



Don Harwin
Minister for Resources
Minister for Energy and Utilities
Minister for the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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REGIONAL ARTS FLOURISH AT ARTSTATE EVENT

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin has announced three fellowships for NSW regional artists at the inaugural Regional Arts NSW event in Lismore.

Artstate is a new four-year project designed to shine a light on excellence in regional arts practice, and to explore the exciting possibilities for arts and cultural development across the state.

Each year, the event will move to a different regional location, building on the discussions in a new landscape and uncovering the artistic secrets of each region. In 2018, the event will be held in Bathurst.

Regional NSW artists Marley Dawson, Rowan Conroy and Cadi McCarthy have been announced as the recipients of this year's three \$50,000 *Create NSW (Priority) Regional Arts Fellowships*, at the four-day event.

Albury-based Marley Dawson is a sculptor creating works with readily available hardware, electrical components and scavenged materials, Rowan Conroy from the NSW Southern Highlands is a visual artist and lecturer in Photography and Media Arts at the Australian National University, and Cadi McCarthy is a Newcastle-based dancer, choreographer, educator and director.

"I am delighted to be able to offer these artists this opportunity to further develop their careers," Mr Harwin said.

"As well as providing even more great art for NSW, I know that their intended programs of development will prove a great inspiration to many other artists.

"While each artist is diverse in their subject matter and form, Marley, Rowan and Cadi's creativity contributes enormously to the combined strength of arts and culture across the state.

The three fellowships are part of a suite of 13 fellowships announced this year under the *Create NSW Artform and Priority Fellowships* that share over half a million dollars in funding for artistic, personal and professional development.

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Biographies

Marley Dawson lives and works in Albury. In his kinetic sculptures and installations, Marley invokes a DIY or lo-fi aesthetic by combining readily available hardware, electrical components and scavenged materials. Often resembling mechanical prototypes or architectural constructions, Dawson's works replicate, in the context of art, an aspect of real-world labour.

Rowan Conroy is based in Wingello in the Southern Highlands. He is a visual artist and lecturer in Photography at the Australian National University. In 2012, Conroy was awarded a PhD from the University of Sydney for his thesis, *Archaeologies of the Present: Rephotographing the William John Woodhouse Photographic Archive*, a rephotography project undertaken in Greece revisiting well known and obscure archaeological sites and urban environments. In 2013, the Australian Centre for Photography exhibited a major retrospective of Conroy's PhD research, *The Woodhouse Rephotography Project*. Conroy has been the recipient of numerous competitive grants and his artworks are regularly shortlisted in nationally significant art prizes. He has exhibited extensively and his works are held in public and private collections in Australia and internationally.

Cadi McCarthy (Founder and director Catapult dance, choreographer, mentor) lives in Mayfield (Newcastle) and is actively engaged in dance as a professional dancer, choreographer, educator and director. Cadi holds a Masters in Education, Diploma of Education (Secondary) and (Further Education & Training), and a BA Dance.