

100 Australian female photographers unite for powerful exhibition and a celebration of equality with Sydney exhibition opening on 11 April 2019

Loud and Luminous

Celebrating Australian Women Photographers



Opening night 11/04/19 6 - 9pm

Block Party St Leonards 12/04/19 5:30 - 9:30pm

CONTACT SHEET
60 Atchison St, St Leonards



One hundred inspiring and diverse female photographic artists from across Australia, aged between 10 to 90 years of age, will use the power of photography to shine a light on Australian Women with a Sydney exhibition, Multimedia projections, and a book launch.

The Loud and Luminous project celebrates and recognises the important contributions of contemporary women photographers in Australia. A multimedia presentation of the 100 images was released to celebrate International Women's Day, and was viewed over 20,000 times within the week and shared internationally. See link below for multimedia.

For further information about Loud and Luminous 2019 please contact loudandluminous@gmail.com or phone Melissa Anderson (0413529242) or Hilary Wardhaugh (0418 255 416).

Please credit photographer



Kym Smith



Louise Kennerley



Melissa Anderson



Natalie Grono



Juno Gemes



Julie Owen-Ewing



Helga Leunig



Ilana Rose



Martine Perret



Kim Tonelli



Heide Smith



Suzanne Phoenix



Vicki Bell



Zaharoula Harris

Project co-curator Melissa Anderson said one of the main aims of Loud and Luminous is to bring female artists together for an inclusive discussion that celebrates diversity and promotes cultural change.

“Some of the stories told in the 2019 exhibition address important social issues, and often ‘silent stories’ that many women are afraid to share,” Ms Anderson said.

“While this is an Australian initiative, the messages extend internationally on gender equality and empowerment,” said Ms Anderson.

Loud and Luminous is appreciative of the generous support they have received from Fujifilm Australia, Kayell Australia, Momento Pro, Damian Caniglia Photographer, Print2Metal, and Contact Sheet Gallery.

Loud and Luminous Exhibition

Contact Sheet Gallery (60 Atchison Street St Leonards NSW 2065)

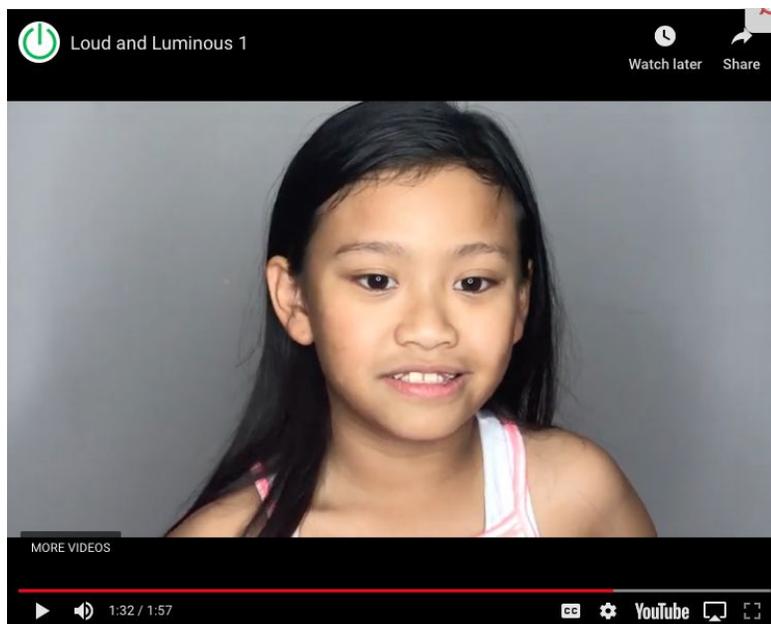
The Loud and Luminous exhibition will open with the curated collection of 100 images displayed at Contact Sheet Gallery, on April 11th at 6pm. RSVPs are essential, and a second opening night will coincide with the the St Leonards Creative precinct, Block party on Friday 12th April.

The 2019 Book will launch at Contact Sheet gallery on 3rd May 12:30 - 3pm.

Artist and curator talks will occur on 4th March at 2:15pm at Paddington Town Hall as Part of Headon Photographic Festival.

The print exhibition will include the 100 prints, a projection room with multimedia from the artists, and the books displayed. Further details can be found on our [website](#) or on social media channels, or on [contact sheet gallery](#) channels.

Empowering artist videos will be released in the lead up to the event. They can be accessed via the website: www.loudandluminous.com.au or on social media and [youtube channels](#).



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKeCHG7_3dypOm0HokshZPQ

About Loud and Luminous

At its core, the Loud and Luminous project is all about gender equality.

It is designed to be a celebration of the important contributions the stories female artists bring to Australian culture but it is also about their ongoing battle to be heard—and recognised—in a traditionally male dominated industry.

If the general public were asked to list influential and iconic Australian photographers from the last 100 years, the list would include very few female photographers. Loud and Luminous aims to reverse this.

Overwhelmingly men have written history, men have made art, galleries have collected art made by men, and until recently photographers were mostly male. The digital revolution has enabled many more people to create imagery. More women now graduate from vocational courses and art school than their male counterparts, and yet are still less likely to be represented.

In a proactive first step to address this issue, Loud and Luminous showcases the works of 100 Australian female photographers to create a new cultural story in Australia that puts women in the spotlight, both in front and behind the camera.

The idea for the project came about on a road trip in regional Victoria in late 2017. It started as a conversation between two of Australia's leading female photographers, Hilary Wardhaugh and Melissa Anderson, about the frustrations many women face working in the arts.

The pair decided to set something up that was positive, and brought women together for a collective cause. The idea quickly evolved in to an event in Melbourne with 56 emerging, mid-career and influential Australian women photographic artists by photographing a universal women's symbol in their finished work for International Women's Day 2018.

One year on, the project has doubled in size with the 2019 exhibition including 100 contributors—and many more supporters.

The project is designed to empower girls and women to chase in their dreams, be creative, share stories and address social issues through art.

The organisers passionately believe it is essential for women to contribute and tell their stories to shape their own future. They hope Loud and Luminous will help educate and inspire women of all ages, and build stronger communities.

Sponsors

- 2018 - Fujifilm Australia, Kayell Australia, Momento Pro, Victorian Women's Trust, Creative Women's Circle and Damian Caniglia Photography and Video.
- 2019 - Fujifilm Australia, Kayell Australia, Momento Pro and Damian Caniglia Photography/Video, Print2Metal, Contact Sheet Gallery.

Loud and Luminous curators



Melissa Anderson

Melissa Anderson is a Brisbane based, fourth generation photographer with more than twenty-five years of experience. She is highly awarded and exhibited, and her work is held within public and private collections.

In 2018 Melissa was recognised by the Redlands City for her cultural contributions through photography with an Australia Day Cultural Award.

Melissa believes in changing the world one image at a time. She regularly volunteers her time for social documentary projects, and speaks internationally for industry, womens, art, photography, youth and education organizations.

Hilary Wardhaugh

Hilary Wardhaugh is a people photographer based in Queanbeyan, New South Wales.

For more than two decades her work has evolved from wedding and portrait photography to corporate and political events and editorial work.

Her first solo exhibition was in 1997 and she continues to explore and exhibit many concepts close to her heart.

Hilary is a volunteer and is passionate about community and mentoring.





<https://youtu.be/-vcS9ghbtpU>

LOUD AND LUMINOUS - INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY EVENT 2019

On International Womens Day 2019 over 130 photographers attended the sold out, Loud and Luminous conference, held at School of the Arts, Australian National University in Canberra.

The day featured the multimedia launch of the 2019 exhibition with 100 female photographic artists from across Australia, aged between 10 and 90, using the power of photography to shine a light on womens stories, both in front, and behind the lens. This project includes an IWD conference, Print exhibition, Book, and Multimedia releases.



L-R Hilary Wardhaugh (Co-curator), Kevin Cooper, (Principal Sponsor Fujifilm Australia, (Rebecca Gibbs, Australian Contemporary Publications, National Library Australia), Melissa Anderson (Co-curator) Image credit John Swainston.

The day included the handover of the Loud and Luminous Book to the National Library of Australia, and an announcement of 5 artists selected to exhibit and receive a stipend to develop new work for exhibition, at Photo Access Canberra in 2020. Ticket sales support the selected artists from across Australia; Tricia King, Helga Leunig, Tamara Whyte, Suellen Cook, Elise Searson. (see image below)



L-R Thea McGrath (Programs Manager, PhotoAccess), Dr Kirsten Wehner (Director, Photoaccess), Sueellen Cook (Artist), Helga Leunig (Artist) Melissa Anderson (Loud and Luminous Co curator, Hilary Wardhaugh Loud and Luminous Co curator) Image credit John Swainston.



**Attendees showing support for Balance for better, theme of IWD 2019
Photo Credit J Swainston**



Attendees silent clapping showing support for hearing impaired participating artist Katrina Garvey, who travelled from Brisbane for the day. Photo Credit J Swainston