

Media Release

The Hon Colin Brooks MP
Minister for Development Victoria
Minister for Precincts
Minister for Creative Industries



Tuesday, 23 April 2024

BIG YEAR OF ART AT MCCLELLAND BACKING LOCAL JOBS

McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park in Langwarrin has kicked off their year on a high, with an increase in visitation over the summer period thanks to a jam-packed program backed by the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Creative Industries Colin Brooks visited McClelland today to celebrate the gallery's expanded season of programming and events which attracted a 15 per cent increase in attendance compared to last year – made possible thanks to the Labor Government's \$100,000 investment to boost public programs at the iconic gallery.

From December to March, the gallery's exhibition *John Meade: It's Personal!* showcased the iconic works of Victorian sculpture, video and installation artist John Meade to visitors from across Victoria and interstate.

The artist's works were brought to life for art lovers of all ages, with a program of hands-on artmaking activities, including special programs for young children and their families.

McClelland's current major exhibition *The Rick Amor Drawing Award 2024* features works from Australian artists at all career levels, making sure local artists are celebrated and showcased at all stages of their career.

The much-loved *Music at McClelland* series showcases musical talent from across the country and the 2024 season is proving to be a hit, with three consecutive sell-out performances.

Upcoming shows will feature the ANAM Brass Ensemble, Melba Opera Trust, Flinders Quartet and Australian Youth Orchestra.

On Saturday, 18 May, the gallery will be transformed for the biennial family-friendly event *Celebrating First Nations at McClelland* which will feature performances by leading First Nations artists and musicians including Ganga Giri, Carissa Nyalu, Djarlo Dance Group and more, as well as market stalls in the sculpture park and gallery.

For more information visit mcclelland.org.au

Quotes attributable to Minister for Creative Industries Colin Brooks

"McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park is a significant asset for the region and this funding boost has helped to expand its reach and impact with exhibitions and events for artists and art lovers of all ages."

"We're proud to back McClelland to continue to build its profile as creative hub and drawcard destination."

Quote attributable to McClelland Creative and Executive Director Lisa Byrne

"This significant result could not have been achieved without the generous \$100,000 support from the Victorian Government for which McClelland is extremely grateful."