

**TarraWarra Museum of Art announces appointment of  
Léuli Eshrāghi  
as Curator for TarraWarra Biennial 2023**



**Léuli Eshrāghi** (Photo: Rhett Hammerton)

Renowned Sāmoan visual artist, writer, curator and researcher, **Dr Léuli Eshrāghi**, has been appointed as the curator for TarraWarra Museum of Art's **TarraWarra Biennial 2023**, opening in April 2023.

TarraWarra Museum of Art Director, Victoria Lynn, said the appointment of Eshrāghi to curate the TarraWarra Biennial 2023 is a continuance of the Museum's commitment to 'art as a world-making activity'.

“At this time of global upheaval, it is timely to appoint a person who provides an intellectual, nuanced and sensitive approach to the relationship between art making, race, knowledge and gender”, Ms Lynn said. “Dr Eshrāghi is a rare combination of artist, curator, writer and academic who will make a unique contribution to the exhibition histories at TarraWarra”.

“Léuli Eshrāghi has built a global profile in curatorial practice and museology in service of First Nations and racialised communities.

“They are highly regarded for their work across the Pacific region, Southeast Asia and North America in Indigenous exhibition histories; language as a field of translation, innovation, anti-colonial and anti-racist experimentation; decolonial and multilingual art museum practices; reparations and repatriation of Ancestral Belongings; best practices in Indigenous arts management; and collaboration in research-creation based on colonial collections.

“Dr Eshrāghi’s appointment to curate TarraWarra Museum of Art’s Biennial 2023 speaks to the Museum’s desire to present Australian art and contemporary issues in a global context,” Ms Lynn said.

Léuli Eshrāghi, who divides their time between Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia, and Tiohtià:ke (Montreal), Canada, references their Sāmoan, Persian and Cantonese heritage in work that involves centring Indigenous kin constellations, sensual and spoken languages, and ceremonial-political practices.

Eshrāghi’s art practice involves performance, moving image, writing and installation to engage with Indigenous futures as haunted by ongoing violences that once erased fa‘afafine-fa‘atane people from kinship and knowledge structures.

Eshrāghi has previously curated projects including *Pasapkedjinawong* with John G Hampton at MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina, *Sāmoan Hxstories, Screens and Intimacies* at A Space Gallery, Toronto for imagineNATIVE; *Écrans autochtones: temporalité et mouvement* with Mylène Guay also within imagineNATIVE; *‘O le ūa na fua mai Manu ‘a* at UNSW Galleries, Sydney; *Ua numi le fau* at Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne, and in a trilogy co-curated with Tarah Hogue, Lana Lopesi, Sarah Biscarra Dilley and Freja Carmichael; *Transits and Returns* at the Vancouver Art Gallery; *Layover* at Artspace Aotearoa, Auckland, and *The Commute* at the Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane.

“We look forward to Léuli Eshrāghi’s unique vision for the 8th iteration of the TarraWarra Biennial which will undoubtedly break new ground as well as build on TarraWarra’s ongoing commitment to art, place and ideas,” Ms Lynn said.

Established in 2006 as a platform for identifying new contemporary and cutting-edge work, the TarraWarra Biennial has become a major forum for artistic expression in Australia. Each Biennial has developed a distinctive curatorial approach, focusing on a particular set of ideas or themes that are prevalent in contemporary art.

**ENDS**

**For interviews, images and further information please contact:**

Katrina Raymond, MediaLink Productions | (03) 9663 3222 | 0417 303 158 |

[katrina@medialinkproductions.com](mailto:katrina@medialinkproductions.com)

Jasmin de Wolf, TarraWarra Museum of Art | (03) 5957 3101 | 0404 191 880 |

[jasmin@twma.com.au](mailto:jasmin@twma.com.au)

**TarraWarra Museum of Art**, 313 Healesville-Yarra Glen Road, Healesville VIC 3777

**T +61 (0)3 5957 3100 W [twma.com.au](http://twma.com.au)**

**Opening Hours:** Tuesday – Sunday, 11am to 5pm. Open all public holidays except Christmas Day. Open 7 days a week from Boxing Day to Australia Day.

**Admission:** \$10 Adults; \$8 Seniors; \$5 Concession and Students; Museum Members and children under 12 free.

**[Dr Léuli Eshrāghi, Background](#)**

Dr Léuli Eshrāghi is recognised globally for their expertise in Indigenous critical theory, curatorial practice and museology in service of Indigenous and other racialised communities.

Their academic achievements include the inaugural Horizon/Indigenous Futures Postdoctoral Fellowship, Concordia University (2021); Doctor of Philosophy in Curatorial Practice, Monash University (2019); Summer Indigenous Art Intensive, University of British Columbia Okanagan (2021, 2017); Indigenous Art Journal Residency, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity (2017); Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Arts Management, University of Melbourne (2012); Bachelor of Arts (Honours), University of Melbourne (2009) and Bachelor of Arts, University of Queensland and Université Lyon II (2008).

Dr Léuli Eshrāghi has realised new commissions for the 22nd Biennale of Sydney, Sharjah Biennial 14, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art and Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center among other group and solo presentations in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United States.

Eshrāghi has lectured at gatherings Creative Time, Hawai‘i Contemporary Art Summit, Experimenter Curators’ Hub, March Meeting, Dhaka Art Summit, Pacific Arts Association,

# MEDIA RELEASE

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TARRAWARRA  
MUSEUM  
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