



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### *liminal personae*

june 28 – july 16

opening night: june 30, 6.30 for 7pm

Susan Norrie, Laurens Tan, Anita Larkin, John Massingham, Luis Trujillo, Jade Pegler, Joanne Handley, Iain Whittaker, Megan Sproats, Aaron Hull, May Barrie

Loosely translating as ‘threshold people’, *liminal personae* is an exhibition of and about artists who challenge the stereotypes about artists who live outside the metropolitan centres and who walk the fine threshold of acceptance. Most of the artists featured reside, or have had regular interaction with Wollongong and the Illawarra and this exhibition aims to gather them all together, without them having to squeeze themselves into a theme or exhibition brief.

Curated by Lauren Brown and Moira Kirkwood, with support from Arts NSW, the artists have been paid for their contribution, haven’t had to pay to exhibit, nor have they had to jump through the regular hoops of exhibition proposals and funding applications in order to exhibit. Co-curator Moira Kirkwood has described *liminal personae* as an exhibition that “has given the artists an opportunity to just create work”

This exhibition celebrates the idiosyncrasies of these artists – their particular practices, ideas, concepts, materials, living arrangements, physical or mental circumstances, histories, or lack thereof. The artists involved span a range of disciplines and experience: the curators have rejected the usual practice of showing work by only emerging artists, or only those who have been artists for 20 years or more.

Using Susan Norrie’s 1989 *Peripherique* exhibition at the Wollongong City Gallery and the ideas it raised as a starting point, the curators have developed a show fostering contemporary culture without slavish comparison to the metropolitan capitals.

Co-curator Lauren Brown said this week “This show is not a show ‘about Wollongong’, rather it is about not having an ‘about’, but bringing together a group of artists whose work and ideas are worthy of taking notice of, wherever they live.”

**For media comment, contact Lauren Brown 0405 770 117 or Moira Kirkwood 0400 374 362**

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