



José Da Silva announced as curator of 2024 Adelaide Biennial

Adelaide, Australia: The Art Gallery of South Australia today announces José Da Silva as curator of the 2024 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art. Appointed following a national callout, Da Silva brings more than twenty years of curatorial experience in Australian art museums including his current role as Director of UNSW Galleries and former roles at the Australian Cinémathèque and Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art.

Art Gallery of South Australia Director Rhana Devenport ONZM says, 'As the country's longest standing survey of contemporary Australian art, the Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art has continually broadened audiences, gained national and international attention and provided a dynamic platform for artists during its 30-year history. We welcome José Da Silva to the role of curator of the 2024 Adelaide Biennial, whose wealth of experience and nuanced curatorial practice promises to deliver a captivating exhibition.'

José Da Silva commented, 'I'm thrilled for this opportunity to share my vision for the Adelaide Biennial and feel energised by all the possibilities ahead, especially the opportunity to learn from Elders, artists, thinkers, and community figures across Australia. Biennials are projects that allow us to create a meaningful interface for culture within a city. I'm eager to work with the AGSA team to develop something extraordinary for the people of South Australia and visitors looking for something that allows them to see culture and society differently.'

Da Silva's appointment comes following record-breaking on-site visitation at AGSA for the 2022 *Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: Free/State*, curated by Sebastian Goldspink. *Free/State* assembled twenty-five leading Australian artists with works that revealed alternative ways of viewing the world and explored the challenges of an era of global upheaval.

The Adelaide Biennial has historically been a vehicle through which AGSA grows its holdings of contemporary art and, to date, nine works of art from the 2022 Adelaide Biennial have been acquired for the AGSA collection.

AGSA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Since 1990, conceived as part of the Adelaide Festival, the Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art has created career-defining opportunities for close to 500 artists, and been experienced by more than 1.3 million visitors.

The 2024 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art will be presented from 1 March to 2 June 2024 as part of the 2024 Adelaide Festival.

ABOUT THE ADELAIDE BIENNIAL OF AUSTRALIAN ART

Known for its risk taking and expansive vision, the Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art has demonstrated a significant and sustained practice for more than three decades. Inaugurated in 1990, it is the country's longest running survey of contemporary Australian art and an important platform for Australian artists to realise new works and projects of a scale that require an institutional context for their conception and presentation. The Adelaide Biennial has had a lasting impact on Australian art, on the careers of artists, curators and arts professionals, and on the state of South Australia as a wellspring for contemporary art. The nationwide Biennial Ambassadors Program plays an essential role in supporting the Adelaide Biennial's artistic ambition and championing the practice of Australian artists.

ABOUT JOSÉ DA SILVA

José Da Silva has over twenty years of curatorial experience in Australian art museums. He is the Director of UNSW Galleries, where he has developed a dynamic program of contemporary Australian art and design since 2018. Previously he led the Australian Cinémathèque – an international market leader for the presentation of moving image and media art – and, between 2006 and 2018, contributed to an ambitious program of exhibitions, commissions, acquisitions and projects at the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, including a key role in the curatoriums for five editions of the *Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art*.

Selected curatorial projects include: *Gordon Hookey: A MURRIALITY* (2022-24, with Liz Nowell and touring nationally); *Zanny Begg: These Stories Will Be Different* (2022-24, touring nationally); *Izabela Pluta: Nihilartikel* (2022); *Jacobus Capone: Orisons* (2022); *Sam Smith: Capture* (2021); *The Colour Line: W. E. B Du Bois and Archie Moore* (2021); *Friendship as a Way of Life* (2020, with Kelly Doley); *Wansolwara: One Salt Water* (2020, with Mikala Tai), *Gemma Smith: Rhythm Sequence* (2019), *David Lynch: Between Two Worlds* (2015) and *Earth and Elsewhere* (2013). Alongside these exhibitions, he has developed artist-led projects with Liam Fleming (2022), Megan Cope (2021), Kirsten Coelho (2021) and Shivanjani Lal (2020) amongst others.

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IMAGES

https://files.artgallery.sa.gov.au/ftp/marketing/MEDIA/2022/2024_Adelaide_Biennial_curator_announcement_Image.zip

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Image caption: José Da Silva, photo: Jacque Manning.

2022 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art Partners

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