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T O P A R T S



NGV NEWS

Wednesday 20 March 2013

Forty-three of Victoria's freshest and most inspiring emerging artists are showcasing their exemplary work in the annual exhibition *Top Arts 2013*, which opened at the National Gallery of Victoria today.

Tony Ellwood, Director, NGV, said *Top Arts 2013* highlights the NGV's strong commitment and support of contemporary art and arts education.

"*Top Arts* builds on a well-earned reputation for being one of the most popular exhibitions on the NGV calendar. It brings together schools, families, creative communities and the education and business sectors.

The talent in this year's exhibition is fantastic, I'm very impressed by these young artists," Mr Ellwood said.

Minister for Education, Martin Dixon, said: "The VCE is a challenging time for many students and exhibitions like *Top Arts* provides an opportunity to celebrate success. These students have produced inspirational works and they are wonderful ambassadors for arts education."

"Arts education provides an important platform for students to explore ideas and express themselves. *Top Arts* provides a space for students to share their work and they should feel proud of what they have achieved," said Minister Dixon.

Now in its nineteenth year, 2013 sees some exciting developments for *Top Arts* which for the first time will be displayed in NGV Studio, the Gallery's popular and dynamic contemporary art space.

David Hurlston, Curator, Australian Art and Coordinator, NGV Studio said that the exhibition will be more visible and accessible at NGV Studio. A selection of workbooks and preparatory work will also feature in the exhibition, signaling a new approach to the presentation.

"One of the things we wanted to bring to this year's *Top Arts*, particularly given that it is in NGV Studio, is an insight into the development work that goes into producing a finished piece.

"The underlying concept of NGV Studio is that it is a space for exploring and presenting creative processes and VCE Art and Studio Arts are assessed on the finished work as well as the development work. This will be an inspirational resource for current and future VCE art students and presents an insight into the contemporary issues, particularly those of concern to young people," Mr Hurlston said.



Image caption:
Amy Mountjoy
No thought control
synthetic polymer paint on canvas
30.0 x 30.0 cm
East Loddon P-12 College,
Dingeeet

From an initial selection of over 3,000 works and through a rigorous selection process and short listing procedure, VCE Art and Studio Arts students from government, Catholic and independent schools from across Victoria are represented in the exhibition with a diversity of media including painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, multimedia, textiles and installation.

A range of informative and interactive programs will run throughout *Top Arts 2013*, including children's labels in the exhibition, introductory talks by exhibiting artists and student and teacher professional learning programs. See ngv.vic.gov.au/learn

After-hours programming will also take place with a pop-up café and lounge becoming a social venue once a month on Thursday evenings during the exhibition. See ngv.vic.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/top-arts-2013 for more details.

An exciting magazine-style publication has been published to coincide with *Top Arts 2013*. Authored by Ronnie Scott, it features profiles on each of the exhibiting artists and will be available from the NGV Shop for \$19.95.

Top Arts 2013 will be on display at NGV Studio, Flinders street, Federation Square from 21 March – 7 July 2013. *Top Arts 2013* is open daily, 10am-5pm. Admission is free.

Top Arts 2013 is a VCE Season of Excellence event.

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Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority
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T O P A R T S

Artists



Josephine Ball
Ball, heel & toe
Monbulk College,
Monbulk



Julia Bergin
Devolution
Caulfield Grammar,
Elsternwick



Stephanie Berlangieri
The end of desire
Avila College,
Mount Waverley



Alex Bouras
The journey
Buckley Park College,
Essendon



Kyoko Bowden
Quest
Mentone Girls Secondary
College, Mentone



Kiri Brito Meumann
Untitled
Swinburne Senior Secondary
College, Hawthorn



Ben Burgess
Quarantine
Haileybury College,
Keysborough



Glen Clancey
Can I keep it?
Frankston High School,
Frankston



Laura Clarnette
Lost in translation
Beaconhills College,
Pakenham



Ricky Cohen
Family portrait
Melbourne Grammar,
Melbourne



Lucy Crossett
Objects
St Michaels Grammar,
St Kilda



Sam Cucchiara
Not Over You
Nazareth College,
Noble Park North



Karl Duffy
The Republic
Centre for Adult Education,
Melbourne



Alfred Evans
Threat
Depth
Depletion
Dromana Secondary College,
Dromana



Marco Fink
Dysphoric
The King David School,
Ardmale



Valona Fiamuri
Thalassophobia: Phobias
St Columba's College,
Essendon



Eloise Freeman
Grey man
Self-low man
Untitled
Untitled
Yellow woman
Ballarat Queen's and Anglican
Grammar, Wendouree



Jess Gall
Untitled
Swinburne Senior Secondary
College, Hawthorn



Annie Girdwood
Dear Mum (Drága Ági)
Past in present
Threads
University High School,
Parkville



Madison Griffiths
Self portrait
Haileybury Girls College,
Keysborough



Ginny Hodgkinson
Crowd, Portsea backbeach
Loreto Mandeville Hall,
Toorak

T O P A R T S

Artists cont...



Rex Kane-Hart
Waiting (l'attente)
Newhaven College,
Newhaven



Sondrine Kehoe
Women
Canterbury Girls Secondary
College, Canterbury



Anna Kelly
Summer life
Loreto College Ballarat,
Ballarat



Marie Kinsey
Otways
Loreto Mandeville Hall,
Toorak



James Kinvig
Untitled
Monbulk College,
Monbulk



Rebekka Lord-Johnson
Alex
Firbank Grammar,
Brighton



Shannon Malseed
Pain
Portland Secondary College,
Portland



Sarah McDonald
Metamorphosis
Loreto College Ballarat,
Ballarat



Eliza Mills
The parallels of emotions
Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School,
Ivanhoe



Amy Mountjoy
No thought control
East Loddon P-12 College,
Dingee



Mietta Mullaly
The road ahead
Star of the Sea College,
Brighton



Nathan Parker
The seven deadly sins
Box Hill High School,
Box Hill



Erin Price
Continuous line drawing
Haileybury Girls College,
Keysborough



Brigette Pusello
Fab-ri-ca-tion
[fab-ri-key-shuh n]:
1. The act of manufacture
or assembly.
2. To create for the purpose
of deception.
To lie, fake, forge.
St Columba's College,
Essendon



Oliver Reade
Amulet
Collingwood College,
Abbotsford



Tess Saunders
American Gothic
The Arnolfini marriage
Girl with a pearl earring
Mona Lisa
Mornington Secondary College,
Mornington



Lucy Simpson
Inside of a heart 1
St Leonard's College,
Brighton East



Samantha Stephens
Home
Firbank Grammar,
Brighton



Angie Tsonidis
Decay of the media
St Columba's College,
Essendon



Sarah Ujmaia
A depiction of Andrea Italia
St Monica's College, Epping



Remy Wong
Urban huntress
Mentone Girls' Grammar School,
Mentone



Michelle Zhong
Untitled
Box Hill High School,
Box Hill

T O P A R T S

Student Programs

Top Arts Introductory Talk

VCE

Mon–Fri, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm

An opportunity for current students to gain an insight into the themes and ideas, working methods, materials, techniques and sources of inspiration of a range of exhibiting artists. Includes discussion of support and development material and links to outcomes in the VCE Art and Studio Arts study designs and separate viewing of folios and support material.

Cost \$8 (1.5hrs)

Top Arts Folio and Support Material Viewing

VCE

Mon–Fri, on request

A hands-on opportunity for current students to look closely at visual diaries, sketchbooks, folios completed by exhibiting students to meet the outcomes of VCE Art and Studio Arts study designs. Limited times.

Cost \$4 (30 mins)

Art Raves

VCE

Top Arts exhibitors discuss their completed work, support material and share their experiences of VCE Art and VCE Studio arts, offering fresh and first hand insights into successfully completing VCE Art or Studio Arts

Art

Thu 18 Apr, 6–7pm

Wed 15 May, 12–1pm

Cost \$6.50

Studio Arts

Wed 17 Apr, 12–1pm

Thu 16 May, 6–7pm

Cost \$6.50

Top Arts and VCE Art – Analytical Frameworks

Recommended for VCE Art Unit 3

Thu 18 Apr, 4–5.30pm

Wed 15 May, 10–11.30am

Combine a focus on the analytical frameworks – Personal, Formal, Cultural and Contemporary – with an introduction to work in the *Top Arts* exhibition. Explore how *Top Arts* exhibitors have used the language of analytical frameworks in their reflective folio annotation. Includes separate viewing of folios and support material.

Cost \$8 (1.5hrs)

Top Arts and VCE Studio Arts – Exploration proposals and the design process

Wed 17 Apr, 10–11.30am

Thu 16 May, 4–5:30pm

Combine a focus on the exploration proposal and design process with an introduction to work in the *Top Arts* exhibition. Explore how *Top Arts* exhibitors have worked from exploration proposals to explore and document potential directions and develop a cohesive folio of work. Includes separate viewing of folios and support material.

Cost \$8 (1.5hrs)



Twilight Top Arts - In Conversation

Fri 19 Apr, 5–6pm

Thu 9 May, 5–6pm

Exhibiting VCE Art and VCE Studio Arts students discuss their work, including sources of inspiration and working processes with an NGV Educator in the exhibition.

For other Twilight *Top Arts* programs see late sessions listed for other programs (above).

VCE Studio Arts: Behind the Scenes

Fri 10 May, 10am–3pm

Meet the curator, conservator, exhibition designer and marketing expert and develop an understanding of the organisation, presentation and conservation of this and other exhibitions at the NGV. Program also includes an introduction to the exhibition, folio viewing and self-guided exhibition viewing.

Cost \$24

Alfred Evans

Depth (detail)
colour inkjet prints,
artist's proof
(1–3) 28.4 x 19.3 cm
(comp.) (each)
Dromana Secondary
College, Dromana

TOP ARTS

Top Arts Student Holiday Program

VCE Art and Studio Arts

Fri 5 Apr, 10am–4pm

A one day immersion program to support students in the process of developing and refining ideas and skills for VCE Art and VCE Studio Arts. Program includes viewing and discussion of *Top Arts 2013* and related folios and support work, an opportunity to meet exhibiting student artists, and viewing and discussion of contemporary artworks in the NGV Collection with a focus on developing visual analysis skills for folio development and responding to artworks. Bookings from individual students welcome.

Cost \$30

Exhibition and Collection Connections – VCE Art and Studio Arts

Link your *Top Arts 2013* visit with an aspect of the NGV Collection or select from the 2013 exhibition program. Exhibition options include *Containment: 2012 Cicely and Colin Rigg Design Award*, *Thrown: Studio Ceramics from the Kenneth Hood Bequest*, *Bea Maddock*, *Monet's Garden: The Musée Marmottan Monet, Paris* and *Robin Rhode*. Check dates and program details in this brochure or speak to an NGV Educator to discuss a tailor-made program for your students addressing specific aspects of the VCE Art or VCE Studio Arts studies.

Program and exhibition costs apply.

Professional Learning

VCE Art and Studio Arts

Thu 28 Mar, 9.30am–3.30pm

Join colleagues and State Reviewers for VCE Art and Studio Arts to explore and discuss ideas and questions related to the key knowledge and skills required for Outcomes 1 and 2 (Units 3 and 4) in Studio Arts, and Outcome 2 (Units 3 and 4) in VCE Art. The morning program includes an introduction to *Top Arts 2013* and viewing of the exhibition and student folio and support material. The afternoon program will address writing skills important for assisting students to write creatively and confidently about art. This will include analysis of professional writing by commentators, curators and critics to reveal the key elements of good writing which can be directly applied to the art analysis and exam in both studies.

Cost \$120



Oliver Reade

Amulet

enamel paint on vinyl

300.0 x 240.0 cm

Collingwood College,

Abbotsford

TOP ARTS

Public Programs

NGV Programs

Floor Talk: Top conversation

Wed 10 Apr, 2pm

During National Youth Week, join a Top Arts selection panel member and exhibitors to discuss aspects of the Top Arts selection process, the VCE Art and Studio Arts experience and artworks in the exhibition.

Free, Meet Exhibition entrance

Introductory Talk & folio viewing

Sun 21 Apr, 10am–11.30pm & 11am–12.30pm

View the developmental folios on display in the Education Studios with exhibitors and hear an introductory talk.

\$10 A / \$8 M / \$9 C, Meet Information Desk, Code P1324 (10am) P1325 (11am)

Top afternoon

Sun 5 May & Sun 16 Jun, 1.30pm–3.30pm

Join speakers that include current and past Top Arts exhibitors, contemporary artists, and NGV staff to discuss aspects of the exhibition and Top Arts experience.

Free, Meet Exhibition entrance

NGV Kids

Kids on tour: Holiday snapshots – Top kids Đ*

Tue 9 Apr, 11am

This will be a chance to meet new artists and talk about why they like to make art.

Ages 5–10. Parent/ Carer supervision required.

Speakers Top Arts exhibiting artists

Free, Meet Information Desk

First Thursdays

Thurs 4 April, 2 May, 6 June, 4 July, 5–8pm

On the first Thursday evening of every month NGV Studio will transform into a pop-up café and lounge where ideas, people, conversations and inspiration come together in a series of talks with artists and creative practitioners. See ngv.vic.gov.au or follow #toparts2013 via Facebook, Twitter or Instagram to keep updated on these programs.

Free, meet Exhibition space



Remy Wong

Urban huntress

taffeta, tulle, polyester,
cotton thread, wire

(a) 160.0 x 60.0 x 100.0 cm
(variable) (dress);

(b) 27.0 x 19.0 cm diameter
(head piece)

Mentone Girls' Grammar
School, Mentone

T O P A R T S

Publication



Top Arts 2013

Ronnie Scott

Publisher: National Gallery of Victoria
210mm x 275mm, portrait, paperback,
104 pages
Fully illustrated in colour
ISSN: 1326-6128
Category: Art/Education
Published: March 2013

Top Arts 2013 presents the outstanding work of 2012 VCE Art and Studio Arts students. Truly broad in scope and practice, the student works in this publication cover a range of media from photography to painting, video to sculpture as well as printmaking, illustration, textiles and drawing. Each student is profiled in this fresh new magazine-style publication, with vibrant commentaries on the students' practice from author Ronnie Scott. The artist profiles are enhanced by beautiful reproductions of their finished works, as well as supporting photographs, documents and formative sketches, which place a strong emphasis on the artistic process and rationale.

Top Arts 2013 is an exciting publication that provides a new level of exposure to Victoria's next generation of artists and supports art education and encourages the continuing creativity expressed by student artists in Victoria.

Ronnie Scott is a contributor to *The Believer*, *Meanjin*, *Dumbo Feather*, *Lucky Peach*, *The Australian* and many other journals and magazines. He is also Art Editor of *The Lifted Brow*, a freeform arts, culture and fiction magazine, which he founded in 2007.

LUCY SIMPSON



Lucy Simpson
Inside of a heart I
oil on canvas
60 x 90 (55.0 x 137.0 cm)
(overall)
St Leonard's College,
Brisbane East

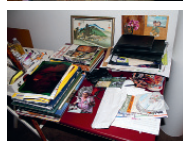
Before she started the project that became *Inside of a heart I*, Lucy Simpson was talking to her sister about themes that would be cool to work with. "We came up with the idea of getting a bunch of organs and taking photos of them," she explains. "As gory and sick as that sounds, I had an interest in anatomy and the body, so the idea stuck in my head."

Working with the theme 'internal systems', Lucy wanted to produce works whose subject matter was gory, but were both interesting to look at and capable of being interpreted in multiple ways. She took a photograph of the inside of a cow's heart which she obtained from her butcher. "I was challenged when taking photos of the heart," she says. "As interesting as it was, when I needed to touch or move it I was grossed out a bit."

After shooting with a macro lens, she decided which of the images would be most interesting to paint across two canvasses. She changed the levels and increased the saturation in Photoshop, created the canvasses, and transferred the images onto them. "I decided to paint the top canvas first, as I thought it was the most important part of the image and therefore I should spend more time on it," she says.

For Lucy, the best outcome of *Inside of a heart I* has been hearing other people's interpretations of the painting: "some of them are very far from what it really is." The most common interpretation? That it's strawberry milk in mid-pour. Few people ever guess that it's a cow's heart.

She advises artists not to doubt themselves when producing their work. "Don't worry about what will get you the best mark from your teacher," she says. "Follow your passions instead. After spending 2013 visiting Europe, Lucy will consider a career in photography."



"Don't worry about what will get you the best mark from your teacher."