



Media Release – 29 May 2015

## ***TURN TURN TURN: The studio ceramics tradition at the National Art School***



From 5 June – 8 August NAS Gallery presents ***Turn Turn Turn: The studio ceramics tradition at the National Art School***, celebrating 60 years of this internationally renowned department.

Curated by Glenn Barkley, the exhibition includes work by over 100 artists representing a diversity of ceramics production by National Art School graduates and faculty across more than six decades.

The artists include **Stephen Bird, Louise Boscacci, Lynda Draper, Merran Esson, Steve Harrison, Patsy Hely, Juz Kitson, Janet Mansfield, Alan Peascod, Peter Rushforth AM, Thancoupie Gloria Fletcher AO, Toni Warburton** and many others.

**National Art School Director, Michael Snelling, commented,** “*Turn Turn Turn* celebrates the

extraordinary breadth of artists who have emerged from the National Art School’s renowned ceramics department. Ceramics is currently going through a period of interrogation and invigoration, and we wanted to bring our remarkable story to the conversation. However, *Turn Turn Turn* is not a history of the NAS ceramics department, nor is it a ‘best of’ show – that remarkable story needs a museum’s resources. It is a reminder of the diversity of materials, styles and approaches that have prospered at NAS, the inspirational teachers and students who have passed through and a teaser for the big story waiting to be told.”

“The exhibition features work by some of the country’s most influential ceramicists and NAS alumni including Peter Rushforth AM, Thancoupie Gloria Fletcher AO and Lynda Draper, alongside more recent graduates who are pushing the envelope with contemporary installations. The mix of styles and genres from more than 60 years of practice is incredible to see all in one place.”

In addition to the core line up of twelve artists, is a ‘show-within-a-show’ of works drawn from private and public collections, including a major representation from the National Art School collection and the ceramics teaching collection. It features works by over 100 artists who have studied or been associated with the School.

**Curator Glenn Barkley commented,** “Ceramics is a medium that constantly has one eye on the past whilst looking forward to new forms, techniques and processes developing in the present. *Turn Turn Turn* is a horizontal approach to ceramics – exploring a change of emphasis from wheel-formed work to the hand-built, from singular to assembled works and the rise of community-based practice.”

***Turn Turn Turn: The studio ceramics tradition at the National Art School* is to be opened by Merran Esson, Head of Ceramics on Thursday 4 June, 6 – 8 pm at NAS Gallery.**

**For a list of programs and events held in conjunction with the exhibition please visit [nas.edu.au/NASGallery](http://nas.edu.au/NASGallery)**

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**For more information:** visit [nas.edu.au](http://nas.edu.au) or contact Ros Brennan, Marketing Manager on +61 2 9339 8715 or [ros.brennan@nas.edu.au](mailto:ros.brennan@nas.edu.au)

Image: Lynda Draper, *Annette* earthenware, various glazes, 45 x 54 x 54 cm. Artbank Collection, purchased 2014.

