

STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

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Lights, cameras ... art in new State Library exhibition

Step into the creative worlds of some of Australia's most acclaimed contemporary artists in a new exhibition at State Library of Queensland opening 25 February.

Meet the artists showcases the James C. Sourris AM Collection of Artist Interviews with leading artists and art world figures who have lived or exhibited in Queensland.

The exhibition reveals the experiences that have inspired the artists and includes a selection of privately held artworks, studio materials and personal treasures.

It also shines a light on the practice of 8 leading Queensland artists: Vernon Ah Kee, Luke Roberts, Fiona Foley, Judith Wright, Leonard Brown, Anne Wallace, Sandra Selig, and Eugene Carchesio.

Featured artworks include:

- *kick the dust* 2019 by Vernon ah Kee
- *Wind-assisted Drawings* 2017 by Sandra Selig
- *Conversation* 2022 by Judith Wright
- *The Holy Prophet Elijah's Ascent in the Fiery Chariot* 2015 by Leonard Brown

It is the first time the Sourris collection of interviews, compiled over the past 12 years, has been exhibited.

Meet the artists is curated by Julie Ewington, an authority on contemporary Australian art.

Artists featured in the collection grew up in places such as Cairns, Cloncurry, Mareeba, Ayr, Innisfail, Alpha, Charleville, Roma, K'gari (Fraser Island), Tewantin and Brisbane.

Quotes from Minister for the Arts Leeanne Enoch:

"This compelling exhibition peels back the layers of diverse arts practitioners to offer Queenslanders a deeper insight into the creative minds and workings of some of our most renowned artists.

"*Meet the artists* gives context to the stories artists tell through their art and the powerful contribution they make to our State's cultural identity.

"The Queensland Government supports State Library to share our stories and celebrate our storytellers, helping to deliver on the priorities of Creative Together, our 10-year roadmap to transform the state through arts, culture and creativity."

Quotes from State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald AM:

“The James C. Sourris AM Collection of Artist Interviews is a Queensland-based project of international significance.

“It is unlike any other in the country, harnessing the power of film to document and preserve the historically important.

“This generous gift to State Library from James and his sister Marica Sourris ensures future generations will understand the contribution of these remarkable artists and art world figures.”

Quotes from James C. Sourris AM

“I am interested in a resource that will be valuable for the future, a terrific resource for the State Library, for all of us.

“This is history, and it will be there for all time. That’s a wonderful thing. It can be enjoyment; it can be for learning.”

Meet the artists exhibition

25 February – 9 July 2023

Open daily 10am–5pm | Free entry

slq Gallery, level 2 | State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, South Bank

slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on | [#slqmeettheartists](https://twitter.com/slqmeettheartists) | [media kit](#)

The limited-edition hardcover exhibition catalogue is available from the [Library Shop](#).