

CELEBRATING THE CAULFIELD LIBRARY TRANSFORMATION



LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE CAMPUS, THE CAULFIELD LIBRARY PRIMARILY HAS A FOCUS ON BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS; ART, DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; ARTS; HEALTH SCIENCES, PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK.

WELCOME

The dramatic transformation of the Caulfield Library is a significant achievement in Monash University's ongoing commitment to create engaging, compelling and stimulating learning and research environments.

Situated on a busy, urban campus, the Library has been extended and has doubled its seating capacity. The building is now integrated seamlessly with the Caulfield Campus Green and provides a welcoming entrance point to the campus.

The transformed Library presents a number of key architectural features and impressive design elements, including the transparent entrance, the complex western façade structure of the shadehouse and the stunning glass-roofed, fourstorey void. All of these features were designed to bring natural light into the Library and inspire users to achieve their learning and research goals. Whilst the building has been completely redesigned, it retains original features such as the central spiral staircase and some of the brutalist concrete walls. Along the eastern façade are dormer windows where nooks make for conducive study spaces. The integration of advanced technology enables users to learn, create and collaborate.

Adding depth to the experience of using the Library is a substantial amount of artwork from the University's collection, including a commissioned work by Rose Nolan. The works on display throughout the Library all show the complex interplay between life and art; that is, how art can reflect life and can alter the way we see the world.

Under the leadership of Cathrine Harboe-Ree (University Librarian 2002-2017), the extended period of planning, designing and redeveloping the Caulfield Library has brought great rewards. We're proud to welcome all to a contemporary, innovative and beautiful library that is truly inspiring and a pleasure to use.

ORIGINS OF THE LIBRARY

Built in 1972 when the campus was the Caulfield Technical College, the building was a grand feature of the brutalist architecture movement of its time, and was originally named after K.H. Boykett, Chairman of the Caulfield Technical College Council. Officially opened in 1974 by Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, the building stood as a testament to Boykett's vital role in the evolution and reform of Australian education and his long and distinguished career as an educator. The campus has changed names and educational directions since then, becoming part of the Chisholm Institute, and then being amalgamated into Monash University in 1990. The Library has grown into one of the most frequently used libraries in the University, catering for over 16,500 staff and students and visitors to the Caulfield campus.





A MODERN LIBRARY FOR A NEW GENERATION

Monash University Library contributes to the University's goals of being an excellent, international, enterprising and inclusive university. Rapid advancements in technology have led to a preference for electronic resources, higher demand for computer access and Wi-Fi, and increased need for facilities for collaborative group work. The Caulfield Library has been transformed for a new generation of scholars, providing open, technology-rich and adaptive learning spaces to cater for a broad range of learning styles and research needs.



L Jennison, A Flight of Twelve Southern Hemisphere Birds, North Fitzroy, Vic.: Gracia & Louise, 2013. Detail of the concertina-folded artists' book included in the display of nature-themed artists' books at the Caulfield Library.

NOTABLE COLLECTIONS

Caulfield is home to a rich collection of art, design and architecture titles, many of which are unique and highly regarded. The refurbishment shines a light on these collections and makes them more readily available to Library users, inviting engagement and interest in what the Library has to offer the community.

ARTISTS' BOOKS

The Library holds a range of artists' books with a focus on Australian artists, collected to supplement the studio curriculum in the Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture. Many of these books are limited editions that have been handcrafted through fine press printing. The collection also includes a range of exhibition catalogues and art ephemera for research purposes, totaling around 2500 items.

FOLIOS

The folio collection is also noteworthy, housing over 7000 large format books across many subject areas. Both the folio and artists' books collections provide an invaluable source of information for researchers interested in the creation of the books themselves, including physical construction, binding, printing, and typography.

ART IN THE LIBRARY

ART DOES NOT REPRODUCE THE VISIBLE; RATHER, IT MAKES VISIBLE. – PAUL KLEE

The works displayed throughout the Caulfield Library show us the world around us through different and unique lenses. Drawn from the Monash University Collection, they range from extraordinary images of the ordinary to works that reveal worlds that are little known to most. Claire Williamson, Curator, explores the role art plays in the new Caulfield Library.









Teresa Baker and Clarise Tunkin's *Minyma Malilunya (Emu woman story)* 2015 is one such work. This large and intensely coloured painting gives viewers a window into a world that is vitally connected to the artists' Pitjantjatjara lands. Malilu is a creation being known for her strength, resilience and independence, who shelters from danger in underground caves. These caves contain large reservoirs of water, with Malilu embodying the power of water to give life in the desert. Siri Hayes' Lyric Theatre at Merri Creek 2002 presents a very different view of land. Part of her Lyric Theatre series, this photograph depicts a section of the Merri Creek, which runs through the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri-willam. The essential beauty of the natural scene is marred by evidence of pollution and the introduction of foreign plant species since European settlement. The natural amphitheatre of this stretch of the creek suggests a classical Greek stage on which the lonely figures who line the bank are about to perform a tragedy for us, the audience.



Rosemary Laing takes us inside parts of our world that are generally off limits. Her *brownwork* series of large-scale panoramic photographs explores ideas around time, space, flight and technology. In *brownwork* #9 1997, a female figure abseils from the ceiling of an aeroplane's cargo hold, disrupting the regimented perspective of the great machine. Callum Morton's 24 hrs 1995 brings the external world into the Library, scaling down a typical shop awning and presenting it akin to a minimalist sculpture. In so doing, he draws our attention to aspects of our urban environment that are so familiar they have become invisible. The flaws in the modernist vision for art and architecture are reflected in the evidence that the store that claimed never to close has broken its promise, its signage now obscured. Rose Nolan's commissioned work for the Caulfield Library emblazons the phrase 'give or take' across a large ground-floor wall in red and white penny tiles. Nolan works with everyday expressions and heroic statements to create works that respond to their architectural, social and cultural environments. Set within the Caulfield Library, *GIVE OR TAKE* invites Library users to reflect upon personal choices as well as the interchanges inherent in teaching and learning processes.

Clare Williamson Curator

- Teresa Baker and Clarise Tunkin, Minyma Malilunya 2015, synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 181.0 x 300.0 cm, Monash University Collection, Purchased by Monash University Library 2016
 Siri Hayes, Lyric Theatre at Merri Creek 2002, Type C photograph, 112.0 x 142.0 cm, Monash University Collection, Purchased 2005
- Rosemary Laing, brownwork #9 1997, Type C photograph, 122.0 x 258.0 cm, Monash University Collection, Purchased 1997
- Callum Morton, 24 hours 1995, wood, canvas, steel, synthetic polymer paint, enamel, 175.0 x 220.0 x 70.0 cm, Monash University Collection, Monash University Acquisition Art Prize 1995
- (Opposite page) Caulfield Library, Level 1 Entry with Rose Nolan, *GIVE OR TAKE* 2017, ceramic penny tiles, Monash University Collection, Monash University Public Art Commission, 2017

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Photo: Diana Snape

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