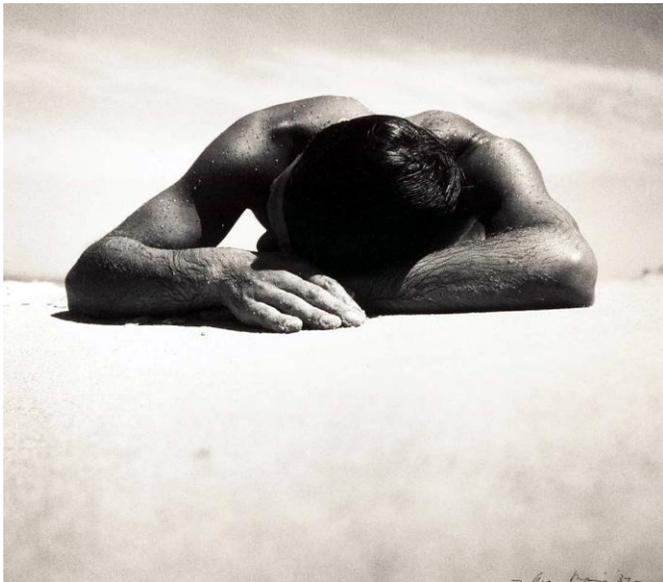


Max & Olive

the photographic life of Olive Cotton & Max Dupain



Max Dupain *Sunbaker* 1937 gelatin silver photograph, 37.7 x 43.2. Gift of the Philip Morris Arts Grant 1982 and **Olive Cotton**, *Fashion shot, Cronulla sandhills* 1937. gelatin silver photograph, 30.4 x 38.5cm. Collection of the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.

Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre will open its summer exhibition, ***Max & Olive: the photographic Life of Olive Cotton & Max Dupain***, which will showcase 70 works drawn from the photography collection of the National Gallery of Australia and will include some of the most memorable and iconic works of these two photographers from the 1930s and 1940s.

Belinda Hanrahan, Director of Hazelhurst Gallery said *this will be an opportunity to see wonderful works by these two well-known Australian photographers who shared their lives and studio.*

Olive Cotton and Max Dupain are key figures in Australian visual culture. They shared a long and close personal and professional relationship. This exhibition looks at their work made between 1934 and 1945, the period of their professional association; this was an exciting period of experimentation and growth in Australian photography, and Cotton and Dupain were at the centre of these developments.

This is the first exhibition to look at the work of these two photographers as they shared their lives, studio and professional practice. Looking at their work together is instructive; they were often shooting the same subjects, or pursuing subjects and pictorial effects in similar ways. Comparisons articulate and make apparent Dupain's more structured – even abstracted – approach to art and to the world; similarly, comparisons highlight Cotton's more immersive relationship to place, with a particularly deep and instinctual love of light and its ephemeral effects.

This exhibition focuses on the key period in each of their careers, when they made many of their most memorable images. Keenly aware of international developments in photography, Cotton and Dupain experimented with the forms and strategies of modernist photography, especially Surrealism and the Bauhaus, and drew upon the sophisticated lighting and compositions of contemporary advertising and Hollywood glamour photography.

They brought to these influences their own, close association with the rich context of Australian life and culture during the 1930s and '40s. Their achievement can be characterised, borrowing terms they used in discussions of their work, as the development of a 'contemporary Australian photography': a modern photographic practice that reflected their own, very particular relationships to the world and to each other.

Max & Olive: the photographic Life of Olive Cotton & Max Dupain

A National Gallery of Australia Exhibition.

Supported by the National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program, an Australian Government program aiming to improve access to the national collections for all Australians.

Details:

Max & Olive: the photographic Life of Olive Cotton & Max Dupain

17 December 2016 – 5 February 2017

Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre

782 Kingsway, Gymea.

About Hazelhurst Regional Gallery

Ben and Hazel Broadhurst secured the land that became Hazelhurst in 1945. Situated in Gymea, the land was a natural bushland setting with Dent's Creek running through it. The Broadhursts' two-storey cottage, designed with the help of local architect Harry Smith, is now Hazelhurst's artist-in-residence and digital media studio. The Broadhursts were generous, community-minded people. In keeping with their values, they bequeathed their estate to the Sutherland Shire. Hazelhurst opened as a regional gallery, community gallery, arts centre and cafe in 2000 and has since become a popular meeting place.

NGA
National Gallery of Australia



Australian Government
National Collecting Institutions
Touring & Outreach Program

The National Gallery of Australia is an Australian Government Agency.

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*Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre is a facility of Sutherland Shire Council.
Principal Partners: Artworks Transport, Tradies, Transdev, and Moran Aged Care.*

Hazelhurst
REGIONAL GALLERY & ARTS CENTRE

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