



ngv

National
Gallery of
Victoria

StArt Up

TopArts ————— 2014

20

Twentieth
Anniversary
Edition

Media Kit

—

11 Apr – 20 Jul



Christiana Garvie *Liquid form* colour DVD, sound, 1 min 3 sec
Melbourne Girls Grammar, South Yarra

10 April 2014

Forty-nine of Victoria's freshest emerging young artists will showcase their highly-commended work in the National Gallery of Victoria's annual exhibition, *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014*, opening 11 April.

Now in its twentieth year and one of the most popular, diverse and engaging exhibitions on the NGV calendar, *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* supports arts education and the future of contemporary art in Victoria.

Minister for the Arts, Heidi Victoria officially opened *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* on behalf of Minister for Education Martin Dixon.

"*StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* allows us to share in the artistic journeys of creativity and learning undertaken by our talented VCE class of 2013," Ms Victoria said.

"The works on display are outstanding examples of student achievement, supportive teaching and the power of the arts in education. I wish to congratulate our young ambassadors for arts education in Victoria."

To celebrate its twentieth anniversary at the NGV, *Top Arts* has been given a fresh title, *StArtUp: Top Arts 2014*, which pays tribute to the role the exhibition has played in starting the career of many of Victoria's emerging and established artists and creative practitioners.

Tony Ellwood, Director, NGV, said, "The twentieth anniversary of *Top Arts* provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the students who have been selected for the current program and also those who have been a part of this landmark exhibition since 1994."

"The NGV is very proud to be involved in the development and profile of these young artists and every year we look forward to supporting the next generation of contemporary artists and innovative thinkers. This year's selection of works is inspirational; I congratulate all of the students on their achievements."

A special twentieth anniversary, magazine-style catalogue has been published to coincide with *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014*, featuring profiles on all 49 exhibiting artists. The publication will also revisit eight former students whose work has been showcased in *Top Arts* over the last twenty years, including those who have gone on to pursue careers in the arts.

"The critical thinking and the creative approach to problem solving that these students experience in their learning provides valuable and transferable skills across many stages in life. Over two decades, we have seen hundreds of former exhibitors embark on interesting pathways in a wide variety of careers, not just in the arts," Mr. Ellwood said.



Following on from 2013, the exhibition will again be held in NGV Studio, the Gallery's popular and dynamic contemporary art space at The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, which provides the opportunity for direct engagement with artists and artistic practices. A selection of workbooks and preparatory material will be available for viewing, giving current VCE Art and Studio Arts students an invaluable insight into the creative and developmental processes that go into producing a finished work.

From over 3,000 submissions, and a thorough short listing and selection process, students studying VCE Art and Studio Arts from government, independent and Catholic schools across Victoria are represented in the exhibition. This year's students have worked across a diversity of media including multimedia, painting, printmaking, photography, drawing, installation, 3D imaging and a digitally produced graphic novel.

A range of informative and interactive public programs will run throughout *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014*, including talks from exhibiting students and folio viewings as well as behind-the-scenes education programs developed especially for student groups and teachers. See ngv.vic.gov.au/learn for further details.

StArt Up: Top Arts 2014 will be on display at the NGV Studio, Flinders Street, Federation Square from 11 April – 20 July 2014. *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* is open daily 10am–5 pm. Admission is free.

Amy Collins
Artwork 1 (detail)
colour inkjet prints
(1-3) 40.3 x 57.8 cm (image)
(each), 42.0 x 59.0 cm
(sheet) (each)
Frankston High School,
Frankston

Meet the Artists



Beth Audley
Westbourne Grammar School, Truganina



Liam Barr
Portland Secondary College, Portland



Kiri-Una Brito Meumann
Swinburne Senior Secondary College, Hawthorn



Kelly Bull
Box Hill High School, Box Hill



Tia Clothier
Hampton Park Secondary College, Hampton Park



Amy Collins
Frankston High School, Frankston



Natalie De Blasis
St Columba's College, Essendon



Adrian Del-Re
Marcellin College, Bulleen



Eleni Diamantis
Star of the Sea College, Brighton



Adelle Elksnis
Loreto Mandeville Hall, Toorak



Kate Ferrari
Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School, Ivanhoe



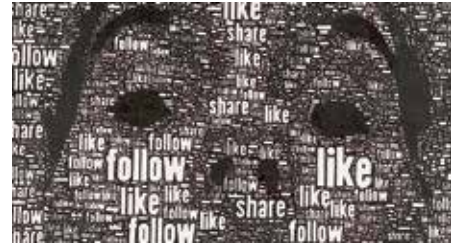
Christiana Garvie
Melbourne Girls Grammar, South Yarra



Will Goldsbrough Reardon
Caulfield Grammar School – Caulfield Campus, Elsternwick



Jordan Hall
Scotch College, Hawthorn



Emily Hubbard
Sacre Coeur, Glen Iris



Jessica Inci
Lauriston Girls School, Armadale



Elly Jackson
Toorak College, Mount Eliza



Isabella Kelly
Sacre Coeur, Glen Iris



Bonnie Koopmans
St Paul's Anglican Grammar School, Warragul



Claire Kopietz
Warrandyte High School, Warrandyte



Rachael Lever
Swinburne Senior Secondary College, Hawthorn



Nick Mahady
Xavier College, Kew



Camille Mance
Loreto Mandeville Hall, Toorak



Madeleine McDonough
Flinders Christian Community College, Tyabb



Georgia Mein
Catholic College, Sale



Cassandra Min
Haileybury Girls College, Keysborough



Osgar Teague Murphy
St Kevin's College, Toorak



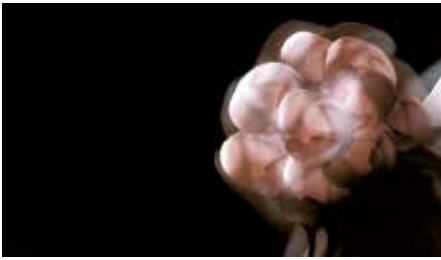
Tommaso Nervegna-Reed
Wesley College, St Kilda Road campus, Prahran



Hieu Nguyen
Melbourne High School, South Yarra



Jessica Nguyen
Kew High School, Kew East



Jake O'Donnell
Haileybury College, Keysborough



Aaron Orellana
Wellington Secondary College, Mulgrave



Kelly Peck
Eltham College of Education, Eltham



Stephanie Pidcock
Loreto Mandeville Hall, Toorak



Taylah Ransome
Ave Maria College, Aberfeldie



Sarah Robinson
Huntingtower School, Mount Waverley



Tess Saunders
Mornington Secondary College, Mornington



Suzy Saylak
Catholic College, Wodonga



Danielle Schmidt
Cranbourne Secondary College, Cranbourne



Monica Sestito
Sacre Coeur, Glen Iris



Qia Sun
St Catherine's School, Toorak



Yukako Sunaba
Geelong Grammar School, Corio



Nicole Thomson
Swinburne Senior Secondary College, Hawthorn



Gemma Topliss
Siena College, Camberwell



Paris Triantis
Canterbury Girls Secondary College, Canterbury



June Uili
Sunbury Downs Secondary College, Sunbury



Darcy Whitworth
Christian College Geelong, Highton Campus



Mollie Wilkins
Warrandyte High School, Warrandyte



Angus Wishart
Wonthaggi Secondary College – McBride Campus, Wonthaggi

History of Top Arts

Top Arts evolved in the late 1970s as an initiative of the Secondary Art and Craft Standing Committee, before expanding at the NGV in 1994. The exhibition was curated by a working party comprising representatives of the Art Craft Teachers Association, the Department of Education and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) until the structure was revised in 1996 to its current format, managed by the NGV's Education unit.

In 1998, *Top Arts* became part of the annual VCE Season of Excellence in conjunction with the VCAA, comprising of *Top Acts*, *Top Arts*, *Top Class*, *Top Design* and *Top Screen*.

In 2014 *Top Arts* celebrates its twentieth anniversary and to acknowledge this milestone and the role it has played in the lives of many of Victoria's young and emerging artists, the exhibition has undergone a name change, *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014*.

The Selection Process



Over 3000 applications from students studying VCE Art and Studio Arts across Victoria were received. From these, 115 artists were shortlisted before the final 49 students were selected to exhibit in *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014*.

Applications were grouped into different art forms and individually viewed and considered by a six person selection panel. The selection process involves looking for refined creative approaches, skilled use of materials and techniques, conceptual qualities and comprehension and execution of the applicant's course of study.

The Selection Panel



Along with *Top Arts* curators David Hurlston and Gina Panebianco, this year's selection team includes;

- Kathryn Hendy-Ekers, Acting State Reviewer for Art
- Colin McLeod-Smith, Regional Representative, VCAA
- Katherine Smith, State Reviewer for Studio Arts
- Michele Stockley, Senior Educator, NGV

— Areas of Study



Studio Arts

The students' folios document their exploration proposal which defines the development of the design process, including subject matter, concepts and ideas, and materials and techniques to be explored. The folios support the curriculum requirements, as the student describes and explores aesthetic qualities, identifies a range of potential directions, and a folio focus statement, which is a reflection and evaluation of the finished works.

Art

The students' folios demonstrate an exploration of personal ideas through a conceptual and practical investigation in artmaking. The folios investigate and experiment with materials and techniques, processes, aesthetics and artforms. The students reflect, document and annotate their working practice using Analytical Frameworks and document their resolution of ideas, directions and concepts in a body of work that includes at least two finished works.



Top Arts Alumni



Marita Dyson 1996

Following *Top Arts*, Marita completed a Bachelor in Art History, leading her to a career working in the collection relocation team at the NGV after which she took up her current role at Museum Victoria. Marita continues to engage in creative practice while using her career to engage with art and material culture.



Ulana Blair 1997

Ulana currently works at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image, where she curates exhibitions about contemporary art, film, animation, video games and television. Ulana points to the experience of *Top Arts* as being the catalyst to her career as a curator and art writer.



Ash Keating 1998

Ash attributes *Top Arts* to giving him the confidence he needed to pursue his career in art. Recently creating a large scale banner using paint-filled fire-extinguishers to mark the opening of *Melbourne Now* at the NGV, Ash believes that being selected for *Top Arts* was when he first began to view himself as a painter.



Alana Kushnir 2003

After *Top Arts*, Alana went on to study Law and Art History working as a lawyer before completing a Master of Fine Art in Curating degree in London. Now working as a freelance art lawyer and curator around Melbourne, Alana followed her instincts and passion for visual arts to continue working within the art field.

—
Top Arts Alumni



Lydia Wegner 2006

Exhibiting a series of digital photographs inspired by travel anecdotes in *Top Arts*, Lydia now continues to work as a photographer, manipulating, distorting and twisting images to create her unique works. Lydia is regularly exhibited in artist-run galleries and commercial spaces and her photography was also included in the *Melbourne Now* exhibition at the NGV.



Andrew Fanning 2008

Since exhibiting a detailed self-portrait for *Top Arts*, Andrew's self-proclaimed obsessive attention to detail led him to pursue a career in Industrial Design. Andrew attributes the process of completing a finished work for *Top Arts* as helping him to develop a discerning eye and refine his own creative ideas when working with clients.



Oliver Reade 2013

Oliver's contemporary street art uses the lanes and alleyways of Melbourne as his canvas and his encounters with local and emerging artists as his inspiration. Since exhibiting in *Top Arts* last year, Oliver has continued to exhibit and evolve his work and has just begun a Bachelor in Communication Design.

Key programs

Opening Weekend: Divergent Paths – Celebrating *Top Arts*

Sun 13 Apr, 12.30pm–2.30pm

To celebrate 20 years of *Top Arts* join current participants as they discuss their work in the space. Then join us in the theatre with curators and *Top Arts* alumni, including artists and arts industry professionals as they muse on their involvement in *Top Arts*, its meaning and impact on their career in the arts. Held in conjunction with National Youth Week 2014.

12.30-12.50pm – Tess Saunders

12.50-1.10pm – Kelly Peck

1.10-1.30pm – Claire Kopietz

1.30-2.30pm In Conversation in NGVA Theatre:

- Gina Panebianco, Head of Education and exhibition co-curator
- Pia Johnson, artist
- Andrew Fanning, industrial designer/ animator
- Alice Glenn, film maker and co-founder of Schoolhouse studios, artist spaces for emerging artists.

Cost Free

Venue NGV Studio and Theatre, NGV Australia

Introductory Talk & Folio Viewing

Tue 15 Apr, 10am–11.30am & 11am–12.30pm

View the developmental folios on display in the Education Studios with exhibitors and an introductory talk by experienced art educators.

Cost \$9 per person at Student price

Meet Information Desk, Ground Level, NGV Australia,

Code P1433 (10am) P1434 (11am)

Floor Talk Series: Where To From Here?

Sun 18 May, Sun 22 Jun & Sun 13 Jul, 2pm

Join past *Top Arts* participants as they reflect and share their professional journey in the arts since exhibiting in *Top Arts*.

▪ Sun 18 May, 2pm

Alana Kushnir, curator, art lawyer & Cultural Program Executive, Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival (*Top Arts* 2003), and Ulanda Blair, Curator, ACMI (*Top Arts* 1996)

▪ Sun 22 Jun, 2pm

Andrew Fanning, industrial designer/ animator (*Top Arts* 2008), and Pia Johnson, artist (*Top Arts* 2001)

▪ Sun 13 Jul, 2pm

See ngv.vic.gov.au for details

Cost Free

Meet Exhibition space, Ground Level



Floor Talk: The Curator's Perspective

Sun 25 May, 2pm & Thu 10 Jul, 12.30pm

Cost Free

Meet Exhibition space, Ground Level

Closing Weekend: Open Mic

Sun 20 Jul, 2–3.30pm

Join *Top Arts 2014* participants on the final day as they discuss their works and say farewell to the exhibition together.

Cost Free

Meet Exhibition space, Ground Level

Kids Programming

Labels for kids

Discover *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* with fun wall labels for kids.

Cost Free

Meet Exhibition space

Talks for Kids: Top Kids

Sun 13 Apr, 11am

Join us on a tour of *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014*.

Cost Free, register at the Information Desk 30 mins prior. Limited spaces.

Meet Information Desk, Ground Level

Adelle Elksnis
Botanical anatomy 1 (detail)
colour digital inkjet print
53.0 x 188.7 cm (image),
59.0 x 195.0 cm (sheet)
Loreto Mandeville Hall,
Toorak

NGV Schools programs

Student programs

Top Arts Introductory talk

VCE

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

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, as well as a thirty-minute viewing of support materials and folios.

Cost \$9 (1.5 hrs)

StArt Up: Top Arts 2014

Top Arts folio and support material viewing

VCE

Mon–Fri, 9am, 3.30pm, 4pm

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

Cost \$4 (30 mins)

Art raves

VCE

StArt Up: Top Arts 2014 exhibitors discuss their completed work and 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. Folio viewing must be booked separately.

- **Studio Arts**

Thu 15 May, 10am

Tue 20 May, 11am

Cost \$8

- **VCE Art**

Fri 23 May, 10am

Tue 27 May, 11am

Cost \$8

Twilight folios

First Thursday of each month, 5pm, 5.30pm

An opportunity for students to look closely at visual diaries, sketchbooks and folios completed by exhibiting students to meet the outcomes of VCE Art and Studio Arts study designs before attending the Twilight *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* programs.

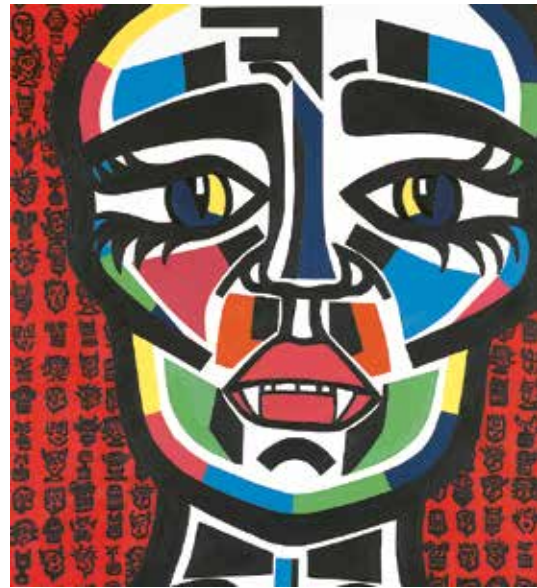
Cost \$4

VCE Studio Arts: behind the scenes

Wed 28 May, 10am–3pm

Meet the curator, conservator, exhibition designer and marketing expert behind *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* and develop an understanding of the organisation, presentation and conservation of this and other exhibitions at the NGV. The program also includes an introduction to the exhibition, folio viewing and self-guided exhibition viewing.

Cost \$20



Exhibition and collection connections – VCE Art and Studio Arts

Link your *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* visit with an aspect of the NGV Collection or select from the 2014 exhibition program. Exhibition options include *Inge King: Constellation*, *Sue Ford, David McDiarmid: When This You See Remember Me* or *William Blake*. Program and exhibition costs apply. Visit ngv.vic.gov.au/learn or call 03 8620 2340 to find out more.

Professional learning

VCE Art and Studio Arts

Fri 9 May, 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. This will include a focus on how students should identify and document potential directions for further development in Unit 4 in VCE Studio Arts, and how Analytical Frameworks should be used to support the development of folio work in VCE Art. The program includes an introduction to *StArt Up: Top Arts 2014* and a viewing of the exhibition and students' folio and support material.

Cost \$110

Bookings and enquiries

T 03 8620 2340, 12–5pm weekdays

E edu.bookings@ngv.vic.gov.au

W ngv.vic.gov.au/learn/schools-programs/School-Programs-Booking

Paris Triantis

Malice (detail)
synthetic polymer paint on
canvas on plywood
122.2 x 91.8 cm
Canterbury Girls Secondary
College, Canterbury



StArt Up: Top Arts 2014

David Hurlston and Gina Panebianco with Michaela McGuire

Publisher: National Gallery of Victoria

170 x 240mm, portrait, paperback,

112 pages with two fold-out inserts

Fully illustrated in colour

ISSN: 1326-6128

Category: Art/Education

Published: April 2014

\$19.95

StArt Up: Top Arts 2014 celebrates the twentieth anniversary of *Top Arts* at the National Gallery of Victoria. Featuring a new name and contemporary design, this publication showcases outstanding works by forty-nine 2013 VCE Art and Studio Arts students alongside their statements.

In this special volume, and as a nod to the past twenty years of excellence, eight former *Top Arts* students are profiled by author Michaela McGuire as she reports on how their careers have unfolded since being part of *Top Arts*.

Also this year, for the first time, readers are treated to an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the *Top Arts* selection process from the selection panel and curators.

StArt Up: Top Arts 2014 is an exciting and important publication that provides vast support and exposure to Victoria's next generation of artists.

Exhibition details

StArt Up: Top Arts 2014

11 April – 20 July 2014

NGV Studio, Flinders Street, Federation Square

Open daily, 10am–5pm

Free entry

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StArt Up: Top Arts 2014

is a VCE Season of

Excellence event

