Transcript: QCA Showcase 2015

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Elizabeth Shaw, Senior Lecturer, Fine Art

The QCA Showcase event is a major event in the academic year. It’s the end of the year for all of the graduating students and it’s an opportunity for them to showcase the works that they have worked so hard to achieve for the end of their studies. It’s the point where lots of members of the public, as well as a lot of arts professionals, come to see the works that they have created. It’s got a fabulous festival environment or feel to it. It’s an opportunity for the students, and the graduating students, to see what they’ve done, and it’s an opportunity for family and friends to come and see too. It’s also a time when people who are thinking about coming to art college come through and pick up on the buzz of what’s actually happening on this campus.

Tristan Schultz, Lecturer, Design

What the QCA Showcase does is really open the University up to the public and lets the public in. It gives prospective employers, organisations, networks—all kinds of people—the ability to see what we’ve been teaching our students, and what they’re capable of.

Elizabeth Shaw, Senior Lecturer, Fine Art

The Lecturers are all practising artists in the fields that they teach in, and this is a wonderful opportunity for the students to network amongst each other, but also to learn from practising artists.

Tristan Schultz, Lecturer, Design

What we do here, especially in the design faculty; we try and take a cross-disciplinary approach—or trans-disciplinary approach—and what that means is they have a much broader set of skills that they can offer to society. We’re really trying to teach them to be design strategists and thinkers; in the 21st Century, we’re going to see designers not just be technical service providers, but really be strategic creative thinkers that can use that lateral thinking to solve large complex problems. That’s really at the forefront of what we teach our students, and the technical skills, of course, we teach them those along the way.

Derrick Cherrie, Director, Queensland College of Art

For me, what’s particularly exciting about the mix of disciplines is the comprehensiveness of it. I can’t think of any other creative college in Australia that has such an interesting range and mix of creative disciplines. The opportunities that exist when you get that group of disciplines together are quite unique, and quite special. They enable us to support students to undertake a really broad range of creative endeavours and surprise us, I guess, with the creative enterprises that they will come up with.
Tristan Schultz, Lecturer, Design

We’re seeing our students take it upon themselves to understand how they might disrupt out-dated modes of doing business and entrepreneur their own ways forward.

Elizabeth Shaw, Senior Lecturer, Fine Art

We’ve also got a really, really long history, so we’ve got an amazing alumni that come back and visit the students, talk to the students, share their knowledge, and support them on their way throughout their studies and when they graduate.

Derrick Cherrie, Director, Queensland College of Art

The Queensland College of Art is in the top 100 art schools listed in the QS survey of Universities under the subject area. Now that means that we stand out in the world. It ensures students will be, when they graduate, also top performers in their field.

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Griffith University, Queensland College of Art
Find out more at griffith.edu.au/qca

The Queensland College of Art (QCA) opened its doors to the public for a special five-day event in November 2015. The Showcase transformed the South Bank campus into exhibition spaces featuring the work of graduating students from:

- fine art
- film
- animation
- games design
- photography
- contemporary Australian Indigenous art
- design.

Many of the works exhibited were for sale, kick–starting emerging artists on their way to professional careers in the many diverse and exciting art forms they mastered during their time at QCA.

Events across the QCA Showcase ranged from: industry previews, student award presentations, alumni panel discussion, grand opening ceremony, discipline specific panel discussions, food and drink stalls, music from the Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith Film School screenings, exhibition displays, framing workshops and more.