

Creative Clunes Inc.

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2017-10-02 Clunes Ceramic award winners press release

The 2017 winner of the prestigious Clunes Ceramic Award is Vanessa Lucas with her work "Pearl Jugs". Vanessa will receive prize money of \$10,000 and her work will be acquired by the Art Gallery Ballarat for their permanent collection.

Award judge Amanda Dunsmore, (NGV curator), in referring to the winning piece said, *"For me this work has enormous integrity. It exhibits a quiet poise and sophistication. The works are beautifully executed in slip-cast porcelain, the walls of the jugs remain fine from the top to the bottom and when viewed in the sunlight have a soft translucency. The handles are the right size and thickness for each different sized jug and, importantly each jug pours well. The glaze on the jugs has a soft, subtleness to it, which, for me, marries beautifully with the rounded slightly anthropomorphic forms. The forms have humanity about them – you can tell that they are handmade. There's subtleness to their forms, warmth and an endearing character, the way they cluster around each other, like a gaggle of geese having a mother's meeting.*

It's the combination of their fine crafting, the choice of surface treatment by the artist. The attention to detail and their sophisticated melding of sculptural and functional forms which all ultimately contribute to a highly resolved concept and a work that exhibits a great deal of integrity."

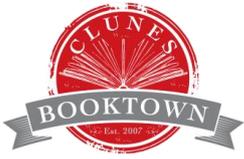
A new award \$2000 for a highly commended work was awarded to Cathy Franzi (ACT) for her work "Volcanic Plains, Flax Lily with Orchid".

The Artist recognition awards went to...

- Mollie Bosworth (Queensland) – "Fragmentation"
- Diana Williams (Somerville) – "The Bearer"
- Philippa A Taylor (Seaford) – "Weave Bowl"

Photos and greater detail are available on www.clunesceramicaward.com.au

Amanda Dunsmore in speaking about the finalists said, "The finalists for this year's Clunes Ceramic Award have all submitted outstanding works. There are exceptional



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vessels and sculptural works that are unique and masterful examples of particular ceramic processes and the range of techniques, styles and expressions made the judging a very difficult task.”

The finalists for the 2017 Clunes Ceramic Award are to be seen at an exhibition every Thursday through until Sunday, from Thursday 5th October until Sunday 15th October at the Union Bank Artscentre, Fraser Street, Clunes from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm.

“This year the exhibition has an interesting variety of work and of very high standard.” said Graeme Johnstone chair of the Clunes Ceramic Award. “Visitors to the exhibition will be excited by the outstanding work.”

A fringe exhibition in 10 local venues of excellent and varied regional ceramic work is also being exhibited.

While visiting the unique village of Clunes for the exhibitions, visitors can enjoy some of the friendly hospitality by relaxing with a lunch or coffee.

Sponsorship reflects the interest shown, with major sponsors being Hugh Williamson Foundation, Union Bank Artscentre Clunes, Terry Cocks O.A.M. and family. Cybercom, Hepburn Shire Council, Creswick & Community Bendigo Bank, Pack & Send, WordsWorth communicating, Clunes Tourist & Development Association, Walker Ceramics and Parallel Publishing.

The Clunes Ceramic Award is in partnership with the Art Gallery of Ballarat and the Castlemaine Art Gallery and Historical Museum.

More information is available on the website www.clunesceramicaward.com.au or contact info@clunesceramicaward.com.au for detail on the exhibition.

Clunes Ceramic Award is another event in Clunes which has wider interest across the whole of Australia and creates an awareness of the quality and interest Clunes has in the arts. It is auspiced by Creative Clunes Inc.

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Available for interview

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