



GRAFTON REGIONAL GALLERY  
**EXHIBITIONS**  
july - november 2023



## Relative Terrains

Karma Barnes & Robèrt Franken

September 16th – November 12th

'Relative Terrains' is an immersive exhibition by Karma Barnes and Robèrt Franken that celebrates the power of collaboration and the profound impact of relationships on our lives. At the heart of this exploration lies the use of earth pigments – the material, interface, and mediator through which different elements converge. Traversing the geological terrain and volcanic landscapes of the Northern Rivers, explore how the forces of elements, time, and life experiences shape and change us. Utilising pigments collected from disturbed landscapes, including landslides and eroded sites, the work brings attention to the profound impact of compounded climatic events within our community. The installations serve as a catalysts for reflection, prompting us to contemplate how these external forces have reshaped and shifted our internal landscapes and terrains.

**Image:** *Terra Chromatica*, Karma Barnes and Robèrt Franken, 2023. Image courtesy of the artists.

## 2023 Clarence Valley Indigenous Art Award

September 16th – November 12th

The 2023 CVIAA is the 10th iteration of this biennial acquisitive award, showcasing all entrants into the 2023 prize with work by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists residing on Bundjalung, Gumbaynggirr or Yaegl Country within the Clarence Valley Council region.

The CVIAA consists of prizes to the value of \$6,000, including a First Prize of \$5,000, an Emerging Artist Prize of \$1,000 and a Youth Prize of an art pack to the value of \$250.

The CVIAA is proudly sponsored by The Yulgilbar Foundation.



**Image:** *Carry On*, Kylie Caldwell, 2016. 2016 CVIAA Winner. Image courtesy of the artist.

## School of the Living and the Dead

Bill Platz

September 16th – November 12th

In 'School of the Living and the Dead', Bill Platz continues his investigation into the histories and applications of puppets in studio drawing, and recent experiments that aim to demonstrate the practicality and effectiveness of using modern technological fibres as a base for drawing, painting, and printmaking.

**Image:** *Puppet Hanger (cut blue)* (detail), Bill Platz, 2023. Image courtesy of the artist.

## Mixed Signals

Antony Perring

July 1st – September 3rd

Antony Perring is an emerging textile artist and quilter. 'Mixed Signals', his debut exhibition, explores the power of language, labels and identity through modern quilting. Antony's unconventional use of traditional patchwork techniques combined with his use of text – often with touches of humour – highlight how language is used to create confusion and misunderstanding.

**Image:** *If You Know What I Mean*, Antony Perring, 2023. Image courtesy of the artist.

## Re-Figuring Ground

July 1st – September 3rd

Six artists have been invited to engage with the Grafton Regional Gallery collection to develop queer retellings. This project is an opportunity to be critically reflective of the museum and gallery practices that have shaped Grafton Regional Gallery and a chance to reframe how artists and members of the LGBTQIA+ community have been represented in the region and beyond.

**This project is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW**

**A Grafton Regional Gallery Exhibition**

**Image:** *Versus Kingii*, Blake Lawrence, 2023. Image courtesy of the artist.



## Figuring Ground

July 1st – September 3rd

'Figuring Ground' is a major survey exhibition of artwork from LGBTQIA+ artists from across the nation. The exhibition has been developed through community consultation and is curated by queer artist and curator Abbra Kotlarczyk, originally from the Northern Rivers.

'Figuring Ground' starts from the premise of where and how we stand, as queer, constituted beings on vibrant and unstable ground. Through queer framings of the classical western convention of the figure/ground relationship, it seeks to draw out intimate contact zones for queer world making, as a means to collapse and expand traditional self/world binaries.

**This project is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW**

**A Grafton Regional Gallery Exhibition**

**Image:** *Becoming Vapour*, Briony Galligan, 2023. Image courtesy of the artist.



[graftongallery.nsw.gov.au](http://graftongallery.nsw.gov.au)