

# THE WALLS ART SPACE

**ALARA GEEBUNG (CAMERON), LYLE DUNCAN, AMELIA MCLEISH, BETTY RUSS**  
RADIUS: NEW ART FROM THE REGION

7 - 22 MARCH, 2020

*A look at new work by artists working within a geographical radius of THE WALLS spanning South East Queensland and Northern New South Wales.*

Exhibition response by **ANNA WESTBROOK**

[Mezzanine]

## **LYLE DUNCAN**

150 EDWARD ST TO 308 EDWARD ST (2019)  
Single fluorescent batten and bulb, electrical tape  
102 x 5cm

UNTITLED (2019)  
Concrete and glass  
12 x 12 x 12cm each

[Clockwise from entrance]

## **BETTY RUSS**

JOY AS AN ACT OF RESISTANCE (2020)  
Found objects, ceramics, water, acrylic paint, gold leaf, goat skin  
Size variable

## **ALARA GEEBUNG (CAMERON)**

BROKEN SONGLINES  
Acrylic on canvas  
60 x 120cm

## **FINDING OUR PLACE**

Acrylic on board  
110 x 110cm

## **AMELIA MCLEISH**

NOW IT'S IN YOUR HANDS/THREE PARTICIPATORY STACKS (2020)  
8.27 x 11.7in, Matt Prints, 47pc; 11.7 x 8.27in, Gloss Prints, 30pc; 5 x 5in, Photographs, 35pc;  
Individually Hand Signed and numbered.

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## **ALARA GEEBUNG (CAMERON)**

Alara Geebung (Cameron) is connected to country through the Bidjara caretakers of the land surrounding Carnarvon Gorge and through strong ties with the Bundjalung/Yugambah communities on the Gold Coast where he has lived and worked for the last decade. Alara started painting 5 years ago after reconnecting and collaborating on a mural commission in Charleville with his father, artist Stanley Geebung. In 2019 Alara was a participant in the South Stradbroke Island Indigenous Artist Camp under mentor Gordon Hookey, and participated in the culminating outdoor exhibition at Home of the Arts (HOTA) on the Gold Coast. Alara's recent work includes a significant outdoor artwork commission for Youth Justice and Anglicare, of totem poles intended for yarning circles for youth. In

2020 Alara's work will appear on the jerseys of the Cronulla Sharks NRL team during the annual indigenous round in May. Alara's practice is one of healing, and of translating the stories and the ways of his elders in both contemporary and traditional ways

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## **LYLE DUNCAN**

Lyle Duncan is an emerging visual artist based on Queensland's Gold Coast, he is currently studying a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Visual Art) at Queensland University of Technology. Lyle's practice is driven by an interest in interdisciplinary making across multiple mediums including photography, sculpture, print-making, painting and design. His work explores the aesthetic qualities of materials no matter how ordinary and encompasses combinations of porcelain, concrete, glass, found objects, ready-made materials, light and digital imagery. Lyle has exhibited in Brisbane with Post Datum and on the Gold Coast at HOTA (Home of the Arts). His design work has featured at W Hotel in Brisbane and in 2016 his work was included in the CICA Contemporary Photography Exhibition in South Korea.

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## **AMELIA MCLEISH**

Amelia McLeish is an emerging contemporary artist whose practice investigates the function of the art institution and the culture surrounding art. These concerns are examined through the use of sculpture, installation, sound and participatory works. McLeish closely examines how the arts institutions in particular the ownership of art impact the local culture and how this can negatively impact the cultural richness of contemporary art. These investigations recontextualise institutional modes of operation and aesthetics, to create humorous dialogue with the spectator to develop a deeper engagement within the viewer about why these things are the way they are. Through these institutional critiques McLeish aims to develop a roadmap for emerging artists and their ability to navigate the institutional frameworks. Her work often draws upon the moment of engagement to develop further awareness about the unconscious perception of how we interact and engage in the world to develop a greater appreciation for the everyday.

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## **BETTY RUSS**

Betty Russ an emerging artist, who has been practicing as an artist since her solitudinous childhood where a box of cicada shells were her best friend. Tactile, three-dimensional preoccupation now manifests in the creation of assemblages utilising traditional and non-traditional media. The central focus of her work is mental health, spirituality, and cosmological ennui, and as a person managing a day-to-day melange of psychological challenges, her practice has become an act of strength-giving spiritual revivification. Art-making, for Betty, is a meditative investigation of the anthropocene, and a vehicle for exploring the collective psychological fall-out from the terror of our planet dying around us. Living regionally has reinforced her experience of unmediated connection to the natural and non-human environment. This immersive experience of place, outside of the city-centres, has inspired a deeply held emotional bond to the idea of interconnected sustainability, and a necessary desperate concern for our collective planetary fate.

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CITY OF  
**GOLD COAST.**

THE WALLS are supported by the City of Gold Coast through the Accelerate Triennial Grant Program.

THE WALLS acknowledges the YUGAMBEH people, the traditional owners of the land on which we operate, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present, and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples on the Gold Coast today.