



## MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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### Troy-Anthony Baylis announced as the inaugural recipient of the Guildhouse Fellowship

**Adelaide, Australia:** Guildhouse, the Art Gallery of South Australia and the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation are delighted to announce that Troy-Anthony Baylis is the inaugural recipient of the Guildhouse Fellowship, aimed at elevating mid-career artists to explore, research and create and extend their practice.

Generously supported by the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation, the new Fellowship offers a transformative opportunity for one mid-career South Australian visual artist, craftsperson or designer each year, valued at over \$50,000, to support research, international travel and the creation of new work. Delivered in partnership with the Art Gallery of South Australia, the opportunity will include a presentation outcome at the Gallery.

Troy-Anthony has developed a manifold practice encompassing making, curating, lecturing and research in the visual arts, as well as ongoing work exploring reconciliation. A descendant of the Jawoyn people from the Northern Territory and of Irish ancestry, Baylis' work speaks to country and nation as well as to queer culture. His large-scale text-based works are on display in The National at Carriageworks until 23 June.

Director of Programs and Curator of The National at Carriageworks, Daniel Mudie Cunningham says 'Baylis' work has been a definite audience highlight of The National, arousing great curiosity and wonder for its aesthetic and conceptual success.'



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Baylis proposes to use the Fellowship to support travel to Berlin to undertake research into contested sites, monuments, and histories to inspire new work.

Baylis says 'Knitting, embroidery, sewing and other textile-based practices are associated with care, community, activism and love, the socio-political powers of materials. I'll use these skills and materials to create new work that will extend my visual language into the theme of reconciliation.'

The panel was unanimous in their decision to award the Fellowship to Baylis, recognising that an opportunity of this scale at this juncture in the artist's energetic practice, will provide a much-warranted surge of support. The selection panel included AGSA Director Rhana Devenport ONZM, internationally recognised visual artist Caroline Rothwell and Guildhouse Chief Executive Emma Fey.

Emma Fey says, 'Transitioning from an emerging artist into a successful established artist requires determined research, experimentation and training throughout the mid-career years. I am delighted to see Troy-Anthony Baylis recognised as the inaugural Guildhouse Fellow.'

Fey adds, 'This fellowship is an important acknowledgement of the strength of South Australia's artistic talent and offers artists the intellectual and financial space to commit to their development and professional sustainability.'

James & Diana Ramsay Foundation Executive Director, Kerry de Lorme says, 'The calibre and diversity of Troy-Anthony Baylis' practice represents the essence of the Guildhouse Fellowship that the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation are delighted to support.'

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A selection of high res images are available here:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jy994hkc3l4k1c4/AAB5AsQ4sYwkB\\_D3nSubLQOKa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jy994hkc3l4k1c4/AAB5AsQ4sYwkB_D3nSubLQOKa?dl=0)

Feature image: Troy-Anthony Baylis, *Postcard (Crystal, Sandy, and Alice)* 2019.

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#### About Guildhouse

Guildhouse is South Australia's peak body for visual artists, crafts people and designers dedicated to championing artists and diverse artistic practice in South Australia. Guildhouse is a not for profit organisation that supports visual artists, craftspeople and designers to build and maintain sustainable careers.

<https://guildhouse.org.au/the-guildhouse-fellowship-call-out-2019/>



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### **About James and Diana Ramsay Foundation**

The aim of the James and Diana Ramsay Foundation is to continue to foster excellence in the arts and medical research and will support programs for youth, who through personal circumstances will benefit from empowerment to build strong Foundations for life.

Through solid partnerships we will work with relevant organisations to assist them to deliver their significant impact, effectiveness and sustainability. The Foundation is committed to supporting high quality arts programs to encourage a robust arts sector and increase its accessibility.

### **About Troy-Anthony Baylis**

Born 1976, Sydney. Lives and works Adelaide. Jawoyn, Fitzmaurice region. Self-described Queer-Aboriginal, Troy-Anthony Baylis is a descendant of the Jawoyn people from the Northern Territory and is also of Irish ancestry. He is an artist, curator and writer, and Course Coordinator of Aboriginal Cultures, Comparative Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Philosophy at the University of South Australia, Adelaide.

His art practice has been subject to 17 solo exhibitions and numerous group exhibitions, performances and publications since 1993. Currently in its final stages of completion, his PhD, 'Deadly mimicry: Indigeneity and drag in contemporary artistic representation', is concerned with analysis, cultural interpretation and ethics of the self as subject.

Baylis's work is currently featured at Carriageworks, Sydney as part of The National 2019, and will be speaking alongside artists Tony Albert and Sean Rafferty at Carriageworks on Saturday 22nd June at 3pm as part of the closing weekend celebrations. For more information <https://carriageworks.com.au/events/the-national-2019-closing-weekend/>

[Guildhouse](#) is supported by the South Australian Government through Arts South Australia and by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments.



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