



THE UNDISCOVERED

A NATIONAL FOCUS ON WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ART

Western Australian art remains ‘Undiscovered’

[Artsource](#) and the [University of Western Australia’s Cultural Precinct](#) are proud to co-present the [The Undiscovered: A National Focus on Western Australian Art](#) at the University Club on Monday 20th October. This symposium is the first of a proposed series of symposia focusing on Western Australian visual art and artists in a national context.

The Undiscovered will provide a forum for the WA visual arts community to review, discuss and reflect on issues of representation in collections and art events, media coverage and professional career choices.

“The recent television series *The Art of Australia* presented by Edmund Capon and its complement *Hannah Gadsby’s OZ*, both on the ABC, offered a blinkered view of Australian art practice that seemed to end at West Footscray. While extremely disappointing, this conception of the cultural life of Australia isn’t new, there are an embarrassingly large number of books and curated exhibitions produced over the past century that have egregiously used the prefix ‘Australian’ to describe some aspect of visual arts practice on this continent when they exclude any reference to Western Australian artists, galleries or institutions. It’s time to put the record straight and proactively address the issue of why creative practice in Western Australia remains ‘undiscovered,’” said Professor Ted Snell.

Professor Snell will be speaking at the symposium from the perspective of a freelance arts journalist, alongside keynote speaker and Senior Research Professor of Contemporary Art at the University of Wollongong, Ian McLean, and Master of Ceremonies and national arts journalist, Victoria Laurie. They will be joined by 14 other prominent industry professionals including successful Western Australian artists Trevor Vickers, Olga Cironis and Stuart Elliott; gallery representatives Lisa Slade (Art Gallery of South Australia), Carly Lane (Freelance Curator), Robert Cook (Art Gallery of Western Australia) and Matthew Ngui (Freelance curator and artist); commercial gallery director Seva Frangos; ABC Online Editor, Nicola Harvey, as well as prominent figures from the sector, Director General of the Department of Culture and the Arts, Duncan Ord, and Director of Visual Arts at the Australia Council, Julie Lomax.

“Artsource is pleased to be working in partnership with the University of Western Australia’s Cultural Precinct, to present this important event,” said Gavin Buckley, Artsource CEO. “The symposium has been received with enthusiasm and I am grateful to the speakers for bringing their experience, expertise and insight to the discussion,” he continued. “Western Australia has much to be proud of in its artists and the time is ripe to consider their place in the national context.”

Registrations for the Symposium are open. Tickets are available for \$95 from undiscoveredsymposium.com/registration. Registration includes an invitation to join the speakers at a post-event sundowner at The University Club from 5pm.

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

The Undiscovered: A National Focus on Western Australian Art

Monday 20th October, 8.30am – 5pm

post-event sundowner from 5pm

The University Club, Hackett Drive, Crawley

The University of Western Australia

The Undiscovered is co-presented by Artsource & The University of Western Australia's Cultural Precinct

Artsource is the peak membership body for visual artists in Western Australia.

We have over 900 members and provide them with professional services, opportunities and represent their interests. In addition to assisting our members develop their practice and careers, Artsource champions the value of the visual arts to a growing audience across Western Australia, our nation and internationally.

The Cultural Precinct encompasses the arts and cultural activities of the University of Western Australia and presents a dynamic, creative and intellectually rigorous program of exhibitions, performances and associated cultural activities. The facilities of the Cultural Precinct include: the Dr Harold Schenberg Art Centre (The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, the Berndt Museum, and the Cruthers Collection of Women's Art), Cullity Gallery and ALVA Studio, ART LAAB, the Edward de Courcy Clarke Earth Science Museum, the concert and performance program of the School of Music, the Perth International Arts Festival, SymbioticA, the performance program of University Theatres, UWA Publishing and the cultural and educational activities of UWA Extension.

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