

14/12/2022

HOTA GALLERY, HOME OF THE ARTS, GOLD COAST

Finalist at State Awards

The Winners and Finalists of the **2022 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards (GAMAA)** were proudly announced by Museums & Galleries Queensland on Monday 12 December, at a special awards presentation held at the Queensland State Archives, Runcorn, Brisbane, and live-streamed across the State.

HOTA Gallery, Home of the Arts, Gold Coast was recognised as a **Finalist** for its outstanding achievement in the category of **Engagement: Organisations with Paid Staff** for its project ***HOTA Collects***.

HOTA, Home of the Arts, proudly opened HOTA Gallery in May 2021. It is the new home of the City Collection, which was established in 1986 and now contains more than 4,500 artworks, including one of the largest collections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art in regional Australia.

HOTA Collects is the banner name that encompasses all aspects of exhibition, programming and education that are centered around the collection. This includes three floors of exhibitions; two showcases of works; an ongoing program of short documentary commissions about collection highlights; an online, in-classroom, and onsite education and public program offer; and the publication of an extensive collection Handbook – *HOTA Collects* – that features new writing on over 100 Australian artworks.

HOTA Collects provides invaluable opportunities to develop and present contemporary conversations within the Gallery and beyond, enabling visitors and audiences to engage with aspects of Australian contemporary and modern art. It highlights areas of the collection that have never been viewed publicly before as well as rekindling connections with much-loved favourites. *HOTA Collects* exists in new and accessible formats including a high-quality publication, online presence, education resources, videos, and face-to-face programs. The associated education and public programs for *HOTA Collects* further contribute to the legacy outcomes for this activity.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "HOTA Gallery is to be congratulated for this remarkable initiative. Presenting stimulating and insightful programs that reflect key developments in Australian art over the past 50 years, *HOTA Collects* also features 'must see' exhibitions and public engagement activities that are quintessentially Gold Coast."

Ms Butler continued, "The 2022 Winners and Finalists were selected from a strong field of nominations received from organisations, large and small, across Queensland. It is an honour to be shining a spotlight on the outstanding work of so many worthy individuals and organisations."

The GAMAA were established by Museums & Galleries Queensland in 2004 to honour the achievements of our State's individuals and organisations in striving towards excellence.

The 2022 Winners received an exquisite trophy by Queensland artist, **Donna Davis**, commissioned by M&G QLD. Inspired by science and the natural world, her work examines human and non-human relationships with respect to ecological health. The 2022 GAMAA are generously sponsored by Public Galleries Queensland and Australian Museums and Galleries Association Queensland.

For media enquiries please contact:

Rebekah Butler, Executive Director, M&G QLD

Museums & Galleries Queensland

Phone: **07 3059 9740** Freecall: **1800 866 101** Mobile: **0422 579 180**

Email: **rebekah.butler@magsq.com.au** Website: **www.magsq.com.au**

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