

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

# Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart

The *Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart* is a generous new landscape art award offering \$100,000 to the winning entry and presented by *Hadley's Orient Hotel* in Hobart. It will become one of Australia's pre-eminent art awards and is believed to be the world's richest landscape art prize.

This annual acquisitive award seeks to contribute to the Tasmanian and Australian art scene, generating interest in cultural tourism and promoting the work of contemporary landscape artists. The award aims to be as inclusive as possible, encouraging entries from emerging and indigenous artists.

*Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart* is a themed award. The 2017 theme is 'History and Place' with the prize awarded to the best portrayal of the Australian landscape which acknowledges the past. This theme invites artists connecting with place through the past, such as through family histories, cultural traditions, or tracing events, memories and stories in the land. The award will be judged on the artist's response to the theme, as well as creativity and technical skill.

The *Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart*, is a celebration of painting and drawing, reconnecting with the early exhibitions held at *Hadley's Orient Hotel* nearly a century ago. It is open to Australian artists, over the age of 18, working in two dimensional mediums (excluding photography and digital media).

The winner will be announced on July 14, and the works of finalists will be exhibited in a new customised gallery space at *Hadley's Orient Hotel* until August 25. The winning entry will be added to a growing permanent collection at the hotel that is publicly accessible.

As well as the winner, there will also be four highly commended awards, and a People's Choice Award to be determined by public vote. Finalists will also have the opportunity to sell their work, establish new industry contacts and engage with the Tasmanian arts community.

### ***Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart, Key Dates (2017):***

- **January 30:** Entries open
- **April 30:** Entries Close
- **July 14:** Winner and highly commended awards, announced at exhibition opening
- **July 15 – August 25:** Exhibition opened to the public (*Hadley's Orient Hotel* 10am – 4pm)
- **August 19:** People's Choice Award announced

### ***Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart, Judges:***

- Dr Julie Gough, Tasmanian Artist, Curator and Writer
- Roger Butler AM, Senior Curator of Prints  
Drawings and Illustrated Books,  
National Gallery of Australia
- Lisa Slade, Assistant Director  
Artistic Programs, Art Gallery of South Australia

### ***Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart, Curator:***

- Dr Amy Jackett, Curator  
Writer and Tasmanian Artist



# Hadley's Art Prize

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HOBART

## JUDGE'S COMMENT

*"The Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart is an exciting newcomer to the national art scene, significantly generous in its support of contemporary art through the formation of this award. Its location in the grandeur of a Hobart establishment that exhibited art almost a century ago will again bring new audiences to art, expanding the terms of engagement beyond traditional gallery and museum venues. The unexpectedness of the prize, and its landscape focus, provide a fitting partnership, offering new opportunities for artists to test fresh ground with their notions of landscape, while, in this first prize iteration, reflecting on the past in some tangible way. It is a privilege to participate in the prize as an inaugural judge. I am excited to see what arrives, and witness the resulting, no doubt, exemplary exhibition."*

**Dr Julie Gough**

January 2017

## CURATOR'S COMMENT

*"This new Hobart-based art prize is a truly amazing recognition of artistic achievement. It is also a wonderful thing for Hobart. The exhibition of finalists will bring a range of landscape artworks by emerging and established artists together in a historically-rich, new art space right in the heart of the Hobart CBD. Our hope is that the Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart will also help to build Tasmania's growing reputation as an island of art. MONA and the recent updates at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery have already done great things for the arts culture in Tasmania, not to mention the already thriving local arts communities that exist in our state. The Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart will be an exciting event for Tasmanians and for visitors to the state. We launch this prize in the hope that it will inspire both artists and an art loving public as they participate in this new event."*

**Dr Amy Jackett**

January 2017

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