

MEDIA RELEASE

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Tuggeranong Arts Centre announces 2018 program highlights

In 2018, Tuggeranong Arts Centre's program shifts to a new annual theme, 'Entropy.' The Arts Centre is inviting audiences to experience the harmony and chaos of our times as we jointly embark on a journey where art constructs and deconstructs our universe.

At the heart of the program is the award-winning and highly acclaimed touring exhibition *Another Day in Paradise*, featuring paintings by artist Myuran Sukumaran along with a series of works by leading Australian artists, Abdul-Rahman Abdullah, Megan Cope, Jagath Dheeraseskara, Khaled Sabsabi, and Matthew Sleeth.

To unravel the many controversial themes emerging from this exhibition, TAC will present *The Human Condition* - a suite of public programs that invite the community to explore, contemplate, and interpret these important themes. Many groups and organisations will respond creatively to Myuran Sukumaran's paintings and his story, culminating in a series of events, exhibitions and performances.

Providing further exploration of the harmony and chaos of our time will be *No Place Like Home*, a preview of new works by trailblazing stencil artist Luke Cornish (ELK), whose recent rise within the contemporary art world has been meteoric. Cornish's current practice is focussed on the war ravaged streets of Syria and the individuals caught in the horrific conflict.

First Nations arts again take priority in the Centre's program. In July, Australia's leading and longest-running Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander theatre company, ILBIJERRI, will bring their production *Which Way Home* to Canberra for two performances at TAC. As part of their visit, ILBIJERRI will present a range of community workshops in writing, acting, and visual arts, facilitated by Katie Beckett, Rachael Maza, and Kamahi Djordan King.

Local filmmaker Marissa McDowell will also collaborate with the Centre in 2018 to present 'Connections to Country – Now.' McDowell will work with a group of emerging Indigenous filmmakers to tell traditional First Nations stories through elders and younger generations that connect First Nations people to land and culture.

A key participative project of the Centre's program is the 'Children's Rock Opera with Mr. Tim.' Running from January to June, the Rock Opera is a six-month performance development project for children aged 7-12. Participants will work with musicians and theatre artists to produce an original musical that will enjoy a performance season in the Tuggeranong Theatre in June.

Tuggeranong Arts Centre CEO Rauny Worm says, 'we are deeply honoured to be able to work with so many outstanding artists, performers and creative visionaries to deliver a program that not only provides our community with meaningful entertainment but also invites audiences to participate, learn, and create.'

'Our changing community remains at the heart of our work and this program has been developed to reflect their concerns and aspirations.'

The Arts Centre's full 2018 program can be found online at www.tuggeranongarts.com