

Media Release

20 January 2016

Hazelhurst
REGIONAL GALLERY & ARTS CENTRE

For immediate release

ARTEXPRESS HSC ARTWORK

13 February – 3 April 2016



Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre presents its annual offering of **ARTEXPRESS**, an exhibition showcasing a selection of Higher School Certificate artworks that sees students experimenting across a range of media and pushing aesthetic, thematic and formal boundaries.

Hazelhurst will join with other venues across Sydney in hosting an exhibition that is always extremely popular with both the general public and thousands of school students.

The Hazelhurst exhibition is strong in fresh ideas and reveals extraordinary technical skills by 46 young artists from the Sutherland Shire and throughout NSW. A visitor to ARTEXPRESS at Hazelhurst will be rewarded by seeing the sheer diversity that young people have employed in depicting sophisticated ideas. Artworks range across a variety of media, convention and techniques, with interesting themes ranging from issues of social, cultural and spiritual significance through to aspects of personal identity, the home and global environment.

Inspired by her HSC text *Hamlet*, Sarah Jane Greenstein of Kirrawee High School explores the concept of putting up a façade to mask real emotions. “*My artwork explores the ways in which teenagers today create these masks in order to protect themselves from the critical views of society*” she states. Through her work *God has given you one face and you make yourself another* Sarah highlights the immutable force that ultimately drives all of us to become who we truly are, despite any efforts – material or otherwise – we make to disguise or conceal our real selves.

On a different note altogether Shaylee Crimmins of Engadine High School turns her attention to the stolen generation. Her work *Stolen* is influenced by the style and layout of artist Imants Tillers which she uses to symbolise the disconnect between Aboriginal people and the land as a result of colonisation. Shaylee incorporates various artists’ depictions of the Australian landscape over the years and uses these to portray the loss of Aboriginal identity using photography and painting.

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Cronulla High School student Joshua Lee explores concepts of the third world using photomedia in his work *Bound by Perception*. Through his own views and experience, as well as the memories and experiences of those around him Joshua delves into the concept of a third world country, also incorporating images into his work.

Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre welcomes the teaching fraternity, students and the general public to an exhibition that highlights the skill and inventiveness that underpins this year's choice of artworks.

Images (left to right): Sarah Greenstein, Kirrawee High School, *God has given you one face and you make yourself another*, Drawing; Shaylee Crimmins, Engadine High School, *Stolen*, collection of works; Joshua Lee, Cronulla High School, *Bound by Perception*, Photomedia.

On Show: 13 February – 3 April 2016
At: Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre, 782 Kingsway, Gymea NSW
Open: Daily from 10am – 5pm
Admission: Free
Enquiries: Tel 8536 5700 Fax: 8536 5750 Email: hazelhurst@ssc.nsw.gov.au
www.hazelhurst.com.au

SPECIAL EVENTS

ARTEXPRESS HSC FORUMS

EVENING SESSION

Wednesday 24 February 2016 @ 6.30pm \$7 per student

Join exhibitors to hear the stories behind their works, including conceptual development and exploration of expressive forms. A question and answer session will follow. Bookings please call 8536 5731.

DAY SESSIONS

Monday 29 February 2016 @10am and 12.30pm \$7 per student

Guest facilitator **Craig Malyon**, art educator and author of *Excel Revise HSC in a Month*, will discuss developing a body of work with ARTEXPRESS students. The forums are an open discussion where students can ask questions, talk about ideas and find new ways of exploring their body of work. Bookings please call Kate on 8536 5745.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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 Images available on request.

*Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre is a facility of Sutherland Shire Council.
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