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Simpson's donkey, the Lismore flood and covid nurses – 38 Finalists Announced for 2023 Gallipoli Art Prize

Winner to be announced Wednesday 19 April, 2023 in Sydney.

Thirty-eight finalists have been announced for the 18th annual Gallipoli Art Prize. The winner of the art prize will be announced on Wednesday 19th April in Sydney, in the lead up to Anzac Day. The works will be on exhibition at 6-8 Atherden Street, The Rocks from 20 April to 14 May.

[[View 2023 finalist works here + artist statements](#)]

The Gallipoli Art Prize is a privately funded prize, auspiced by the Gallipoli Memorial Club in Sydney. It invites artists to respond openly to the broad themes of loyalty, respect, love of country, courage, comradeship, community, peace and freedom as expressed in the Gallipoli Memorial Club's creed.

"We believe that within the community there exists an obligation for all to preserve the special qualities of loyalty, respect, love of country, courage and comradeship which were personified by the heroes of the Gallipoli Campaign and bequeathed to all humanity as a foundation for perpetual peace and universal freedom". The Gallipoli Memorial Club Creed.

"The Gallipoli Memorial Club's creed evokes a compelling variety of responses from artists, making it a unique and important art competition that reflects deeply upon Australian identity, history and contemporary issues."

"Many artists look to the past for inspiration, but the creed emphasises that the obligation to preserve those special qualities exists within the community now. And that they lay the foundation for the future. One of perpetual peace and universal freedom," said John Robertson, President of the Gallipoli Memorial Club and one of the judges of the prize.

Among the 38 finalist works this year is Jane Millington's painting '[Rescue](#)' depicting Private John Simpson's donkey 'from the perspective that a wounded soldier might first have seen him' says Millington. Simpson became famous for his work as a stretcher bearer at Gallipoli, using Duffy the donkey to help transport wounded men.

While many works reference WWI, others depict more contemporary scenes and 'heroes' such as Geoff Harvey's (two-time winner of the Gallipoli Art Prize) painting '[Operation Flood Assist Lismore](#)' depicting the Australian Defence Force helping rescue animals in the aftermath of Lismore's devastating 2022 flood. Sarah Anthony's painting '[Frontline](#)' depicts two sisters who worked tirelessly as nurses in the Emergency Department at Royal Melbourne Hospital during a surge in the Covid-19 pandemic.

Amongst the 2023 finalist works are powerful abstracts such as [‘Anzac Cove Bombardments’](#) by painter and AFL legend Nicky Winmar and [‘The Last to Leave’](#) by Tannya Harricks. There’s also the realism of [‘Mateship Endures’](#) by Claire Cusack and the graphic clarity of [‘The War Correspondent Gallipoli’](#) by Peter Rush. Several landscapes are amongst the 2023 art prize finalists including [‘If A Tree Could Talk’](#) depicting the Lone Pine in the full moon at Gallipoli painted by QLD artist and schoolteacher Jo-Ann Higgins who every day walks past a lone Aleppo pine tree at the school’s entrance. The tree’s plaque reads that it was propagated from one of the seeds of Gallipoli’s Lone Pine.

Judging for this year’s Prize is conducted by Jane Watters, Barry Pearce, Elizabeth Fortescue and John Robertson. Previous winners of the Gallipoli Art Prize include renowned artists Euan Macleod (2009), Idris Murphy (2014) and Jiawei Shen (2016). Celebrated botanical artist Deidre Bean won the 2022 Gallipoli Art Prize with [‘Along the ride to Damascus’](#), her intricately rendered painting of a sword used by Australian Light Horse battalions in WWI.

The winner of the 2023 Gallipoli Art Prize will be announced on Wednesday 19 April, 2023 in Sydney and the works will be on exhibition at 6-8 Atherden Street, The Rocks from 20 April to 14 May, 2023.

View all 2023 Gallipoli Art Prize finalist works at www.gallipoliartprize.org.au.

2023 Gallipoli Art Prize Finalists

Andrew Tomkins	<i>Ray’s Room</i>
Ann Cape	<i>Lest We Forget</i>
Bruce Whatley	<i>Lest We Forget</i>
Cassandra Sturm	<i>Finding Pope’s Hill</i>
Charmian Porter	<i>Place of the Spirit</i>
Christine Johnson	<i>The troopships of ANZAC</i>
Claire Cusack	<i>Mateship Endures</i>
David McKay	<i>Vigil</i>
Donna Gibb	<i>The AHS Centaur Story</i>
Elizabeth Barden	<i>Lost Photo</i>
Elizabeth McCarthy	<i>Tending The Graves Schrapnel Gully</i>
Geoff Harvey	<i>Operation Flood Assist Lismore</i>
Jane Millington	<i>Rescue</i>
Jo-Anne Higgins	<i>If A Tree Could Talk</i>
John Butler	<i>Heroic Landscape</i>
John Skillington	<i>We have been in the earth where the fallen lie</i>
Karl Romandi	<i>Intergenerational Obligation</i>
Kristin Hardiman	<i>The Casualties</i>
Luke Cornish	<i>Gunner McKenzie</i>
Margaret Hadfield	<i>Heroes of Loyal Service</i>
Martin Williams	<i>In Defence of Our Shores</i>
Miranda Kichenside	<i>The tears of Ataturk</i>
Nicky Winmar	<i>ANZAC Cove</i>
Nora Hosking	<i>Two Creeks</i>
Penelope Oates	<i>Northern Watch</i>
Peter Rush	<i>The War Correspondent Gallipoli</i>
Prue Wilkinson	<i>Violence and Innocence</i>
Richard Crossland	<i>24 Days, Simpson and his donkey</i>
Robert Hammill	<i>A Tribute – Merchant Navy</i>
Ross Townsend	<i>Seed of History</i>

Russell Barker	<i>Landscape with Forest</i>
Ruth Bosveld	<i>They Also Serve</i>
Sam Dabboussy	<i>Three Cigarettes</i>
Sarah Anthony	<i>Frontline</i>
Sue Macleod-Beere	<i>Facing Hell</i>
Sylvie Carter	<i>Corporal Ernest Corey on the Hindenberg Line 1918</i>
Tannya Harricks	<i>The Last to Leave</i>
Tony Manning	<i>It was a difficult landing</i>

Gallipoli Art Prize Previous Winners

2006 Margaret Hadfield	<i>Ataturk's legacy</i>
2007 Lianne Gough	<i>Glorus fallen</i>
2008 Tom Carment	<i>Max Carment, War Veteran (the last Portrait)</i>
2009 Euan Macleod	<i>Smoke/Pink landscape/Shovel</i>
2010 Raymond Arnold	<i>The dead march here today</i>
2011 Hadyn Wilson	<i>Sacrifice</i>
2012 Geoff Harvey	<i>Trench interment</i>
2013 Peter Wegner	<i>Dog with Gas Mask</i>
2014 Idris Murphy	<i>Gallipoli Evening 2013</i>
2015 Sally Robinson	<i>Boy Soldiers</i>
2016 Jiawei Shen	<i>Yeah, Mate!</i>
2017 Amanda Penrose Hart	<i>The Sphinx, Perpetual Peace</i>
2018 Steve Lopes	<i>Exposed Wood, Mont St Quentin</i>
2019 Martin King	<i>War Pigeon Diaries</i>
2020 Alison Mackay	<i>Breathe</i>
2021 Geoff Harvey	<i>Forgotten Heroes</i>
2022 Deidre Bean	<i>Along the ride to Damascus</i>

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Media Assets

Please click link below for photos of finalist works and their artist statements

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tmm98mhda0z2bz3/AACumuxYSn_bv60_7ebVPYSaa?dl=0

View all finalist works online at

<https://www.gallipoliartprize.org.au/2023-finalists/>