



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

BATAVIA: GIVING VOICE TO THE VOICELESS

7 October - 16 December 2017 | Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery

How do we reconstruct history?

The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery at the University of Western Australia presents a new exhibition that examines the horrendous story of the murder of 125 men, women and children following the wreck of the Dutch VOC ship the *Batavia* in 1629, off the Western Australian Coast.

Their stories are reinterpreted in this exhibition through the work of archeologists, scientists and artists. New archeological findings carried out by the “Shipwrecks of the Roaring Forties: A Maritime Archaeological Reassessment of some of Australia’s Earliest Shipwrecks (ARC Linkage Project LP13010013)” included skeletal fragments and new burial sites.

The exhibition presents installations of new forms of contemporary *memento mori* that generate a nexus between science and art, sharing the collective aim of deepening perceptual understandings of the *Batavia* wreck through photogrammetry, scanning (X-ray, MRI), digital prints, virtual tours, camera obscura, artists’ books and paintings.

With contributions from Paul Bourke, Robert Cleworth, Daniel Franklin, Jeremy Green, Alistair Paterson, Paul Uhlmann, Corioli Souter, Jan Andriess and filmmaker Maarten de Kroon the exhibition retells the stories of those involved and recasts the narrative of Australian history.

UWA Chief Cultural Officer, Professor Ted Snell explains that:

“While the scientists forensically examine these human remains using state of the art imaging techniques and scientific data to gain new insights into the lives of the passengers and crew of the *Batavia*, the artists extend this process by working directly from the skeletal remains and archives to produce new works of art.

“The *Batavia: Giving voice to the voiceless* challenges viewers to empathise with these individuals. By combining interpretations of art and science the human story of this tragedy is conveyed in interdisciplinary, multifaceted formats”.

EVENT

Exhibition Opening

Friday 6 October, 6pm at Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery

[Click here to RSVP](#)

There is also a free, full-day symposium at the LWAG on Saturday 7 October 2017

[Click here to register](#)

DETAILS

Exhibition:

Batavia: Giving voice to the voiceless

Runs: 7 October - 16 December 2017

Free Admission

Location: Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery

The University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA

IMAGES.

[Click here to view a selection of high-res images from the exhibition.](#)

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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CULTURAL PRECINCT

LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY

OPEN TUES - SAT 11AM - 5PM

FREE ADMITTANCE

   @LWAGallery

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UWA
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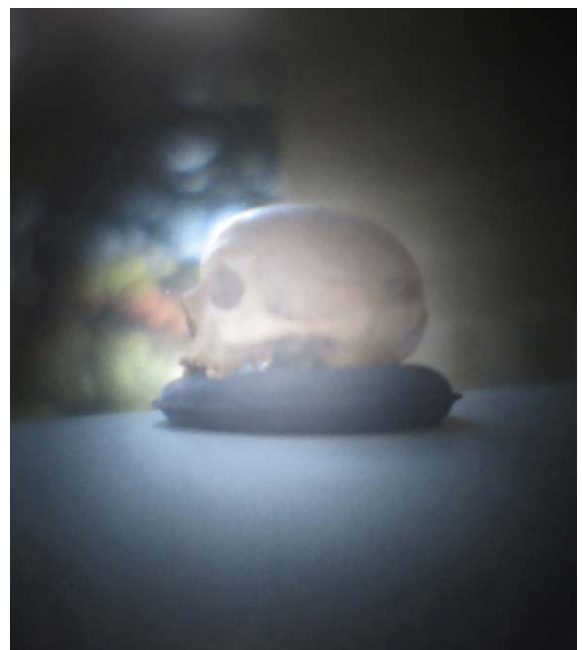
IMAGES MEDIA SUITE



Paul Uhlmann, *Batavia 4th June 1629 (night of my sickness)* (detail, one of three panels), 2017, oil on canvas, 120 x 180cm



Paul Uhlmann, *Batavia skull (camera obscura I)*, 2015, photo-print on aluminum, 15 x 12cm



Paul Uhlmann, *Batavia skull (camera obscura II)*, 2015, photo-print on aluminum, 15 x 12cm



Robert Cleworth, *memento mori - two hands*, 2016, oil on wood panel, 50 x 38cm



Robert Cleworth, *arm and seascape*, 2016, oil on canvas, 95 x 84cm



Batavia Dig Beacon Island, 2015, Photographer: Jeremy Green



Discovery of SK16 on Beacon Island, 2015, Photographer: Jeremy Green