S ART PRIZE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Celebrating another successful year, the City of Ryde supported by the Northern Sydney Institute – Part of TAFE NSW presented the fifth annual Women's Art Prize.

Last night's official opening and awards presentation marked a special date in the diary for the 103 finalists in this year's event which was inspired by the 2015 International Women's Day theme 'Make It Happen'.

This year's theme clearly resonated with the community resulting in a record 268 entries, a 30 percent increase on the previous year and an outstanding response from artists as diverse in age and culture as the mediums they have chosen.

2015 also marks the first year the Art Prize has been open to entrants across the country. Consequently a special Local Artist Award has also been added for the first time to recognise local talent.

Tasked with a difficult decision, the judges were impressed with the calibre of entries in this year's event, noting that every year the decision becomes harder with so many strong submissions using diverse techniques and mediums from a talented and creative art community.

2015 Women's Day Art Prize Winners

Open Category - Artists who identify as a professional or a practicing full-time artist aged 18+.

Prize: \$1,000

Winner: Patricia Concha – *Electra Safari*

Highly Commended: Danielle Golding – *Self Portrait No. 15*

Highly Commended: Jayanto Damanik – *Conversation With Clara I (Percakapan Berdarah) and Clara II (Air Mata Berdarah)*

Commended: Sandra Winkworth – *Surefit*

Commended: Pamela Honeyfield - *Playground*

Community Category - Community members who do not (yet) identify as a professional artist aged 18+. This category encourages those who study art, practice art as a hobby, or as part of a community group. Prize: \$1,000

Winner: Miriam Chan – *Power in Peace*

Highly Commended: Laura Jayne – *Untitled*

Highly Commended: Lakshmi Muthupalaniyappan – *Mother and Child*

Commended: Prue Platt-Helpworth – *Embryo #1*

Youth Category - Open to members of the community who identify as a student, hobby artist or professional artist between the age of 12 and 25. Prize: \$500

Winner: EJ Son - <Error 404>

Highly Commended: Zoe Luxford – *Moonlight*

Highly Commended: Kevin Zhuang – *Inner Beauty*

Local Artist Award – Awarded to an artist who lives in the City of Ryde, selected from any of the above categories. Prize: \$500

Winner: Rosemary Dugan - *Vibiance*

Curator of the exhibition, Casandra Hard Lawrie, said: “This exhibition is a fantastic way to showcase the talent of the local community whilst bringing attention to important women’s issues to the wider community.

“The Council’s ongoing commitment to presenting opportunities for local artists to exhibit their works, from both professional, student and youth backgrounds should be commended.”

The Women's Day Art competition celebrates the achievements of women and artists who live, work, study or play in the City of Ryde. The works will be on exhibition for two weeks (29 May – 13 June) at the See Street Gallery in Meadowbank.

The Women’s Day Art Prize and Exhibition is an initiative of the City of Ryde Status of Women Advisory Committee in association with Northern Sydney Institute TAFE.

Women’s Day Art Prize and Exhibition ‘Make It Happen’

When: Exhibition runs Friday 29 May - Saturday 13 June. Open Tuesday - Saturday 11.00am – 4.00pm (closed Sunday and Monday).

Where: See Street Gallery, Sydney Gallery School, Meadowbank Campus of The Northern Sydney Institute – part of TAFE NSW.

Cost: Free entry

More information: www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/wap

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