

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Muckleford-based sculptor wins \$40,000 Rural & Regional Development Award 2017

Muckleford-based artist **Fayen d'Evie** has been awarded the **\$40,000 Rural & Regional Development Award 2017**, offered as part of the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2017.

The Award recognises Fayen's portfolio of work and the proposal for new work, including the development of a new tactile typography for sculptural text works, extending mobile sculptural architecture for the Museum Incognita, and the continued development of a hypersonic installation, 'A Poem to a Dust Cloud'.

The Award, supported by **The Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation**, is offered as part of the **Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2017** and focuses on the importance of sculpture, in all its forms, to inform and enrich public spaces and contribute to public life. **The Rural & Regional Development Award** recognises the important contribution of sculptors in rural and regional Victoria and provides career development opportunities.

Simon Warrender, Executive Director of the Melbourne Prize Trust congratulated Fayen on being the recipient of the 2017 Regional & Rural Development Award.

"The annual Melbourne Prize enjoys and values strong regional and rural support. We are able offer this Award, through the generosity of The Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation, which emphasizes the importance of supporting the arts in regional and rural Victoria.

"I would like to thank Fayen for submitting her portfolio, which aligns with the objectives of the Award. We hope it provides opportunities to Fayen to develop her career and in turn enhance the arts in the region," Mr Warrender said.

The 2017 judges include six esteemed arts sector professionals: **Max Delany**, Artistic Director & CEO, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, ACCA; **Victoria Lynn**, Director, TarraWarra Museum of Art; **Professor Callum Morton**, Artist & Head of Fine Art, Monash University Art Design & Architecture, MADA; **Professor Marie Sierra**, Artist & Deputy Dean & Head of School UNSW Sydney, Art & Design; **Simone Slee**, Artist & Head of Sculpture & Spatial Practice, School of Art, Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne; and **Pip Wallis**, Curator, Contemporary Art, National Gallery of Victoria.

"The response to the Rural & Regional Development Award 2017 has been immensely strong and is a testament to the abundant talent in a vibrant artistic sector in rural and regional Victoria.

"On behalf of the Melbourne Prize Trust, thank you to all of this year's entrants in this category," Mr Warrender concluded.

Information on **Fayen d'Evie**, the winner of the **\$40,000 Rural & Regional Award 2017**, will be available in the free catalogue of finalists in the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2017 and Awards, available at www.melbourneprize.org or at the Federation Square exhibition of finalists work between 13 - 27 November.

Federation Square is the Exhibition and Events partner and 'home' of the Melbourne Prize. This long-term partnership makes it possible for the public, visiting the free public exhibition each November, to engage with abundant talent in literature, music and (urban) sculpture and provides artists, writers and musicians with public exposure, in one of the country's most visited public spaces.

The Melbourne Prize Trust is proud to have the Victorian Government, through **Creative Victoria** and **the City of Melbourne** as Government Partners and the 2017 Partners and Patrons, who can be found at www.melbourneprize.org.

– Ends –

For more information or for interview opportunities please contact:

Nicolette Baxter at Royce Communications on (03) 8628 9320 or 0438 143 342.

Notes to the editor:

The Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2017 focuses on the urban environment and the importance of sculpture, in all its forms, to inform public spaces and enrich public life. It is unique in that it enables entrants to submit either a completed artwork, or a proposal for an artwork. This year's finalists are:

- Sarah crowEST
- Laresa Kosloff
- Bridie Lunney
- Sibling Architecture
- Daniel von Sturmer
- Susan Jacobs

The winner of the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2017 will receive \$60,000 made possible by **The Vera Moore Foundation**, **The Tallis Foundation** and the **Melbourne Prize Trust**. All six finalists will also be awarded an artist fee of \$4,000, generously supported by **C H (Roger) Brookes**.

The (NEW) **\$10,000 Public Artwork Design Concept Award 2017** - Crafting a City of Literature is supported by the Melbourne UNESCO City of Literature Office and seeks a design concept for a public artwork to celebrate Melbourne's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature. This year's finalists are:

- Emma Anna
- Catherine Clover
- Eli Giannini
- Matthew Harding
- Louise Lavarack

In addition to the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2017, Public Artwork Design Concept Award 2017 and Regional and Rural Development Award 2017, the following categories are also being offered as part of this year's program:

- **\$10,000 Professional Development Award 2017, plus \$2,500 Qantas** credit and a professional practice residency at the **Norma Redpath Studio in Carlton**: This award is supported by the Melbourne Prize Trust, The University of Melbourne, the Victorian College of the Arts and Qantas. The winner will be announced on November 15 at www.melbourneprize.org
- **\$4,000 Civic Choice Award 2017 is supported by the Melbourne Prize Trust**. The finalist with the most public votes will be announced the winner. Voting is now open at www.melbourneprize.org. Voters will have a chance to win a night at the **Sofitel Melbourne On Collins - Melbourne's Hotel for the Arts**.

The Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2017 and Awards are made possible through the generous support of partners and patrons of the Melbourne Prize Trust. **Committee for Melbourne** and **Cornwell** are founding partners. Cornwell, has since inception, developed the award-winning identity and exhibition design for the annual Melbourne Prize and are joined this year by **Mr P Studios**.

The Melbourne Prize Trust appreciates the generous support of major **patron The Vera Moore Foundation** and all 2017 partners and patrons who, through their community investment, help to develop our creative resources and provide opportunities to benefit our abundant artistic talent through the annual Melbourne Prize.

Key dates:

Public exhibition of finalists 13 to 27 November 2017

Announcement of recipients of remaining categories 15 November 2017 at www.melbourneprize.org

Announcement of Civic Choice Award 2017 1 December 2017 at www.melbourneprize.org

About the annual Melbourne Prize:

Launched in 2004, the Melbourne Prize Trust was established to recognise and reward talent, excellence and inspire creative development. The Trust achieves this aim by running the annual Melbourne Prize, which is funded by a collaboration of partners and patrons. The Melbourne Prize Trust and annual Melbourne Prize was founded by Executive Director, Simon Warrender. Committee for Melbourne is a founding supporter.

Being one of the most valuable arts prize of its kind in Australia, the annual Melbourne Prize operates in a three year cycle, including the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture, the Melbourne Prize for Literature and the Melbourne Prize for Music. The Melbourne Prize for Literature will be offered in 2018.

Since inception, the annual Melbourne Prize has made available more than \$1,200,000 in prizes and award, artist residencies, equipment grants and an annual public exhibition at Federation Square to Victorian writers, sculptors and musicians.

The origins of the Melbourne Prize Trust date back to The Magic Pudding sculpture commission, as part of a children's garden concept, at the Royal Botanic Garden Melbourne. Miniatures of this sculpture are available for purchase through the Melbourne Prize Trust; a Deductible Gift Recipient and Income Tax Exempt Charity.

For details on the Board of Directors and Management Committee of the Melbourne Prize Trust, please visit www.melbourneprize.org.

Past recipients include:

2014

Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014 – **Geoff Robinson** *15 locations/15 minutes/15 days* 2014

Professional Development Award 2014 – **Kay Abude** *Piecework (Federation Square)* 2014

Rural & Regional Development Award 2014 – **Aleks Danko**

Civic Choice Award 2014 – **Kay Abude** *Piecework (Federation Square)* 2014

2011

Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2011 - **Bianca Hester** *A world, fully accessible by no living being* 2011

Professional Development Award 2011 - **Lucas Maddock and Isaac Greener** *Apostle No.2* 2011

Civic Choice Award 2011 - **Lucas Maddock and Isaac Greener** *Apostle No.2* 2011

2008

Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2008 - **Alexander Knox** *maxims of behaviour* 2008

Professional Development Award 2008 - **Tom Nicholson** *Monument for the flooding of Royal Park* 2008

VicUrban Award 2008 - **Louise Paramor** *Tritonic Jam Session* 2008

Civic Choice Award 2008 - **Elaine Miles** *Reflections* 2007

2005

Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2005 - **OSW: Terri Bird, Bianca Hester, Natasha Johns-Messenger and Scott Mitchell** *groundings* 2005

Professional Development Award 2005 - **Karen Abernethy** *echophene* 2004

Fabrication Award 2005 - **Simon Perry** *Public Address* 2005
















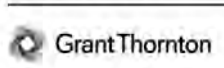




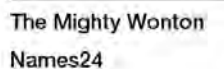



Civic Choice Award 2005 - **Matthew de Moiser** *Parasite* 2005

Professional Development Award 2005 - **Karen Abernethy** *echophene* 2004

Fabrication Award 2005 - **Simon Perry** *Public Address* 2005

Civic Choice Award 2005 - **Matthew de Moiser** *Parasite* 2005

Thank you to our 2017 partners and patrons

Government Partners	Patrons	Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2017 Partners	Rural & Regional Development Award 2017 Partner	Public Artwork Design Concept Award 2017 – <i>Crafting a City of Literature</i>	
 	 vera moore <small>FOUNDATION</small>	 vera moore <small>FOUNDATION</small>	The Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation	 Melbourne City of Literature <small>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation</small>	
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MinterEllison	Professional Services  Grant Thornton	Exhibition Signage & AV  premiergraphics <small>architectural & environmental signage</small>	Exhibition Consultant  Coleby Consulting	Broadcast Partner  3AW693 <small>NEWS TALK</small>	
Wine + Awards Catering Partner  ROBERT OATLEY  TREAT <small>CAISING & EVENTS</small>	Engineering Consultant  FELICETTI	 CREATIVE VISION AUDIO	IT Services  The Mighty Wonton  Names24	Banners  Evan Evans	Trophies  Funders Foundry

Design by Cornwell and Mr P Studios.
 Committee for Melbourne a founding supporter