

# A Message from the Mayor

Welcome to the 2016 Common Threads Wearable Art Showcase, presented by Act-Belong-Commit, a major part of the Stretch Arts Festival Mandurah.

This exciting competition continues to grow from strength to strength, and this year is no different. Today you will discover the amazing talents of local, national and international designers, who have explored this year's theme 'illumination'.

The Common Threads Wearable Art event, including the showcase extravaganza and exhibition, provide creatives a unique opportunity to explore concepts of what is wearable while challenging their imagination... and the results are spectacular!

I would like to thank all those involved - from artists, sponsors, volunteers, and patrons - for your continued support and look forward to seeing you again next year.

Marina Vergone, Mandurah Mayor

# Message from Helen Duncan, Artistic Director

I am thrilled to be invited to direct this year's Common Threads Wearable Art Showcase, presented by Act-Belong-Commit. It is an absolute joy to create a production that showcases such an incredible array of garments.

We have been fortunate to work with a very talented cast that includes a team of professional dancers working alongside a highly skilled cast of community dancers and actors from Mandurah and Perth. Our community cast has been working with the talents of Choreographer Laura Boynes and have all shown a deep commitment and passion towards this event.

With garments so rich in colour, design, concept and construction we are gifted with endless theatrical possibilities and we hope you enjoy the presentation of these garments tonight.

# **Categories**

- Sculptural
- Colour Palette sponsored by The Sebel Mandurah
- Avant-Garde sponsored by Travis Hayto
- Youth Award sponsored by Reading Cinemas Mandurah

#### **Special Awards**

- CTWA Artist of the Year, presented by Act-Belong-Commit
- Creative Re-use
- First-time Entrant
- Gillian Kaye Peebles Youth Award
- Highly Commended



# **Meet the Judges**



#### Aly May

Aly May has been involved within the fashion industry for over 30 years. Her work includes a 19 year involvement in creating and developing STYLEAID, an annual charity fashion event and 13 years working as creator and producer of the Boobalicious Ball.

In addition, Aly has worked as a stylist, event producer, fashion lecturer, show choreographer for Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival and is the 'go to' person for many of WA's emerging fashion designers who are seeking advice and mentoring. Aly currently works for the Department of Culture and the Arts as the Senior Policy Officer, Creative Industries.



#### **Lesley Wilkinson**

Lesley currently holds the position of Director, People and Communities at the City of Mandurah. Lesley has held management positions in aged care and disability services in WA, operated her own consultancy, and lectured in the Masters of Leadership and Management course with Curtin University's Graduate School of Business. She holds a Master of Leadership and Management and has undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications in the Arts and Applied Women's Studies, and is a member of the Australian Institute of Management.

Lesley is passionate about community, encouraging people to participate, grow and develop in all facets of community life, including the arts.



#### **Kerry Gelmi**

Creating audacious wearable art is Kerry's passion. She first entered this field in 2008 in the NZ World Of Wearable Art and has since been a repeat International finalist. Kerry has entered Common Threads Wearable Art since its inception and has been a multiple winner. In 2015 she was overall winner and Common Threads Artist of The Year. Kerry recently produced the Futurism Art walk to open the South West Fashion Festival Show for 2015.

Kerry's multi-medium art practice spans 25 years and she currently operates a steel sculpture business in the South West of Western Australia called Gathering Rust.



#### Svenja

Svenja is a self-confessed wearable art addict, winner and multiple finalist in New Zealand's World of Wearableart competition. Her 2014 entry, Fènghuáng won the International Award Australia/ South Pacific and has been purchased for their Museum Collection.

Svenja has maintained an interest in the arts from an early age. In 1996 she completed a Bachelor of Arts in Drama, which led to studies in Fashion Design, a Certificate II in Drawing and commencing a Bachelor of Arts in Art History. She has returned to study Fashion Design, and is currently enrolled in the Advanced Diploma in Applied Fashion Design and Technology.



#### **Shane Pavlinovich**

With over 20 years' experience within the Arts, Shane has been an active member on various Boards and Committees, such as Disability and Disadvantage in the Arts Australia, Friends of the Art Gallery WA and Government House Foundation. In 2000, Shane established AEF (Arts, Events and Fundraising) Consultants and in 2012 began work as the Arts Program Manager at Healthway. Shane is the founder of Le DUKE JEWELLERY and Fashion. He has been involved in co-creating and designing clothing and group fashion exhibitions and for the past two years has been creating bespoke jewellery, mostly with pearls and gemstones.

### Common Threads Wearable Art Exhibition, presented by Avalon Sails

Contemporary Art Spaces Mandurah (CASM), 63 Ormsby Terrace, Mandurah

Exhibition Opening: Friday, June 3 at 6.00pm

Exhibition Closing + Artist Talks: Sunday, July 3 at 2.00pm

### **SCULPTURAL**

### Sue Smorthwaite



# A Bright Idea

A Bright Idea is made from the designer's hand-felted wools. The 62 illuminated balls allude to the evolution of the idea for this competition piece.

# Carol Clitheroe, Tiffany Clitheroe, Tich Dixon and Sheryl Osborne



## Eclipse

The wonder and mystery of the instinctive attraction to a light source is the inspiration for this art work. Moths were the ideal subject as they are always searching for light on their nocturnal travels. People are the same, as there is comfort in a little glow in the dark.

# Ashley Bowley



### Luminous

Light coming through the trees, Like a cathedral in the breeze. Casting shadows on the ground, Light is dancing all around. The heart awakens to the call, The light is coming to us all. Our colours burst for all to see, There is still hope for you and me.

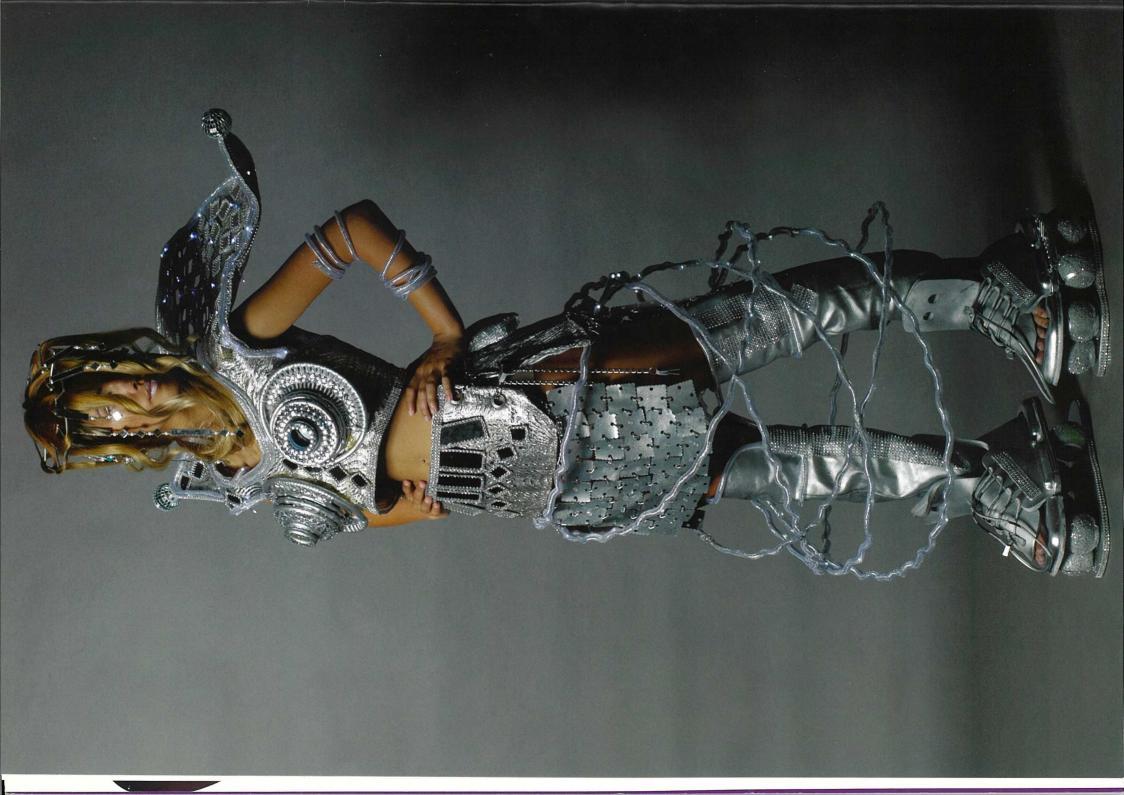
# Eugene Smalberger



### Smoke & Mirrors

The inspiration that comes from Smoke & Mirrors is to illuminate our world with ordinary things around us. To turn the ordinary into extraordinary. Using shiny, bright and reflective materials such as mirrors and lights to create a glowing attraction out of ordinary everyday things.





# Meet the Designers SCULPTURAL

# Rosy Chalklen



### Pillar of Salt

Pillar of Salt is based on historic Bury St. Edmunds, the city of the designers birth. It is based on stained glass windows illuminating the city's cathedral interior, illuminated texts, and the country's first internally illuminated street sign.

### Louise Wells



### Fire Flies

Beyond the safety need for emergency services wear to be illuminated, hi-vis clothing has moved into every area of the community. When the need to be seen has become saturated; the ability to stand out diluted, this glamorous outfit asks, 'how do we now stand out from the crowd?'

# Rebecca Corps



# Women on the Land

Inspired by women who work on the land, this garment illuminates the female form in the workplace. Mine sites and farms are dominated by men and the female form disappears beneath the high visibility fabric and reflective tape.

# Diana Kelly



### Light

Inspired by the beauty of our oceans, this garment represents the luminous world of the deep sea diver. The bodice took about 70 hours in its creation with incredible detail in the construction of the mermaid and Neptune, as well as paintings of marine life.

### **COLOUR PALETTE**

# **Ability Arts**



### Refraction

The phenomenon of light being deflected in passing obliquely through the interface between mediums. When light passes through a prism, the light bends and separates into a beautiful spectrum of colours. This explores prisms through bamboo and paper sculpture.

# Stephanie Powell



# Light on Plastic

Light on Plastic is inspired by the move from harmony with the environment to the pollution of our oceans by plastic and the hope that we become more enlightened on the issue and end our societies addiction to plastic.

# Fiona Harper-Harwood



# Native Spirit

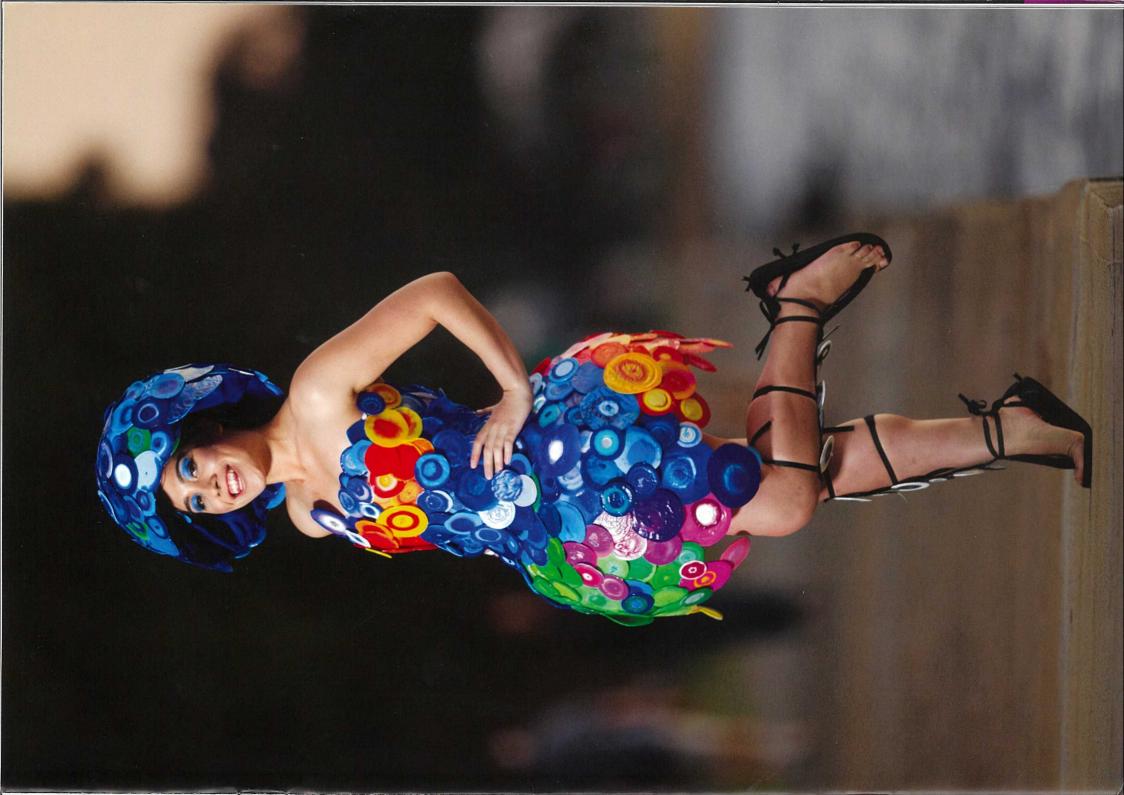
Mystical, spiritual illumination awakening the connection to self, bare foot with Mother Earth, connecting to place. Spiral shapes of natural fibres and colours give strength to the body that resembles a chakra tree supporting fungi growth. Water, the essence of life, flows, splashes and spirals.

### Julie Smith



# Hope Lights the Way

Inspired by Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes, this artwork is a wish for peace throughout the world. The Kanji are light, peace, life, hope and strength. It is also a personal story of a fight with cancer – of joy, love and light found in darkness.





# Jacq Chorlton



# A Dress to Im'Press'

A dress made entirely out of pressed milk and juice bottle lids covering old lampshade frames. Heating and pressing HDPE plastic lids creates a wealth of colourful individual discs that can be manipulated in many ways; creating a colourful mosaic with beauty.

## Jo Ireland



### Diosa Gotica -Gothic Goddess

Inspired by the illuminated stained glass windows of the Spanish Cathedral "La Sagrada Familia" Gothic Goddess represents this unique and modern Spanish architecture. With its geometric shape and vibrant colours it dares to be different in a world of tradition.

# Meet the Designers COLOUR PALETTE

# Alicia Treby and Renee Barton

### Banksia Torch

'The Banksias were the light for the Noongar people. Everywhere they went they used to light the Banksia cone as it burns for a long time and then carry it from place to place and that was the Noongar light' Barbara Pickett, recorded by Karen Hethey for Mandjar Dreaming, 2015.

### Naomi McDonald



### Shades of Blue

Made from recycled materials 'Shades of Blue' encompasses fibre optic strands from a 70's style lamp, Christmas lights, lamp shade crystals, bed sheets, satin like fabric and metal from a pop-up shade tent. This garment was made from scratch starting with a vintage, out-of-print pattern.

# Val Hornibrook



### Capillary Action

Light penetrates the outer shell creating shadows illuminating the inner form. Circles on the inner structure represent blood cells, which absorb the dancing shadows as in a capillary action. See beyond the surface, look for more, look for enlightenment.

### Sue Sacchero



### Aurora Australis Queen of the Southern Skies

Drawing on richly coloured images, this work celebrates the breathtaking, exotic, regal elegance of nature. Made from hand dyed, nuno felted silk, Swarovski crystals and moulded, bound, glued and painted cane.

















### **AVANT-GARDE**

## Carmel Ryan



# Trip The Light FunPlastic

A 'Picasso' look bag was the inspiration for this garment.

Depicting dreams in colour, eyes, birds and nature's oddities. Relief with shedding of light, waking to a new day.

Machine and hand constructed of mainly recycled materials.

## Philomena Hali



### Fire Flies

This garment mimics fire flies which have the unique quality of glowing in the dark. It is constructed from 30 metres of reticulation tubing, sericin silk organza, using Shibori techniques, hand dyed, reflective thread and tape stitched and glued.

# Larissa Murdock and Bronwyn Packwood



### What Lies Beneath

Inspired by Hussein Chalayan, this garment transforms itself. Nature provided inspiration through colour and form. The cocoon of the case moth represents all the unattractive places or surfaces that hide and also reveal the colourful splendour of nature.

# Anzara Clark



### Victorian Secrets

Victorian society had two faces. Respectable elegance underpinned by a strict moral code hid a more sordid Victorian world, where pleasure was bought through the exploitation of others. 'Victorian Secrets' illuminates an elegant exterior obscuring a hidden night world.

### **AVANT-GARDE**

### Sherr Bottell



### Pele's Glow

Pele's Glow represents the Hawaiian goddess of volcanoes and the inner fire we all have. This inner fire is what keeps us on track to reach our goals and to illuminate our life.

### Deb Hiller and Cathie Cresswell



# Cog-nitive Beauty

Utilising steampunk mixed with avant-garde, this unique piece transforms in darkness to reveal an assortment of cogs. These cogs are a metaphor for the cognitive process the viewer experiences when being enlightened and inspired by beautiful artworks.

# Elizabeth Morley



### Satori

Inspired by human courage to reach out for freedom, the designer uses Chakra-related colour to describe a journey through despair to truth and enlightenment. Satori, created from nappy liner off-cuts, symbolizes the gathering of scattered thoughts to create a beautiful whole.

## Liana McNeill



### Skeletal Centrum

Inspiration came from a story about candles inside the body that silhouetted as an x-ray. This piece symbolises the idea that we all have a light within us that isn't dictated by our outer appearance. It has no links to the female or male bodies but more a gender neutrality.





### **AVANT-GARDE**

## Ngaire Lowry



# Deconstructed Steam Train Homage to Yarloop

Inspired by the devastating loss of Yarloop's township and Steam Museum to bushfire, this piece draws on the historically significant steam train combined with steampunk aesthetics.

# Lyn Blasgund



### **Blind Reflections**

The transformation of vertical blinds used to control light into buildings, to one of a portable sculpture worn on the body, allows the capture of light and illumination in any environment.

# Georgina Richardson



# Shine Bright

The structure and luminescent qualities of antique chandeliers is inspiration for this work.

The heavily adorned garment is a visual representation of a person's inner beauty.

The many layers of beads and sequins flash and shimmer in the light, embodying the concept of personal illumination.

### Lisbeth Wahl



### Set Your Light Free

Years of exploration in tailoring and pattern making led to the discovery of infinite possibilities in felting... mixing materials and colours, creating forms and texture and experimenting with integrated optical fibres.



### **Britney Loney**



### MissBehaviour

'MissBehaviour' is young, fresh and playfula push against the status quo in how teenage girls should and shouldn't behave; expressing themselves through their choice of style!

# Catherine Kelly



### The Secret Garden

'The Secret Garden' was inspired by the novel of the same name by F.H.

Burnett. The artwork is a wicker nest-like skirt adorned with chiffon flowers, floral-lights, dry-felted birds and painted butterflies; a floral, fish-boned corset with flossing; and a hat with flexible curves.

### Lexi Sleet



# Night Wolf

'Night Wolf' focuses on the nocturnal predator, the wolf. It is made from netting, plastic bags and many other natural and non-natural elements with a focus on texture. The garment also glows under UV light to reflect the theme of illumination.

# **Meet the Designers**

YOUTH

# Libby Butterworth



### Warrior Chief Louise

This Chief of the future lands is an inner spirits dream to protect and nurture the Earth. Her womanly strength is exhibited using strong and soft materials like cable ties and steel wool alongside feathers and fabric. The headpiece and staff show her importance.

### Shanae Paratore



# The Ocean's Guardian

This artwork focuses on the explorations of a child growing up in a local crayfishing family. It represents innovative practise from childhood memories of days spent waiting at the harbour for fishermen to arrive or mornings spent collecting shells along the beach.

# **Acknowledgements**

#### **Creative Team**

Artistic Director Helen Duncan

Production Management Creative Behaviours

Professional Performers Sofie Burgoyne, Emily Malone, Rosie

Osmond, Tyrone Robinson, Katya Kokov, Tarryn Runkell

Choreographer (Community Cast) Laura Boynes

Musicians Tristen Parr & Aidan Boase

Lighting Design Joe Lui

Set Design James Higgins

Stage Management Laura Boynes

Back Stage Management Leah O'Brien

Wardrobe Liz Ford, Deidre Robb, Giorgia Santacaterina,

Cindy Wright

Production Assistants Emma Craig, Robyn Duncan,

Troy Leenards, Abigail Thomas

Official Photography Travis Hayto

Presentation Flowers Kez Wickham St George

Styling Hair and Make-up Duvah Tinania and

Onyx Hair and Beauty Crew

Artwork Design City of Mandurah Marketing Team

### **Community Cast**

Kitty Boyd

Kaye Bramley

Poppy Chalklen

Erin Clitheroe

Leilani Cocks

Jen Collins

Monica Connelly

Alison Driver

Maddi Hall (DTX Dance Studio)

Karen Hansord

Emilie Johnstone-Maher (DTX Dance Studio)

Genevieve Kan (Act-Belong-Commit

Co: Youth Ensemble)

Sarah Kemp (All About Dance Company)

Natasha Kennedy (DTX Dance Studio)

Courtney Loney

Caitlin Magill

Tahlia Russell

Kassandra Smith

Taleisha Steinbruckner (Dance Venture and

Act-Belong-Commit Co: Youth Ensemble)

Teá Webb

Shannon White

Abbey Williams (DTX Dance Studio)

Harriet Wilson

Metro Modelling and Dance Academy

### Stretch Arts Team

Rebecca Nelson Stretch Arts Festival

Barb Thoms Common Threads Wearable Art

### **Special Thanks**

The 2016 Stretch Arts Festival Mandurah is made possible through our dedicated volunteers, project coordinators and participants, and extends thanks to all those involved. Thanks also to the Patrons Program, particularly founding member Barbara Pannell.

### **Major Sponsors**







Government of Western Australia
Department of Culture and the Arts







### **Event Sponsors**





TRANSHATO







Copyright City of Mandurah (2016)

Disclaimer: Every endeavour has been made to ensure that the details represented in this publication are correct at the time of printing and may be amended due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the organiser. The organiser does not except any liability for loss and limits to the extent possible at law, any loss, damages or inconvenience due to the inaccuracy or changes in the showcase program.

# Get creative for health and happiness

Many people engage in the arts and other creative activities on a daily basis. While we often encourage children to get creative in school and in play, participating in the arts and doing something creative is good for our mental health and wellbeing, no matter what age we are.

# How can I get more creativity into my life?

You can do something creative, experience something creative, and support other creative people by attending their events.

### It's as easy as A-B-C!

Keeping mentally healthy through being creative is just as important as staying physically healthy and it's as easy as A-B-C: act-belong-commit.

Visit actbelongcommit.org.au









PO Box 210 | 3 Peel Street, Mandurah WA 6210 www.mandurah.wa.gov.au



