

DANNY MURPHY, OUTBACK SERIES, 2008, TERRACOTTA, IHHH-SJILLALIA, SAGGAR-FIRED TO T1400C.



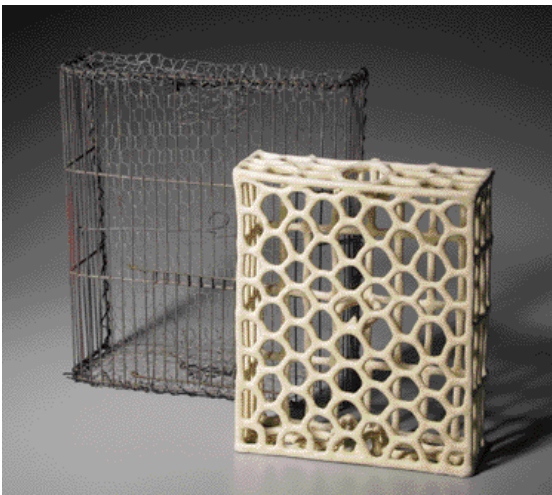
Dogs collect bones, kids collect dirt, but what do artists collect? Artists collect anything and everything from the unfathomably obscure to the blindingly obvious.

Collectanea is an intimate, intriguing and lively exhibition of contemporary ceramics based on the personal collections of fifteen South Australian artists.

The artworks all respond to myriad collectable objects, some trash and some treasures, but all precious to the collector. From handbags to dolls, dogs to feathers and fossils to salt shakers, this show provides a rare opportunity to sneak a peak into these favourite collections and discover how artists turn the ordinary into the extraordinary.

Each artist has used clay in one form or another to create 3-dimensional representations or interpretations inspired by their particular collection of objects.

Clay sculpture has been a significant part of cultures for thousands of years and is still a highly regarded form of art.



LEO NEUHOFFER, CAGED, 2006, STONEWARE PAPER CLAY MATT GLAZE 1260C.

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curriculum connections **collectanea** at a glance

CHARMAIN HEARDER, INACTION FIGURES, 2006, BUFF RAKU CLAY;
MID-FIRED; BEANBAG, BEACH TOWEL AND ESKY (REALLY SMALL).



Exhibition Theme

“The Clay Collective’s exhibition is about collections, in particular the collection trends of these clay-oriented artists.

Through the works on display we see collections of action figures (remade as inaction figures), faces, net or cage structures as well as those random collections that gather themselves in bowls around the house. All of these and more are re-shaped by clay and make up this exhibition.”

SERA WATERS, DB MAGAZINE, ISSUE #380, 8-14 MARCH 2006

Exhibition Content

Collectanea consists of 15 works made especially for inclusion in this show. All of the works are 3-D, displaying the collected object and the inspired artwork together with text from the artist, giving an insight into the impulse to collect and the creative pathway to producing artwork.

Origins

Collectanea was first presented by The Clay Collective in the main foyer of the South Australian Museum, as part of Adelaide Fringe 2006. The Clay Collective has a core group of artists, many of whom have past or current associations with JamFactory’s Ceramics Studio and some with the old Jamboree Studio.

Selection Process and Criteria

The original concept for *Collectanea* responded to the South Australian Museum’s interest in presenting diverse collections that exist within the community. The artists were encouraged to experiment, explore and take risks in the development of new works especially for this show, which includes both functional and smaller sculptural works. The brief required artists to produce works that would fit comfortably within a 400 x 400mm space, along with the collected object, making this a collection of small scale works.

Artists

The artists involved are representative of the high quality of South Australian based ceramicists. Featured artists are Jo Crawford, Lincoln Kirby-Bell, Phillip Hart, Elodie Barker, Alison Arnold, Tracey Rosser, Jane Robertson, Rose Maguire, Charmain Hearder, Jane Burbidge, Gus Clutterbuck, Zoe Warburton, Danny Murphy, Leo Neuhofer and Isabella Niven.

Works

Each artist has used clay in one form or another to create 3-dimensional representations or interpretations inspired by their particular collection of objects. The artists have used different types of clay and a variety of techniques and processes of working with clay. Construction techniques include hand built, wheel thrown, press moulded and slip cast. Most works are free standing.



This exhibition provides students with the opportunity to look at 3-D works that convey humour and sentiment, compare and contrast artworks created to signify and commemorate cultural traditions, values and beliefs, and/or simply document a time, place or idea from the artist's personal experiences/memories.

From close analysis and contact with contemporary Australian artists students learn about work in the arts industry and may consider its potential for **vocational pathways** or as an area of **community involvement**.

The social and historical content of the exhibition provides a springboard into other curriculum areas including **Society and the Environment**, **Design and Technology**, and **English**.

Collectanea offers a unique opportunity for art teachers and students to:

- Expand knowledge of the diversity and content of contemporary art practice

Learn about:

- different kinds of art practice
- different kinds of art-based methods and materials
- where artists get ideas from
- ideas important to contemporary artists
- the importance of media and style in communicating ideas
- the impact of new and emerging technologies
- the links contemporary art practice has with art of the past
- the relationship between art and communications/entertainment media
- issues such as media manipulation, youth culture and the role of art and the artist in contemporary society
- develop skills in engaging with, analysing, communicating about and responding to challenging art works, visual thinking, problem solving and using imagination

Key Competencies

Actively engaging with artworks within this exhibition will support Key Competencies development as follows:

- **KC1 Collecting, analysing and organising information** - *Explore* tasks require students to distinguish different genres, in particular the notion of art and craft and what distinguishes the art forms.
- **KC2 Communicating ideas and information** - *Explore* tasks require students to observe, record data, discuss in small groups and formulate opinions of individual artworks presented in the exhibition.
- **KC4 working with others in teams** - some of the *Explore* tasks can be undertaken by teams

Essential Learnings

Futures - a number of works in this exhibition offer a glimpse of the future by reference to the importance and influence of the present and the past. They ask the viewer to reflect on the past, celebrate the present and anticipate the future. They ask questions about the natural world in which we live, about change and sustainability.

Identity - all the works in this exhibition explore the idea of 'we are what we collect'. By analysing these works students will develop an understanding of the need human beings have to collect things and how these collections of things tell stories not only about the collector, but also about the object which is collected.

Interdependence - central to a number of works is the idea of interrelationship between self, others and the wider world

Thinking - a feature of *Collectanea* is the divergence of creative thought and strategies. Many of the works reveal how artists develop skills in visual thinking and problem solving in order to communicate ideas on different levels, or to incorporate different ideas into a single work.

Communication - analysing works or reporting and debating findings related to viewing works will require students to make effective use of language and writing skills. Analysing and responding will also allow students to learn more about art as a special and powerful form of communication.



curriculum connections

Learning Areas Outcomes

The following chart identifies a number of outcomes (within Visual Arts) that are particularly relevant to *Collectanea* as a learning resource

visual arts

Key Ideas	Early Years	Primary Years	Middle Years	Senior Years
arts practice	Express feelings and ideas about past present and future	Experiment with ideas and think in concrete and abstract ways Engage in a range of techniques	Develop knowledge of different art systems and styles Engage in a range of techniques	Research different methodologies and techniques Research ideas and reflect on effectiveness of different artist's methods and ideas
analysis and response	Gain an understanding of different forms of art	Learning how to effectively respond to art works	Distinguishing between different styles and genres Communicating informed/reasoned responses to works	Using independent research to develop an informed understanding of art Exercising critical language
arts in context	Learning about art and artists in everyday life	Learning about the different kinds of artists and art forms within contemporary society	Learning to see particular art works and kinds of art within wider contexts	Understanding how exhibitions like <i>Collectanea</i> fit within an Australian (and global) contemporary context



curriculum connections **learning area** and year level-specific outcomes

Year Level suitability and focus:

SACE 1 & 2 Visual Art course work

The exhibition delivers a broad spectrum introduction to the diversity of contemporary art practice and to individual artists' styles of expression and methodologies.

SACE Visual Art Stage 1

- Practical Work - Ideas and models for creating works and expressing ideas
- Contemporary Practice - resourcing individual studies of aspects of contemporary practice/s
- Investigative Study - possible candidate for student's investigation of an artist

SACE Visual Art Stage 2

- Creating - offering models and options for inventive thought and action
- Perceiving - offering resourced engagement with original art works to support the development of skills in analysing and expressing opinions about art works, understanding art in a wider cultural context, writing about art works and researching using original art works

Middle Years arts learning: Years 6 – 10

Arts in Contexts - Outcome 4.5 (F Id T KC1) -

Recognises directions in contemporary arts practice and investigates and explains the needs, interests and capabilities required by artists to work in the arts industry by:

- Finding out about the role of an artist and the messages they can portray e.g. a ceramist/clay artist
- Looking at 3-D works that convey humour, e.g. ceramic forms in Collectanea exhibition, Gerry Wedd's ceramic forms and Aardman Productions; Wallace and Gromit series.

Arts Practice - Outcome 4.1 (Id T KC1 KC6) -

Explores arts practice and knowledge of style, form and genre, to create/re-create arts works within each arts form that presents imaginative solutions and responses to ideas and issues by:

- Identifying own or others collection/s and creating a 3-D artwork inspired by that collection and its reason for being
- Working in 3-D to create imaginative solutions to a design task that focuses on making a container that has whimsical and humorous qualities, e.g. animal, bird or fish teapots, re-creating a soft object into a hard form.

Arts Analysis and Response: Outcome 4.4

(T C KC2) - Describes the purpose of a diversity of performances and presentations recognises the values and beliefs embedded within each, and uses specialised arts terminology to communicate and explain personal preferences by:

- Accessing and viewing Collectanea exhibition and reflecting on what they liked/disliked and why
- Selecting examples of ceramics that have been produced at different times and in different cultures and comparing features, qualities and meaning.



curriculum connections **learning area** and year level-specific outcomes

Primary years arts learning (Years 3 - 5)

Outcome 2.6 (T C KC1) - Considers the different styles and forms of arts works from different cultural settings and identifies the purposes for which these arts works were made by:

- Exploring types of artworks, materials used and their purpose and replicates examples
- Exploring different styles and forms of artworks, e.g. visits a virtual gallery, an art gallery, art in public places.

Arts Practice - Outcome 2.2, (T C KC1 KC3) - demonstrates knowledge and skills specific to each arts form. Chooses appropriate techniques and technologies to complete work specific to one arts form or combination thereof by:

- Making and identifying craftworks, e.g. clay pots and small sculptures
- Manipulates and experiments with clay, clay-work tools, methods of drying and decorating.

Arts Analysis and Response - Outcome 2.4 (Id T C KC2) - demonstrates an understanding of the different messages and meanings communicated through performance/presentation across each arts form, and uses terminology to communicate interpretations of their own arts works and those of others by:

- Attempting to interpret the message/meaning of viewed artworks
- Viewing artworks from recent and other times and responding to particular elements e.g. composition, colour, technique, construction, style

General information

Collectanea offers students the opportunity to view an exhibition of ceramic artworks which are both hand-built and thrown forms, low-fire and high-fire techniques and functional and sculptural images. Other media has been used with clay wherever it is appropriate to the content of the work.

Collectanea emphasises the traditions of the craft of ceramics along with contemporary art issues and current themes.

Back in the classroom, develop a series of lessons which includes a balanced program in clay as an art medium focused on skillful manipulation of materials along with conceptual issues. Include basic methods of forming, decorating, glazing and firing pottery forms with emphasis on the use of the potter's wheel, as well as classes in the design and construction of hand-built ceramic forms.

Public workshops in ceramics, for all ages and conducted by members of the Clay Collective, will be run by Country Arts SA through the Learning Connections Program during 2007 and 2008. See page 11 (Access) for details. Teachers are encouraged to make arrangements for their students to participate in these workshops. These workshops will be conducted on weekends in most cases.

Collectanea could be used strategically by primary and middle years teachers to expand student's knowledge of art in contemporary society as well as opportunities as a springboard for art across the curriculum.

Links can be made to Studies of Society and the Environment, English, Science and Health.

The exhibition makes humorous and whimsical comment on human behaviour which students will readily respond to.



country arts SA exhibition program 2007 and 2008

The professional development and practical workshop programs for 2007 are currently being developed in conjunction with the galleries as listed below. Contact your local gallery or Country Arts SA arts officer in the first instance to express interest in participating.

BURNING ISSUES

Mount Gambier Riddoch Art Gallery May 5 – July 1
Ph: 8723 9566 pichlerlucia@riddochartgallery.org.au

Berri River Lands Gallery July 13 – Aug 24
Ph: 8582 2288 danyon.debuell@countryarts.org.au

Murray Bridge Regional Gallery Sept 1 – 30
Ph: 8531 2606 k.varga@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

Goolwa South Coast Regional Art Centre Nov 1-28
Ph: 8555 1500 leah.grace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

SNAPSHOT

Streaky Bay Supper Room Studio Apr 20 – May 27
Ph: 8626 1926 jayne.holland@countryarts.org.au

Kadina Ascot Theatre Gallery Jun 4 – 29
Ph: 8821 2404 binnawoil@dodo.com.au

Mt Gambier Riddoch Art Gallery Jul 7 – Aug 5
Ph: 8723 9566 pichlerlucia@riddochartgallery.org.au

Renmark Chaffey Theatre Gallery Aug 27 – Sept 28
Ph: 8582 2288 danyon.debuell@countryarts.org.au

Murray Bridge Regional Gallery Oct 7 – Nov 11
Ph: 8531 2606 k.varga@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

Millicent Art Gallery Nov 23 – Jan 2008
Ph: 8733 0903 janice.nitschke@wattlerange.sa.gov.au

COLLECTANEA

Berri River Lands Gallery May 1 – June 15
Ph: 8582 2288 danyon.debuell@countryarts.org.au

Waikerie Rain Moth Gallery July 1 – 29
Ph: 8582 2288 danyon.debuell@countryarts.org.au

Maitland Bob Landt's Corner Gallery Aug 3 – 24
Ph: 8832 2383 boblandts@internode.on.net

Mannum Arnold Gallery Aug 31 – Sept 23
Ph: 8569 2733 mannumdockmuseum@baonline.com.au

Mt Gambier Riddoch Art Gallery Sept 29 – Oct 28
Ph: 8723 9566 pichlerlucia@riddochartgallery.org.au

Roxby Downs Regional Gallery Nov 30 – Jan 2008
Ph: 8671 2001 rodney.mitchell@countryarts.org.au

Snapshot, Burning Issues and Collectanea all continue throughout 2008. Teachers are most welcome to attend professional development workshops in a nearby centre in preparation for 2008 if they wish.

Burning Issues in 2008: Streaky Bay, Millicent, Naracoorte, Pt Augusta, Kadina.

Snapshot in 2008: Pt Augusta, Pt Lincoln, Pt Pirie

Collectanea in 2008: Millicent, Murray Bridge, Goolwa, Naracoorte, Jamestown, Wudinna, Pt Lincoln, Streaky Bay, Whyalla (2009 - Pt Augusta and Kadina).

I the workshops

Learning Connections Teachers' Workshops

These workshops are designed to provide teachers across year levels and learning areas with an introduction to the exhibition content and themes and relevance as teaching/learning resources. **The workshops include:**

- Demonstrations on how to make effective use of the Education pack
- Interactive activities using problem-solving and art games components from the Education Pack
- Suggestions for creative and successful teaching strategies
- Behind the scenes insights into exhibition design
- Learning to 'unpack art' activities using selected works from the exhibition

- An overview of art-historical contexts related to the exhibition
- Information about forthcoming Country Arts SA / Learning Connections exhibitions throughout 2007 - 2008

cost: FREE

bookings: required (contact local arts person)

venue: These workshops are conducted in the exhibition.

duration: 90 minutes. The workshops are usually scheduled 4.30pm–6pm but are negotiable at each regional venue

participants receive: a copy of the Education Pack and a PD participation certificate



Learning Connections School Student Workshops

A number of school group workshops will be offered as part of the Learning Connections Teachers' Workshop package.

These sessions will be conducted by one of the Learning Connections team presenters, in the exhibition and scheduled during school hours.

Sessions are 60 minutes in length (45 minutes core activity with LC presenter plus debrief/close-out tasks).

Content and focus of each session is negotiable according to year level and learning area/key competency focus. Teachers making bookings are encouraged to check out the on-line Education Packs (for year level/learning area guidelines) and to specify areas of particular interest when making a booking request.

Where scheduling allows, teachers organising a group visit are encouraged to book in for a Learning Connections Teachers' Workshop.

These sessions are specialised teaching/learning experiences designed to engage student's curiosity and imagination and to support structured learning. They incorporate learning to learn strategies. Students will be introduced to a variety of methods that can be successfully used to engage with and derive meaning and relevance from art works. The value of this session is enhanced when it is incorporated within a school-based learning program which makes strategic use of pre and post-visit activities rather than sees an exhibition visit as a 'one-off' activity.

Art Connections Community Workshops

These workshops are designed to get members of the local community really connected with Country Arts SA touring exhibitions (and Learning Connections exhibitions in particular) and through this with the wider world of art. Gallery staff and volunteers are encouraged to participate. **These workshops (presented by one of the Learning Connections team) include:**

- A guided tour through the exhibition, exploring the underlying themes and ideas

- An in-depth look at selected works
- A demonstration of 'learning to look' techniques
- Informal discussion about ways of looking at modern art
- Some art-historical insights into ideas and styles relevant to the exhibition
- Art Games – for all ages

These Art Connections workshops are presented in the exhibition. Duration 90 minutes.

cost: FREE

bookings: required (contact the gallery or local Country Arts SA arts officer)

venue: in the exhibition

duration: 90 minutes. The workshops are usually scheduled 7.00pm – 8.30pm (negotiable per regional venue)

Workshop Presenters:

The Learning Connections team consists of John Neylon and Anne Keast.

These high-energy art educators are skilled in engaging children and young adults with art and in supporting teachers in the development and delivery of art-based learning programs.

Both have worked at various times as Education Officers at the Art Gallery of South Australia and are currently registered teachers.

In presenting these workshops Anne will be drawing on her extensive experience as a secondary visual arts educator and John as an arts educator, and prominent art critic and curator.

Art Connections Practical Workshops

Country Arts SA is hosting **public workshops** around the state to coincide with Collectanea and Snapshot. Artists who are represented in the exhibitions will provide practical workshops in a variety of media. Whilst these workshops are aimed at people of all ages and will be held on weekends, young people, particularly those who have been engaged with the exhibitions through their school work, will be encouraged to participate. Register your interest with the Country Arts SA arts officer or gallery staff in the first instance.

WHO TO CONTACT

General Information: contact Jo Pike, Senior Project Officer, Statewide Initiatives Unit 8444 0400 or learningconnections@countryarts.org.au

Workshop bookings and school visit bookings: contact your local gallery at the number listed on page 3, or your Country Arts SA arts officer

Country Arts SA 2 McLaren Parade, Port Adelaide 5015 **T** 8444 0400

E learningconnections@countryarts.org.au **www.countryarts.org.au**