



victorian museums & galleries
forum

2019

welcome

Wominjeka – Welcome to the 2019 Victorian Museum and Galleries Forum. Our Forum is being held on the lands of the Wurundjeri Boon Wurrung people and we wish to pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and emerging.

Our theme of the ‘Healthy Museum’ is at the forefront of discourse within the sector. As the definition of the museum continues to be contested on an international stage we can’t help but question ‘What constitutes a healthy museum?’ Covering wellbeing, diversity, accessibility, engagement, and sustainability, we look forward to exploring how our sector can become healthier and happier.

Thank you to our sponsors and supporters, especially Deakin University for their generous support in facilitating this event. To our inspired speakers, some of whom have travelled overseas and interstate – thank you for sharing your time and expertise. A special thanks to the AMaGA Victoria team for their exceptional work and support in delivering another exciting event.

We hope you enjoy today’s program – here’s to a day of (healthy) discussion and debate.

Sarah Morris, Interim Executive Director, AMaGA Victoria.

sponsors & supporters



getting there

Deakin Downtown

The Forum will be held on Tuesday 15 October at Deakin Downtown, located on level 12, Tower 2 in Collins Square at 727 Collins Street, Melbourne. For detailed way-finding download [Deakin Downtown's location PDF](#).

Public transport

Southern Cross Station is 350 metres from Collins Square, and Collins Square is directly opposite tram stop D15-Batmans Hill Drive / Collins Street offering tram accessibility for 10 different routes. Bus stops are located at the Cnr Collins and Spencer Street and outside The Age building.

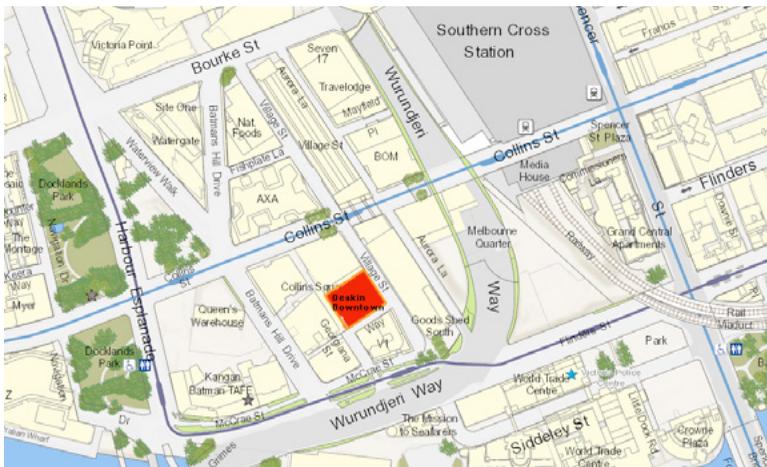
Car parking

Paid car parking is available at 664, 700 and 750 Collins Street. Check online for rates and opening hours.

Once you arrive at Collins Square

AMaGA Victoria friends will be on hand to guide you. Late arrivals can proceed as follows:

Enter Collins Square via the Collins Street entrance underneath the yellow geometric sculpture. Make your way across the lobby floor towards the escalators on the right-hand side and ascend the escalators and turn left, following signage to the elevators. Select level 12 on the touch screen and wait to be allocated an elevator letter and then make your way to the corresponding elevator door. On arrival to level 12, turn right and proceed through the glass sliding doors to the reception desk.



general information

Wi-Fi Access

Delegates can connect to Deakin Downtown's guest Wi-Fi following these instructions:

1. Open Wi-Fi settings on your device and click 'Guest WiFi Deakin.'
2. Open your web browser using this link: www.deakin.edu.au
3. When you are redirected to the login page, click 'Create account.'
3. Enter your first name, last name and email address. Click 'Submit.' Some devices may experience a delay when entering the first character in each field. The 'Company' and 'Phone Number' fields are optional.
4. Your generated credentials will be displayed, with the option to log in. Click 'Log In.'
5. You will be prompted with the 'Acceptable Use Policy.' Check the checkbox, then click 'Accept' to accept the terms and conditions.

Disclaimer

AMaGA Victoria reserves the right to amend any aspect of the Forum program and will not accept liability for damages or losses sustained by participants as a result of the Forum or related events.

Twitter

Follow the conversation: [#AMaGAVic2019](https://twitter.com/AMaGAVic2019) [#HealthyMuseum](https://twitter.com/HealthyMuseum)
AMaGA handle: [AMaGA_Victoria](https://twitter.com/AMaGA_Victoria)

Lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea

Lunch, morning and afternoon tea are catered and will be held on the same level as the Forum (level 12) in an assigned area. Please bring your Keep Cup and water bottle if you have one.

Networking

Forum delegates are invited to a networking meet-up in the lunch area at 1.45pm. Follow the colour codings on name tags to find colleagues in similar fields or free-range and learn about other areas of museum practice.

Lunchtime talk

Visit the Deakin Downtown Gallery (level 12) at 1.45pm and hear a Curator's Talk by James Lynch. The current exhibition presents the work of three Victorian artists, *Paul Laspagis, Kathryn Ryan and Stephen Wickham* whose practices depict the changing landscapes surrounding Deakin.

Drinks

Join us afterwards for drinks at Bar Nacional, 727 Collins St, Docklands – a short walk across the plaza from the ground floor of Tower 2. Scroll down for a map.

morning program

9.30-10am	REGISTRATION (tea and coffee available)
10-10.15am	WELCOME TO COUNTRY & INTRODUCTION
	Welcome: Boon Wurrung Foundation Introduction: Sarah Morris, AMaGA Victoria and Steve Cooke, Deakin University
10.15am-11.10am	KEYNOTE
	Tony Butler , Executive Director, Derby Museums, UK <i>The Happy Museum Project</i>
11.10 -11.40am	MORNING TEA
11.40am-12.10pm	SESSION 2
	Tracy Margieson , Project Manager Arts Welbeing Collective, Arts Centre Melbourne <i>Arts Centre Wellbeing Collective</i>
12.10pm-12.40pm	SESSION 3
	Dr Caroline Butler-Bowdon , Executive Director Place, Design and Public Spaces, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, NSW <i>New global models of visitor accessibility and experience at heritage sites and museums</i>
12.40pm-1.20pm	KEYNOTE
	Elizabeth Cotton , Head of Human History, Auckland War Memorial Museum, NZ <i>One Name at a Time: Indigenising Tāmaki Paenga Hira</i>
1.20PM -2.15PM	LUNCH
1.45pm	Networking, optional Curator's Talk

afternoon program

2.15PM -3.10 PM	ROADMAP SESSION
	Marcus Hughes , Head of Indigenous Engagement and Strategy, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences. Co-chair of Indigenous Roadmap Implementation Working Group
3.10-3.35 PM	AFTERNOON TEA
3.35pm - 4.50pm	LIGHTNING TALKS
	<p>Remedies for a healthy museum. How can our sector champion wellbeing and sustainability?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Veronica Pardo, CEO of Multicultural Arts Victoria2. Rose Hiscock, Director of Museums and Collections, University of Melbourne3. JD Mittman, Curator & Manager of Collections at Burrinja, Dandenong Ranges Cultural Centre4. Jessica Moody, Arts Access/Inclusion Officer, Bunjil Place5. Kimberley Moulton, Senior Curator South Eastern Aboriginal Collections, Museums Victoria
4.50pm-5pm	WRAP-UP
	Sarah Morris, Interim Executive Director and Lauren Ellis, President, AMaGA Victoria
5pm	EVENT CLOSE
5-6PM	Debrief, Drinks and Networking, Bar Nacional, Docklands
	Bar Nacional, 727 Collins St , Docklands – a short walk across the plaza from the ground floor of Tower 2. Scroll down for a map.

morning speakers



Tony Butler
DERBY MUSEUMS
The Happy Museum

Tony Butler has been working in museums for over 20 years and is Executive Director of Derby Museums and the founder of the Happy Museum Project. The Happy Museum Project has the ethos of 'Our own happiness is short-lived if we achieve wellbeing for our generation at the environmental expense of future generations.'

Abstract: Political polarisation, environmental emergency and growing inequality – humanity is facing a barrage of tribulations. By building on our unique qualities as open civic spaces and trusted organisations, museums can address these global challenges. I'll chart my experiences of working and shaping museums which place social capital and environmental concerns as their central values. I hope to show that initiatives from small interventions to wholesale cultural change can have meaningful impacts for our communities.



Dr Caroline Butler-Bowdon
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING NSW

New global models of visitor accessibility and experience at heritage sites and museums

Dr Caroline Butler-Bowdon is the Executive Director Place, Design and Public Spaces, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment NSW. In 2017 she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship. Her travels and study were focused on an investigation of the best new global models of visitor accessibility and experience at heritage sites and museums.

Abstract: Healthy museums are not islands, disconnected from place and communities, but are fundamental to the meaning, significance and activity of public life. They are places for people and relationships between past, present and future, rooted in place and neighbourhoods that are welcoming to all, and not a chosen few. They are places that focus our sense of identity, belonging and connection by being social places, trustworthy places, special places. Caroline will draw on the matrix of success factors she developed as a result of her recent Churchill Fellowship study tour and findings in 2018. She will use a sample of the models, programs and case studies that contributed to her understanding of what it takes to be a healthy museum now and into the future.



Tracy Margieson
ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE

Arts Centre Wellbeing Collective

Tracy manages the Arts Wellbeing Collective at Arts Centre Melbourne. Since the Pilot Program in 2017, the Arts Wellbeing

Collective has grown rapidly to be an innovative industry-wide program—the only of its kind worldwide.

Abstract: In 2016, research highlighted startling statistics regarding the mental health and wellbeing of performing arts workers. In response, Arts Centre Melbourne launched the Arts Wellbeing Collective, a consortium of arts and cultural organisations who work together to promote positive mental health and wellbeing in the performing arts.

Since the Pilot Program in 2017, the Arts Wellbeing Collective has grown rapidly to be a comprehensive, sector-wide initiative – the only one of its kind anywhere in the world. This presentation explores the evolution of the Arts Wellbeing Collective, critical success factors to be considered when establishing and embedding mental health and wellbeing initiatives, and what can be learnt – and potentially transferred to the museums and galleries sector.



Elizabeth Cotton
TĀMAKI PAENGA HIRA AUCKLAND WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM

One Name at a Time: Indigenising Tāmaki Paenga Hira

Elizabeth Cotton is Head of Human History at Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum. Her research interests are in the future of curatorial practice and indigenising museum practice.

Abstract: Most museums are inherently colonial institutions, perpetuated through their look, feel, voice, and strategic direction. Social media platforms are awash with museums and their staff saying that they are “decolonising the museum,” but what does this actually mean and what difference does it make? For many of us acknowledging our colonial legacy, there has been a surge in new ways of working and engaging with indigenous communities. Is it better to view these developments as indigenisation rather than decolonisation, with the former a more authentic way to put the power back in the hands of source communities rather than through a process still determined by and centered on the institution? Through key initiatives and projects, intersectional governance and moves toward true partnership with Māori as envisaged by the Treaty of Waitangi, the journey toward indigenising Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland Museum is underway. But what are the next steps and is it a journey without end? Are we healthy yet?

afternoon speakers



Marcus Hughes

MUSEUM OF APPLIED ARTS & SCIENCES

The Indigenous Roadmap

Marcus Hughes is Head of Indigenous Engagement and Strategy at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS).

He is a current Adjunct Associate Professor at the Western Sydney University's School of Humanities and Communication Arts and sits on the National Council of the Australian Museums and Galleries Association. Marcus is a descendant of the Mununjali peoples of the Yugambah nation. In 2014 he addressed the 6th World Summit on Arts and Culture and was Adjunct Associate Professor at Victoria University's Moondani Balluk Indigenous Academic Unit.

Abstract: Promising to be less of a lecture and more of a yarn, Marcus Hughes will be introducing AMaGA's recently published guide, *First People's: A Roadmap for Enhancing Indigenous Engagement in Museums and Galleries*. The Indigenous Roadmap sets out a ten year journey towards enhanced Indigenous engagement – this session will help us begin. Marcus will share insight and resources to assist with first steps, including improving cultural awareness, creating welcoming spaces, and initiating connections with local indigenous communities. He'll draw on his experiences as Head of Indigenous Engagement and Strategy at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, to explore the building blocks required to achieve long term goals, such as increased indigenous employment, creating Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPs), and working with Indigenous communities to care for their collections. While acknowledging that change needs to be institutional, Marcus helps bring it back to the individual – recognising that everyone and every organisation are at different stages of their development.

Find out more about the Indigenous Roadmap and download a copy [here](#).

lightning talks



Veronica Pardo

MULTICULTURAL ARTS VICTORIA

Veronica Pardo is the CEO of Multicultural Arts Victoria, the state's leading organisation on diversity in the arts. She comes to the role after 10 years of leading Arts Access Victoria, with a focus on cultural participation by people with disability and those experiencing mental health issues. Veronica has led an ambitious agenda of social and artistic transformation in the creative industries, working alongside people who have been marginalised through their identity as the 'other.'

Abstract: This presentation will consider what organisations within the creative industries might do to build greater engagement with diversity across all areas of operations. The focus will be on shifting from values-based rhetoric, to the actions of allies and accomplices in a journey towards cultural equity. Beginning with shifting the dial on who benefits from diversity initiatives, the presentation will demonstrate how a diverse and inclusive sector that truly represents our community derives benefits that flow to all of society through measures of cultural innovation, engagement, sustainability, and social cohesion.
[#DiversifyYourArts](#)



Rose Hiscock

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Rose Hiscock is the newly appointed Director of Museums and Collections, University of Melbourne, Director of Science Gallery Melbourne. She has held significant leadership roles including CEO Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences and Executive Director Arts Development Australia Council for the Arts. Rose is committed to building a vibrant, balanced and accessible arts sector. She is a Board member of Back to Back Theatre, Australia's highly successful company with a full-time ensemble of actors considered to have an intellectual disability, and Chunky Move, one of Australia's premier dance companies.

Abstract: Science Gallery Melbourne is part of a global network of galleries, dedicated to building the next generation of creative problem solvers. In 2020 the gallery will open in its permanent home within Melbourne Connect, a new global innovation precinct that connects people, disciplines, research and industry. MENTAL has been selected as the theme for the gallery's first exhibition in its new home. Asking more questions than answers, this presentation will discuss how to tackle the topic of mental health and wellbeing.



JD Mittman

BURRINJA CULTURAL CENTRE

JD Mittman has 15 years experience in curatorial, administrative and managerial roles within the sectors of community and commercial art. He is Curator & Manager of Collections at

Burrinja, Dandenong Ranges Cultural Centre. He has produced the award-winning national touring exhibition *Black Mist Burnt Country* (2016-19). JD has a Master of Arts (Technical University Berlin) and is a VCA alumni (School of Film & TV; Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development). He serves as chair of the Board of Management at Bundoora Homestead Arts Centre and since 2018 on the Board of the Public Galleries Association Victoria (PGAV).

Abstract: This presentation 'Green Burrinja' is about what a small arts organisation does for staff, volunteers, community and the environment.



Jessica Moody

BUNJIL PLACE

Jessica Moody is the Arts Access/Inclusion Officer at Bunjil Place where she collaborates with the programming and curatorial staff to deliver a high quality and dynamic arts program.

Jessica's role is to ensure the ongoing development and prioritisation of accessible and inclusive people, spaces, and programs at Bunjil Place. Jessica is also a theatre director, creative producer, and co-founder of Deafferent Theatre. She has worked with organisations including University of Melbourne, St. Martins Youth Theatre, Arts Access Victoria, Accessible Arts NSW, and Opera Australia. Jessica has presented at Midsumma Festival, Arts Centre Melbourne, Melbourne Fringe, and Director's Lab: Melbourne.

Abstract: *Healthy Heart, Healthy Art*, how can cultural and arts precincts gain a healthier attitude towards the buzz of diversity and inclusion? Spoiler alert – the title says it all. Jessica will share the processes and outcomes as the inaugural Arts Access/Inclusion Officer at City of Casey's new cultural and arts precinct, Bunjil Place, and its growing community.



Kimberley Moulton

MUSEUM VICTORIA

Yorta Yorta woman Kimberley Moulton is Senior Curator South Eastern Aboriginal Collections, Museums Victoria. 2009-2015 she was Curator and Project Officer of Bunjilaka Aboriginal

Cultural Centre Melbourne Museum developing over 16 exhibitions with Victorian Aboriginal community and was an Assistant Curator for the First Peoples Gallery at Melbourne Museum. In 2018 Kimberley was Museums Victoria Lead Curator for the world touring exhibition *Nelson Mandela: My Life*. Kimberley's curatorial practice works in First Peoples de-colonial methodology, collaboration and the intersection of historical material, histories and contemporary creative and cultural practices. Kimberley has written extensively on First Peoples cultures and art in publications nationally and internationally and alongside her museum practice has independently curated shows in various museums and galleries across Australia and the USA.

Abstract: Time for a collections health check – have you taken the decolonisation pill? What is the importance of First Peoples led community access and connections to the Ancestral and cultural belongings that are in the custodianship of Museums and Galleries? Using the recent Indigenous Roadmap as a springboard for discussion, this presentation will look at the role of 'collections' in museums to the health and cultural strengthening of community and will look at what 'indigenisation' or 'decolonisation' looks like from within.

tell us what you think & win

Fill out our short online survey about the Forum at
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/amagaforum2019>

Every completed survey will enter a draw to win a free pass to one of our 2020 events.

visit us at amagavic.org.au

and on social media



post forum drinks

Post Forum drinks will be at the Bar Nacional, 727 Collins St, Docklands – a short walk across the plaza from the ground floor of Tower 2. Join us from 5pm.

