

## TarraWarra Museum of Art announces appointment of Patrice Sharkey as Head of Exhibitions and Programs



Photo: Thomas McCammon

TarraWarra Museum of Art is excited to announce Patrice Sharkey as its new Head of Exhibitions and Programs.

Director Victoria Lynn says, 'We are thrilled that Patrice will be joining the team at TarraWarra with her experience in both exhibitions and programs across several organisations, her track record of working with First Nations artists and her innovative and challenging ideas. She will bring a new energy to TarraWarra.'

Patrice Sharkey is currently the Artistic Director of Adelaide Contemporary Experimental (ACE), South Australia's leading independent contemporary visual arts organisation. Prior to this, she was the Director of West Space (2015–18) and Assistant Curator at Monash University Museum of Art (2011–15). Since 2020 she has served as an elected organisational representative and Deputy Chair on the Board of the National Association of the Visual Arts (NAVA). She is an alumnus of the Australia Council's Future Leaders Program and has participated in curatorial residencies and delegations across England, Ireland, India and South Korea.

Patrice has worked on major projects with a wide-range of leading Australian artists, including Fiona Abicare, Sidney McMahon, Sam Petersen, George Egerton-Warburton, Lisa Radford, Jason Phu, Ryan Presley (Marri Ngarr), Yhonnie Scarce (Kokatha, Nukunu) and Hossein Valamanesh. Her most recent curatorial initiatives at ACE include *A river that flows both ways: Selected works from the 23rd Biennale of Sydney: rīvus* and Peter Waples-Crowe: *PRIDE*, co-curated with Dominic Guerrera for Tarnanthi: Festival of Contemporary Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art.

Patrice says 'As a long-time admirer of TarraWarra, I am very excited to be returning to Wurundjeri Country after five years to take up the role of Head of Exhibitions and Public Programs. TarraWarra Museum of Art is a unique cultural destination with a reputation for high calibre, intellectually rigorous exhibition-making.'

Patrice will commence in the newly created position in December 2023, ahead of the opening of the Eva and Marc Besen Centre in 2024. [Brent Harris: Surrender & Catch](#), curated by Maria Zagala and co-presented with the Art Gallery of South Australia, opens 2 December 2023.

Ends

**MEDIA CONTACT:** For further information, please contact Jasmin de Wolf, Marketing and Communications Manager, TarraWarra Museum of Art [jasmin@twma.com.au](mailto:jasmin@twma.com.au) 0404 191 880

**ABOUT TARRAWARRA MUSEUM OF ART:**

TarraWarra Museum of Art actively engages with art, place and ideas within global, national and First Nations contexts. Established in 2003, the Museum presents a changing exhibition program of twentieth and twenty-first century art, creating dynamic and memorable experiences for all audiences and encouraging curiosity and creativity within the wider community. The Museum, located in Healesville, has a collection of over 600 works of Australian twentieth and twenty-first century art.

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**Opening Hours:** Tuesday–Sunday, 11am to 5pm. Open all public holidays except Christmas Day.