

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hold Everything Dear

May 14 to June 1 2019

Opening Launch: Saturday May 18 2pm, by Lorraine Kypiotis,
Senior Lecturer Art History, National Art School

The Grace Cossington Smith Gallery is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibition *Hold Everything Dear*.

Using John Berger's collection of insightful essays as a departure point, the exhibition brings together the work of eight female artists who explore values and memories that each considers important.

The artists' approaches vary from the personal to the political. They offer a range of responses to Berger's question 'Where Are We?' and in doing so, consider where we might be heading.

Michelle Belgiorno, Deborah Burdett, Mandy Burgess, Michelle Connolly, Renuka Fernando, Tilly Lees, Jo Meisner and Ro Murray, try to make sense of our rapidly changing world, impacted by trauma, social isolation, changing notions of truth, aging, memory loss, and the imminent threats of climate change.

The varied and sometimes quirky mixed-media installations, using mainly recycled materials, invite viewers to consider the possibility of renewal, which can emerge from thoughtful reflection, processing of the past, discarding the unwanted, and preserving that which we truly value.

SHORT STATEMENT

Hold Everything Dear 14 May to 1 June

Michelle Belgiorno, Deborah Burdett, Mandy Burgess, Michelle Connolly,
Renuka Fernando, Tilly Lees, Jo Meisner, Ro Murray

Hold Everything Dear uses John Berger's book of essays as a starting point to examine values that the artists each consider important. Their approaches vary from the personal to the political through installation, painting, sculpture and inclusive interaction.

The **Grace Cossington Smith Gallery** is a not-for-profit gallery, run by Abbotsleigh, serving the public through free admission and a changing exhibition program.

The Gallery is open Monday to Friday from 10 am-5 pm and Saturday 9am – 4pm.

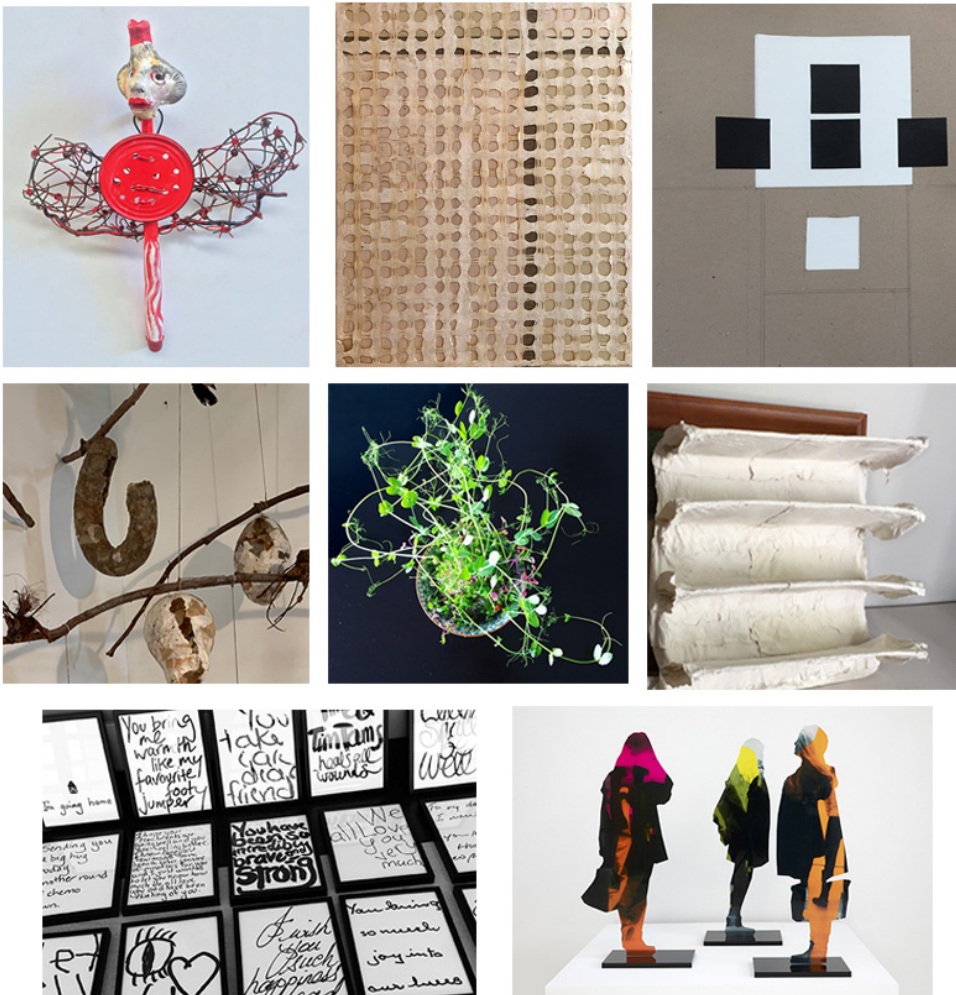
Enter via Gate 7, 1666 Pacific Highway Wahroonga.

Phone: 02 9483 7878

MEDIA contact: Mary Faith and Lisa Jones 02 9473 7878;

gcsgallery@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au

High Resolution images are available.



Top (left to right) Michelle Connolly, Deborah Burdett, Ro Murray

Middle (left to right) Michelle Belgiorno, Renuka Fernando, Mandy Burgess

Bottom (left to right) Tilly Lees, Jo Meisner