

**Artspace Mackay**

**Civic Centre Precinct, Gordon St, Mackay QLD**

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**Hours: Tue-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat-Sun 10am-3pm**

**Contact: Anna Thurgood, Director**



**Artspace Mackay's award-winning architecturally designed building**

**Credit: Dean Whitling Photography**



**Artspace Mackay's Permanent Collection Gallery features works from the Mackay Regional Council Collection.**

**Credit: Jim Cullen Photography**



**Artspace Mackay's prized collection includes Danie Mellor's work, Wambool Yuibera, commissioned by the gallery in 2012.**

**Credit: Jim Cullen Photography**

Presented by Museums & Galleries Queensland in partnership with Artspace Mackay.

**Our Profile**

Artspace Mackay is a dynamic art gallery situated in an award-winning architecturally designed building. Centrally located in the city's cultural precinct, the gallery has a vibrant exhibition program, contemporary gift shop and alfresco cafe.

At its inception, the gallery inherited a significant collection of artists' books. Now the third largest in Australia, the collection has grown through the gallery's national artist book competition, The Libris Awards.

Artspace Mackay presents an exciting and engaging range of activities and events for all ages throughout the year. Rock Paper Scissors Art and Design Market held every July is a highlight in the gallery's calendar. The event provides a platform for local artists and designers to showcase their work.

**Did you know?**

Internationally acclaimed potter, Gwyn Hanssen-Pigott lived and established a pottery studio in the Pioneer Valley, just west of Mackay and was an active member of the local Pioneer Potters group. From time to time, pieces can be found in local op shops and many locals are lucky enough to own examples of the artist's work.

Mackay has a significant public art trail including major works by Fiona Foley, Donna Marcus, Christopher Trotter, Brian Robinson and original custodians, the Yuwi Burra people. Foley's works include references to Mackay's historical connection to South Sea Islanders. Mackay has the largest population of Australian South Sea Islanders in the country.

Mackay born contemporary Indigenous artist, Danie Mellor, has a strong relationship with Artspace Mackay. The gallery now owns a number of significant works by the artist including locally themed artworks commemorating 150 years of European settlement in Mackay.

**What the Standards Review Program has meant for our museum**

**Self-awareness for the gallery:** The Standards Review Program gave us the much needed directive to 'make time' (where time is often the hardest thing to find) to take a long look at our 'reasons for being'. It was a real chance to stop and reflect on the gallery's purpose, our staff, our community, needs of stakeholders, and to take a realistic approach to our direction for the future.

**Collection significance:** We developed an action plan to enable the gallery to re-catalogue all items in the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection. This process will ultimately lead to better quality access for staff, the wider community, and academia to our nationally respected collection. It included a goal to have our collection accessible online.