

MEDIA RELEASE – for immediate release
ARTS PROJECT AUSTRALIA



SECRET GARDEN – A solo exhibition by Georgia Szmerling
Lorikeets 2015 gouache and ink on paper
Courtesy the artist & Arts Project Australia



CLAY: IT'S A MATTER OF SUBSTANCE – A new group exhibition
Ruth Howard *Not titled 2015* glazed ceramic
Courtesy the artist & Arts Project Australia

Two new shows open at Arts Project

A solo show by Georgia & a new and diverse ceramic exhibition

14 JUNE 2016

Exhibition 18 June – 23 July 2016

Arts Project Australia presents two new exhibitions in June—a solo show by emerging artist Georgia Szmerling of recent drawings and ceramics, and a group exhibition *Clay: it's a matter of substance* featuring recent ceramic artworks created in the Arts Project Studio, opening Saturday 18 June from 3-5pm at Arts Project Australia in Northcote.

Often suggesting a lyrical sense of movement, Szmerling's second solo exhibition at Arts Project Australia affirms a dominant interest in the portrayal of decorative plant formations and the natural world. For her exhibition *Secret Garden*, Szmerling has created new works on paper, board and ceramic. These figurative-based artworks present colourful and lively interpretations of the landscape and the animals that inhabit it. Szmerling has worked at Arts Project since 2004.

Georgia Szmerling (born 1979) has attended the Arts Project Australia studio since 2003 and had her first solo exhibition at Lupa, Melbourne in 2005. She has exhibited in various group shows including at 'Melbourne Art Fair', Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne; 'By Women, Of Women', Queen Victoria Women's Centre, Melbourne; and 'BSG Works on paper prize', Brunswick Street Gallery, Melbourne.

Highlights include: a ceramic sculpture of koalas in a tree and a magnificent miniature ceramic giraffe.

Coinciding with Georgia Szmerling's solo is *Clay: It's a matter of substance*, a group exhibition focusing on recently created ceramic artworks by 18 artists. Curated by Rosie Vallis.

The human activity of making a solid object from clay has spanned over 30,000 years. All the works in this exhibition have been created through the artist's fascination with the intrinsic qualities of this earthy material to create forms of meaning.

Highlights include: large life-sized typewriter created over a six-month period; a collection of over-sized ceramic cameras and slide viewer; and a large life-sized young kangaroo. All artwork is affordable and priced from \$80 up to \$1500.

"These two new exhibitions present an exciting collection of fresh work that has just been created by artists in our Northcote studio", said Sue Roff, Executive Director, Arts Project Australia.

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Artists include Bronwyn Hack, Brigid Hanrahan, Alan Constable, Jordan Dymke, Matthew Gove, Ruth Howard, Miles Howard-Wilks, Kate Knight, Chris Mason, Jodie Noble, Chris O'Brien, Lisa Reid, Megan Sloan, Mark Smith, Georgia Szmerling and Rebecca Vanston.

Artists are available for interview. High-resolution images are available on request. *Secret Garden and Clay: It's a matter of substance* will be on show at Arts Project Australia from Saturday 18 June – Saturday 30 July 2016 at 24 High St Northcote VIC 3070. The gallery is open Monday – Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 10am-5pm.

Show Names: *Secret Garden and Clay: It's a matter of substance*

Venue: Arts Project Australia, 24 High Street, Northcote, Vic.

Opening: Opening Saturday 18 June 2016, 3-5pm

Opened by: Jane Scott, CEO & Artistic Director, Craft Victoria

Exhibition runs: 18 June – 30 July 2016

Times: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm, Sat 10–5pm

Ticket Prices and Bookings: Free. No bookings required.

More info: artsprojectaustralia.org.au [Facebook-Secret Garden](#), [Facebook-Clay: It's a matter of substance](#)

Social media: #clayitsamatterofsubstance / #georgiaszmerling / @artsprojectaust / #artsprojectaust

Disability access: Yes

Press Contacts

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