

Patron:
Edmund Capon, AM, OBE



Brian Robison, *Land Sea Sky - Charting our place in the universe*, 2016.
Linocut printed on paper in black ink from one block.

BRIAN ROBINSON WINS HAZELHURST NATIONAL ART ON PAPER AWARD 2017

Sydney, Australia: Sutherland Shire Council tonight announced Brian Robison from Cairns as the winner of the Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award 2017 for his work entitled *Land Sea Sky – Charting our place in the universe 2016*. Brian Robison has been awarded \$15,000.

“The Art on Paper Award promotes excellence and innovation in the field of art on paper,” said Sutherland Shire Mayor, Carmelo Pesce.

“This year a very high standard of work by some of Australia’s most significant artists can be seen at the Hazelhurst Gallery. I’m also delighted to see so many local artists in this art prize,” he said.

Judge for the 2017 Art on Paper Award, Denise Mimmocchi, Senior Curator of Australian Art, Art Gallery of New South Wales chose this work from 76 finalists. “Technically this work is incredibly sophisticated, it has a wonderful sense of the movements of the universe where land, sea and stars meet and gods mingle with figures of popular culture”.

This year the Gallery received works from 850 artists throughout Australia making it a record year for the number of artists vying for the prizes since it began in 2001. The coveted national art prize showcases outstanding art created with, on, or about paper.

The Young & Early Career Artist’s Award of \$5,000 was awarded to Harriet Body for *Wet Season, Dry Season 2017* and the Friends of Hazelhurst Local Artist Prize of \$5,000 was awarded to Michelle Cawthorn for *Daughter 2017*. The installation crew also chose their favourite work which this year has been awarded to Andy Quilty for *Self Portrait Studies #10*. Andy will receive a 4 week residency at Hazelhurst. The People’s Choice Award of \$1,000 will be announced on 3 July.

The selection panel for the 2017 award, consisted of Carrie Kibbler, gallery curator, Grahame Kime, gallery art centre Manager, Louisa Chircop, winner of the 2015 Art on Paper Local Artist Award and Rochelle Haley, artist and lecturer at UNSW Art & Design. This year some of Australia's most important artists, as well as emerging artists, local artists and Indigenous artists are in the Art on Paper Award exhibition.

Artist's statement

The Islanders of the Torres Strait reside in a narrow waterway between the land masses of *Zai Dagam Daudai* [Australia] in the south and *Naigai Dagam Daudai* [Papua New Guinea] in the north where the Coral and Arafura Seas meet in one of the most fragile and intricate waterways in the world, a seafaring race of indigenous people, proud and dignified, whose spirituality is derived from ancestral ties to the land, the sea and the sky. Torres Strait Islander culture is closely linked to the stars. They inform Islander laws, customs and practices that are recorded and handed down in the form of story, song, dance, ceremony and artefacts. Islander astronomy also contains practical information about the natural world, which is essential for survival and cultural continuity. Islander culture is linked to *Tagai* – the creation deity that is represented by a constellation of stars that spans across the southern sky.

Details:

The Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award 2017

Saturday 20 May until 16 July

Sutherland Council Hazelhurst Gallery

782 Kingsway, Gymea NSW

Tel 8536 5700 Email: hazelhurst@ssc.nsw.gov.au or www.hazelhurst.com.au

For all Art on Paper Award finalists please visit: www.hazelhurst.com.au

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

MEDIA CONTACT:

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

2017 National Award for Local Government for Promoting Indigenous Recognition with Nganampa Kililpil: OUR STARS

Principal Partner

