

Sculpture Walk



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The Sculpture Walk introduces 21 exceptional works of art on ACU's Melbourne campus, in Fitzroy. Created by established and early career artists, the sculptures provide a visual focus and a sense of place and engagement, and reflect the university's cultural spirit.

The sculptures are part of the ACU Art Collection, which numbers some 1200 important and diverse works of art by principally Australian artists. The works range across mediums, disciplines and subjects, and many are on display at ACU's seven Australian campuses and its Rome campus. Sculpture is an important component of the collection.

The recent growth of the Melbourne campus has resulted in some innovative new buildings that have benefited from curatorial input and allowed for sculptural interventions. We have helped shape internal and external spaces by commissioning and acquiring contemporary sculptures of both grand and more intimate scale. Many can be seen on the Sculpture Walk.

Commissioned works by significant emerging artists, including Anne-Marie May, Caleb Shea, Brigit Heller and Sean Meilak, complement landmark works by established Australian sculptors Akio Makigawa, Geoffrey Bartlett, Augustine Dall'Ava, Guykuda Mununggurr and Louis Laumen among others. Collectively, their striking works define a path across contemporary Australian sculpture. They also enhance the spirit and aesthetics of the campus environment in which they are placed.

The works have been installed to be visible from many viewpoints; to be in conversation with their sometimes-open, sometimes-enclosed settings; and to pique the interest and curiosity of passers-by. They can be found in spacious interiors, verdant gardens, quiet cul-de-sacs and on soaring balconies. With the exhibition space defined by sky, land and constructed areas, changing light and weather make no two visits the same.

The sculptures form a cultural interface between the public and the university and have generated great interest for their diverse viewers. The university embraces making works by celebrated Australian artists accessible to the community, and so too its role in the ever-evolving cultural landscape of Australia.

We hope you enjoy the Sculpture Walk. The works can be viewed by taking a route of your own making. The letters are there for you to identify the sculptures as you view them.

Caroline Field
Curator, ACU Art Collection



2-Inch Plate 1975

Geoffrey Bartlett
Born 1952, Australia

steel and Oregon wood
H 280 x W 340 x D 90 cm
Donated through the
Australian Government's
Cultural Gifts Program by
the artist, 2023
In memory of Richard
and Joan Crebbin

This monumental construction, created from industrial steel and Oregon timber, exemplifies the artist's early forays into abstract expressionism. It masterfully explores formal elements that reference mechanical processes, while showcasing Geoffrey Bartlett's distinctive artistic language, dynamic movement and deft technical skill.

A **Location:** 403,
Daniel Mannix
Building, ground foyer

Man with Small Ears 1999

Dean Bowen
Born 1957, Australia

bronze, edn 2/9
H 67 x W 91 x D 10 cm
Donated through the Australian
Government's Cultural Gifts Program
by the artist, 2023

Bringing humour and playfulness to the Arts Precinct, Dean Bowen's *Man with Small Ears* makes an unexpected and striking appearance. This bronze sculpture seamlessly blends technical artistry with charming simplicity and directness. Its whimsical nature highlights the vital role of play in education.

B Location: Arts Precinct garden



Mother Teresa 2022

Maudie Brady
Born 1974, Australia

bronze
H 125 x W 46 x D 67 cm
Commissioned 2021

This larger-than-life-sized bust of Mother Teresa (1910–1997) draws the viewer's focus to the kindness, humility and compassion etched into her facial expression. Her direct gaze, extended arm and welcoming presence exude warmth and generosity. The sculpture is a powerful reminder of Saint Teresa's respect for the individual in a life devoted to benevolence and to the Catholic faith.

D Location: 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, ground foyer



The Deposition 1987

Guy Boyd
1923–1988, Australia

resin with bronze painted finish
H 320 x W 270 x D 82 cm
Donated by the artist's wife, Phyllis
Boyd, in 2000

Guy Boyd's grand sculpture of Christ depicts a figure bereft of dignity tenderly lifted from an imagined cross by two angelic figures. Boyd's deep and strong linework captures the raw agony of crucifixion, yet he imbues the work with a profound sense of hope despite the suffering and despair.

C Location: 404, Christ and Mercy Lecture Theatres, foyer



Black Arc 2003–04

Augustine Dall'Ava
Born 1950, France; arr. Australia 1955

black granite, bluestone, stainless steel
H 184.5 x W 53 x D 53 cm
Acquired 2022

An astute amalgam of materials and forms, Augustine Dall'Ava's *Black Arc* embodies a dynamic interplay of shapes, surfaces and textures. This striking sculpture brings a focused energy to its terrace-garden environment, with its well-balanced geometry reflected in the glass-curtain wall against which it is set.

E Location: 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, Level 6, west terrace



Radius 2022

Brigit Heller
Born 1964, Switzerland;
arr. Australia 1998

steel
H 250 x W 200 x D 200 cm
Commissioned 2021

Brigit Heller views her artworks as living entities that embrace the vagaries of time. Their crafted details undergo cycles of fading and resurfacing, ageing revealing exquisite patinas. There is a sensual charm to Heller's works, which take their cue from the organic forms of nature. This metal sculpture is a blend of structural welding with woven steel, and its seedlike form is a metaphor for the knowledge that comes with education.

G **Location:** 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, Level 6, south terrace



Verses 2022

steel
H 250 x W 90 x D 90 cm
Commissioned 2021

Lighthouse 2022

woven steel
H 250 x W 150 x D 150 cm
Commissioned 2021

Drawing on ancient cultures and non-Western influences, Heller puts her materials to work in unexpected ways. Left of the entrance to the Saint Teresea of Kolkata Building, *Verses* draws the viewer's gaze upwards, its three intricately perforated steel discs suggestive of the night sky and the milky way. Right of the entrance, *Lighthouse* transforms its rigid metal material into a woven organic form, the basket embodying notions of suppleness and fragility.

F **Location:** 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, Victoria Parade entrance



Confused Cross 2005

Les Kossatz
1943–2011, Australia

cast aluminium
H 38.5 x W 22 x D 21 cm
Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Yuri and Matt Kossatz, 2024

With its distorted perspective and off-kilter form, this maquette by the late Les Kossatz is a dramatic depiction of Christ on a twisted cross. Its deliberately anomalous proportion and precarious balance evoke a sense of improbability and, combined with the work's title, prompt more questions than answers about religion, devotion and belief.

H **Location:** 403, Daniel Mannix Building, Level 1



Supper on Uneasy Ground 2005

cast aluminium, stainless steel, marble
H 36 x W 45 x D 9 cm
Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Yuri and Matt Kossatz, 2024

Taking the form of a cross, Les Kossatz's sculpture references Leonardo da Vinci's *Last Supper*. Card-like elements bear the truncated names of the 12 apostles, arranged at the table in a manner similar to the 15th-century masterpiece, flanking the central 'figure' of Christ. *Supper on Uneasy Ground* conveys a sense of questioning the dominance a single religion when we live in a multi-faith world. The seriousness of the work is simultaneously leavened by a playfulness, the abstracted apostles appearing to totter on the 'uneasy ground'.

I **Location:** 403, Daniel Mannix Building, Level 1



St Mary MacKillop 2013

Louis Laumen
Born 1958, Netherlands;
arr. Australia 1960

bronze
H 185 x W 190 x D 100 cm
Commissioned 2011

This bronze figurative sculpture of Australia's first saint captures her serene confidence as she embarks on her spiritual journey. Mary MacKillop's contemplative gaze and the accompanying dove of peace welcome reflection and aspiration. Book in hand, she invites viewers to connect with the university's mission and vision.

J **Location:** St Mary of the Cross Square, Brunswick Street entrance



Polyphony 2022

Anne-Marie May
Born 1965, Australia

cast aluminium
H 230 x W 360 x D 150 cm
Commissioned 2021

Composed of four interconnected cast-aluminium panels, Anne-Marie May's sculpture draws inspiration from musical polyphony. It combines vibrant colours with textures to create a dynamic, layered work that harmonises with its urban setting and invites viewing from multiple viewpoints. The folds in the sculpture symbolise the connection between interior and exterior spaces, echoing the university's themes of intellectual curiosity and aspiration.

K **Location:** 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, Victoria Parade entrance



Under the Obelisk

1989

Akio Makigawa
1948–1999, Japan;
arr. Australia 1976

bluestone and marble
H 430 x W 597 x
D 432 cm (overall)

Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Runjiang Investment Group Pty Ltd, 2024

L **Location:** ACU Campus Park

This tripartite work by the late Akio Makigawa, one of Australia's foremost modern sculptors, has recently come into the ACU Art Collection after being sited on St Kilda Road for 30 years. A work of historical significance, the refined yet majestic *Under the Obelisk* embodies a Zen-like simplicity and gestures to a meeting of the natural and spiritual worlds. Its three carved-marble forms sit atop tapering bluestone towers, signalling a point of stillness in the centre of the bustling city campus.

Corolla Component 2012

John Meade
Born 1956, Australia

polyester resin composite, aluminium,
automotive paint
H 155 x W 95 x D 40 cm
Acquired 2017

A gravity-defying petal of immense proportion hovers between buildings in the space above a quiet laneway. Through the improvised and playful manipulation of a resin composite material, sculptor John Meade has created a seductive sculptural shape that melds an intriguing combination of rigorous geometry and soft organic form.

M Location: Laneway between buildings 412 and 413



Yolngu Angel 2015

Guykuda Mununggurr
Born 1966, Garrthalala, NT
Djapu language group

natural ochre on wood with string
H 152 x W 43 x D 45 cm
Acquired 2016

Carved by Guykuda Mununggurr, this arresting naturalistic sculpture depicts a winged Yolngu angel. The artist creates figures from bush timber sourced near his remote homeland in north-eastern Arnhem Land, completing his wood carvings with other natural materials.

O Location: 420, Mary Glowrey Building, Raheen library entrance



Pastel Pools 2022

Sean Meilak
Born 1975, Australia

stainless steel, glass, silicone,
automotive paint
H 187 x W 84 x D 30 cm
Commissioned 2021

Inspired by the iconic rose windows found in the architecture of Gothic cathedrals, Sean Meilak's delicate glass roundels similarly evoke a sense of reverence. In its open aerie, high above the urban landscape, the work also channels a certain lightness of spirit in its ascending form and multi-coloured translucence.

N Location: 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, Level 6, north terrace



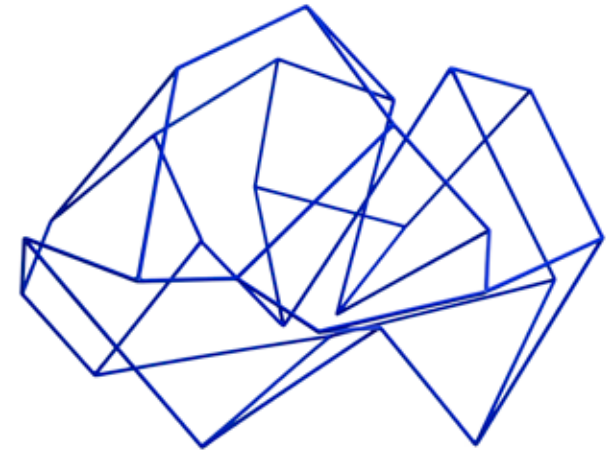
Model for Silence #5 2019

Robert Owen
Born 1937, Australia

painted steel, edn 1/3
H 69 x W 69 x D 64 cm
Acquired 2020

The elegant, entangled arrangement of angled rods in Robert Owen's *Model for Silence* resembles a spare and well-considered constellation. The sculpture expresses ideas not only of astronomy, but also of music, architecture and experimental design. Its conceptual approach and abstracted form engage with notions of infinity, light, form and the fragmentation of space.

P Location: 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, Level 5, conservatory



M-thirtynine 2017

James Parrett
Born 1976, Australia

stainless steel
H 145 x W 146 x D 76 cm
Acquired 2023

Art's transformative power is showcased in this dynamic work by James Parrett, which seamlessly blends tradition with modernity. Strategically positioned at the junction of Napier Street and lively Victoria Parade, the work's bold gestures in polished stainless steel invite viewers to consider the fluidity of ideas and the continuous motion of innovation.

C **Location:** 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, ground floor, Napier Street



Untitled (Single Line Gradient) 2019

Caleb Shea
Born 1977, Australia

aluminium, automotive paint
H 138 x W 55 x D 52 cm
Acquired 2022

The considered geometry, asymmetry and vibrant lime-yellow of Caleb Shea's sculpture brings playfulness to its dynamic form. His neo-formalist exploration emphasises linework, form and phenomenology, combining elegant simplicity with an industrial edge.

S **Location:** 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, Level 4, balcony



Madonna and Child 2002

Peter Schipperheyn
Born 1955, Australia

white Carrara marble
H 83.5 x W 66 x D 32 cm
Commissioned 2000

Skilled craftsmanship and sensitive portrayal define this exquisite fine Carrara marble bust of the Madonna and Child. The artist's attention to detail and delicate working of the marble's natural luminosity capture the serene, intimate bond between mother and child, creating a timeless symbol of maternal devotion and love.

R **Location:** 403, Daniel Mannix Building, Level 4



Yukuwa Larrakitj 2017

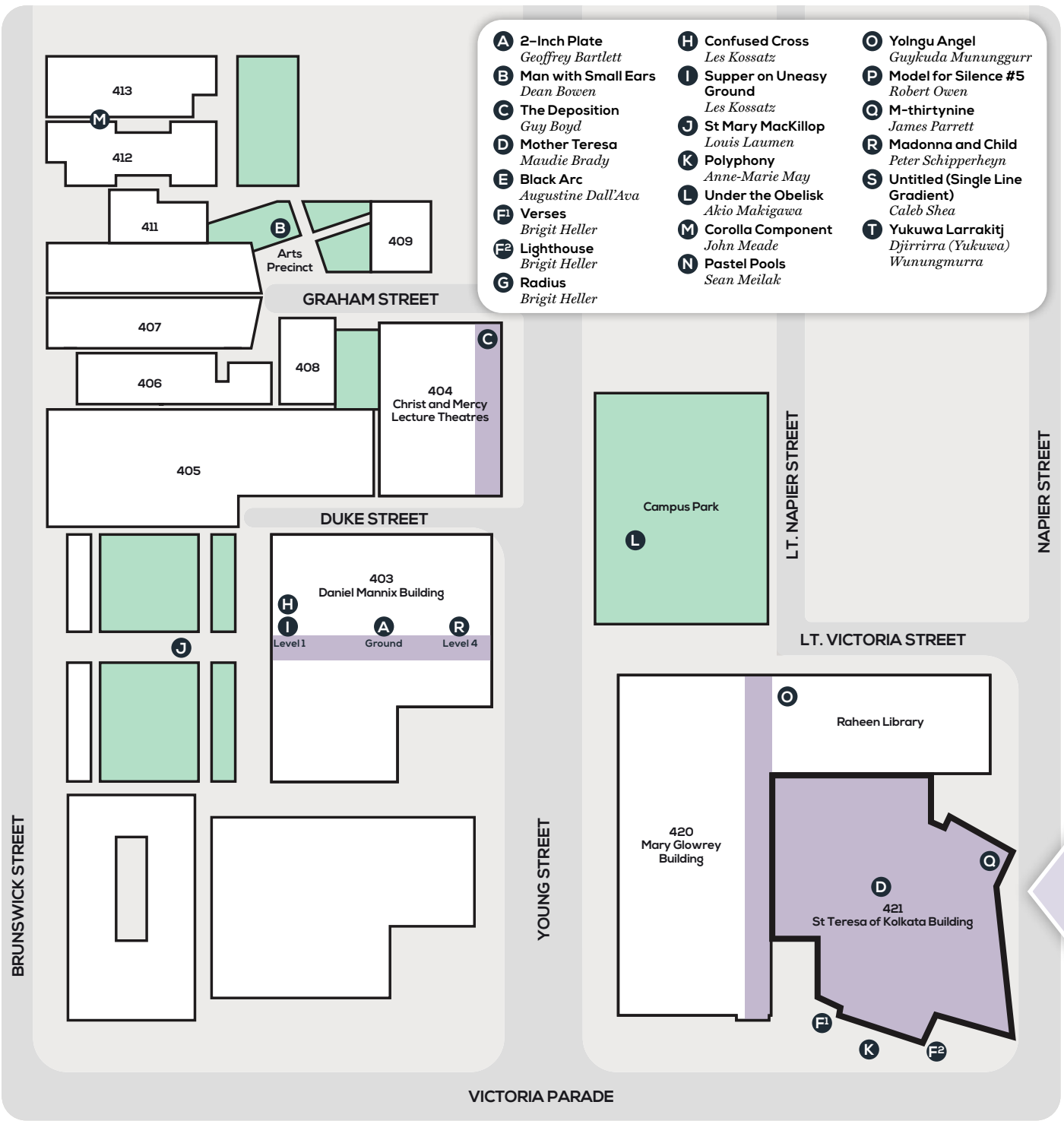
Djirrirra (Yukuwa) Wunungmurra
Born 1968, Gurrumurru, nr Yirrkala, NT
Dhalwangu language group

earth pigment on hollow logs
H 263 x W 20 cm
H 219 x W 16 cm
Acquired 2020

Hollow-log mortuary poles, adorned with intricate abstractions of delicate flowers, seedpods and trifoliolate leaves, evoke a sense of reverence. The entwining starlike leaf patterns, rendered in the artist's signature restrained monochromatic palette, envelop the towering poles and pay homage to the Dhalwangu estate of Balambala, where the Yirritja clans honour funeral traditions with solemn dignity.

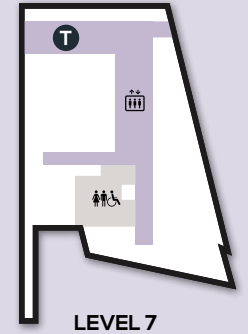
T **Location:** 421, Saint Teresa of Kolkata Building, Level 7, Greg Craven Centre entrance



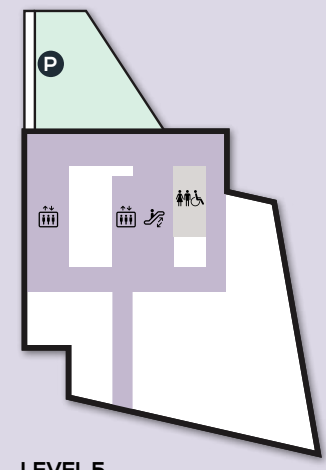


- A** 2-Inch Plate
Geoffrey Bartlett
- B** Man with Small Ears
Dean Bowen
- C** The Deposition
Guy Boyd
- D** Mother Teresa
Maudie Brady
- E** Black Arc
Augustine Dall'Ava
- F1** Verses
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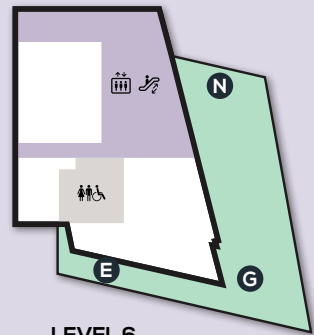
421 St Teresa of Kolkata Building



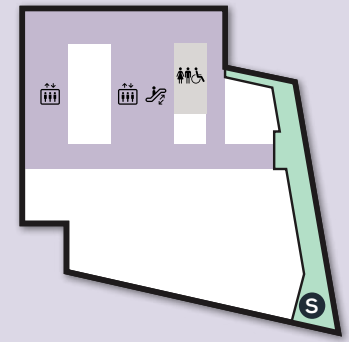
LEVEL 7



LEVEL 5



LEVEL 6



LEVEL 4



For further information on the ACU Art Collection, visit: artsandculture.acu.edu.au.