

MURRAY  
BRIDGE  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY

# ANNABELLE COLLETT: **ReDress**



**25 NOVEMBER 2023 – 28 JANUARY 2024**

Celebrating the final 15 years of an inimitable artist and change-maker, with a selection of her fabulous fabrics and fantastic plastics!

**Annabelle Collett** (1955-2019) was a significant figure in the development of Adelaide's art and fashion scenes, as well as interior designs of cafés and clubs.

Driven by social politics and community engagement, Collett was a trailblazer, provocateur and innovator. Her conceptual and creative influences on audiences, her contemporaries and emerging artists, continue to resonate in her wake.

**ReDress** presents works spanning the range of Collett's studio-based art practice, to re-address, re-examine and reaffirm her position as an important contemporary artist.

**Curated by Fulvia Mantelli + Samuel Mulcahy**

**Many thanks to:** Kathie Muir, a long-time Annabelle friend and liaison to her Estate and family, for making it possible for galleries to have continued exhibiting Annabelle's work since her passing; and Leah Grace, an Annabelle friend, colleague and collaborator, for offering this poignant exhibition title and contributing to its description.

Left: Annabelle Collett, *Jewel mask* 2012, found plastic tray, utensils, beads, lids, toys, 90 x 75 x 10cm. Private Collection, South Australia. Photo: Kerry Youde

## MAIN GALLERY

1. **Bobbi**, 2013 \$150  
laser-cut recycled plastics and found objects, 60(diam) x 50cm
2. **XO jacket**, 2017 \$700  
mixed fabrics, found plastics and hanger, buttons, 100 x 74(approx) cm
3. **Body parts**, 2017 small: \$100  
found vintage and contemporary fabrics, padding, large: \$150  
embellishments, various dimensions
4. **Roll your sleeves up and get on with it**, 2003 NFS  
hand-painted jacket with extended sleeves, hand-embroidered text, 177 x 113 x 11cm  
Private Collection, South Australia
5. **Neckpiece (green)**, 2012 NFS  
found plastic hanger, bottle caps, toys and tubing, 74 x 30.5 x 7(approx.) cm  
Private Collection, South Australia
6. **Neckpiece (orange)**, 2012 NFS  
found plastic hanger, bottle caps and tubing, 76.5 x 34 x 7(approx.) cm  
Private Collection, South Australia
7. **Measure**, 2013 NFS  
found plastics on canvas , 70 x 50 x 7.5cm  
Private Collection, South Australia
8. **Cornish**, 2015 \$360  
found plastics on canvas , 50.5 x 40.5 x 7cm
9. **Tackle**, 2014 \$440  
found plastics on canvas , 70 x 50 x 6.5cm
10. **Trick track**, 2012 NFS  
found plastic toys, utensil, raffia and Tupperware lid, 88 x 45 x 10 cm  
Private Collection, South Australia
11. **Jewel mask**, 2012 NFS  
found plastic tray, utensils, beads, lids and toys, 90 x 75 x 10cm  
Private Collection, South Australia
12. **Red plaque**, 2012 \$630  
found plastic plate and toys, 87 x 54 x 12cm
13. **Fish plaque**, 2012 \$390  
found plastic plates, toys and lids, 84 x 74.5 x 6cm
14. **Meshed**, 2015 \$390  
found plastics on canvas board, 75 x 60 x 5cm
15. **Committee**, 2014 \$470  
plastics on canvas, 90 x 60 x 5 cm

16. **Same, same, but different**, 2016 \$2,000  
18-piece installation: found and sewn fabrics, timber stretchers, 202 x 280 x 12(approx) cm
17. **Red dangle**, 2013 \$500  
found plastic containers, implements and toys, fishing line, 140 x 45 x 45cm
18. **Green dangle**, 2013 \$500  
found plastic containers, implements and toys, fishing line, 160 x 35 x 35cm
19. **Neo-camo suit**, 2018 \$1,800  
8-piece installation: digitally printed and sewn cotton twill, timber stretchers, buttons, selection from *The Badge Collection* (lasercut anodized aluminium, ribbons, buttons, found objects), 230 x 102 x 14(approx) cm
20. **Red armour**, 2012 \$640  
recycled and found plastics, containers and rope, 112 x 100 x 10cm
21. **Green crown**, c.1998-2000 \$360  
hand-painted silk, 90 x 250cm
22. **Green flash**, c.1998-2000 \$360  
hand-painted silk, 90 x 305cm
23. **Banjo**, 2012 NFS  
found plastics, fishing line, cotton thread, 70 x 32 x 6cm  
Private Collection, South Australia
24. **Abandoned dress**, 2011 \$900  
cotton, found buttons, bottle caps, bones, rusted metals, shells, and seeds  
dimensions variable (dress life-size with extended skirt)  
This installation iteration is a posthumous collaboration with Samuel Mulcahy.
25. **Plastic ceremonial**, 2012 \$1,100  
cotton, found vinyl, plastics, objects, toys and beads, dimension variable

## GALLERY SHOP + ENTRANCE

26. **Zeng sieve**, 2017 \$480  
found plastic sieve, wool, 90 x 55 x 16cm
27. **Domestic camouflage**, 2003 small: \$7  
from a series of 99 pieces: medium: \$10  
vintage fabrics on laser-cut plywood, large: \$15  
various dimensions 3 or more: 10% less
28. **New Day sun dress**, 2008 \$660  
pattern tribute to British designer Lucienne Day  
digitally printed and sewn cotton twill, mannequin, life-size
29. **Sense of occasion**, 2008 'bundles' each: \$10  
from an installation originally 230 x 400cm squares each: \$6  
stretched fabrics, machine embroidered bundled fabrics, 3 or more: 10% less  
various dimensions

From the early 1990s, Annabelle concentrated on making sculptural art pieces about the human form and its coverings, looking at the function and cultural meaning of attire with reference to ideas about gender, the body and sexuality.

In more recent years Collett also investigated notions of camouflage, disguise, pattern and the affect of disruptions to pattern.

She is also known for a series of works with recycled and found plastics that focused on repurposing waste and challenged the widespread adoption of single-use plastics.

Excerpt from *Annabelle Collett: Creator and Catalyst*, by **Kathie Muir**, published by Wakefield Press and available at the Murray Bridge Regional Gallery shop for \$49.95.

Right: Annabelle Collett, *Roll your sleeves up and get on with it* (detail) 2003, hand-painted jacket with extended sleeves, hand-embroidered text, 177 x 113 x 11cm. Private Collection, South Australia. Photo: Michal Klivanek.

*It's an absolute honour to have known the spectacular Annabelle and called her a friend. A vibrant ball of fun and creativity, she was integral to me blossoming as a person. I can't thank her enough, I miss her every day.*

Samuel Mulcahy, 2023

Murray Bridge Regional Gallery is pleased to simultaneously present *ReDress with Botanical Armour*, the first solo exhibition by Samuel Mulcahy, a rising regional artist mentored by Annabelle Collett for many years.

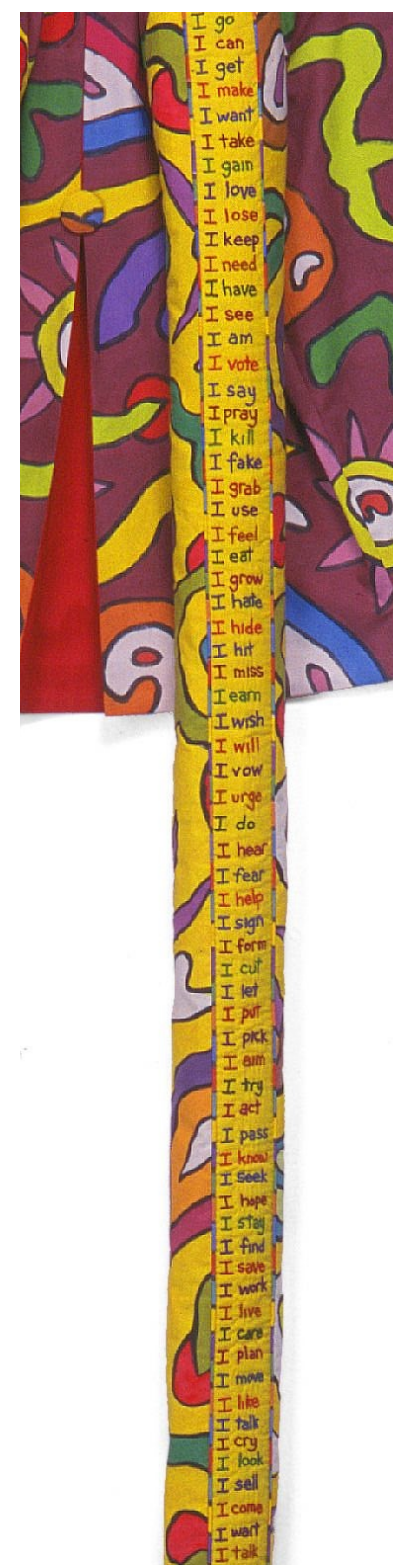
### **Celebratory Event**

Sunday 10 December 2023

Guest Speaker: Leah Grace

Alexandrina Council Arts & Cultural Development Officer

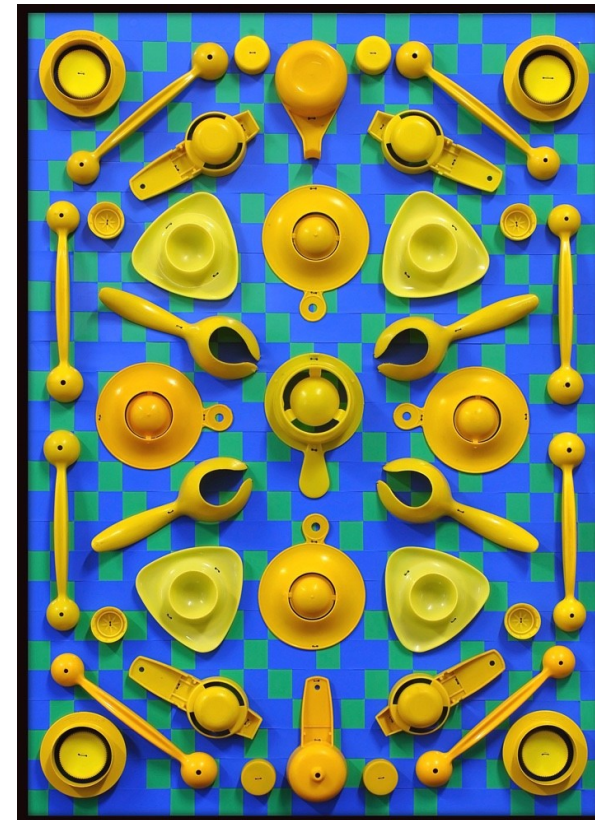
+ Director Signal Point Gallery and South Coast Regional Art Centre.







Above: Annabelle Collett, *XO jacket*, 2017, mixed fabrics, found plastics and hanger, buttons, 100 x 74(approx) cm .  
Photo: Kerry Youde  
Right: Annabelle Collett, *Measure*, 2013, assorted found plastics on canvas , 70 x 50x 7.5cm .  
Private Collection, South Australia. Photo: Richard Hodges



**ReDress is the final** opportunity in the foreseeable future to acquire works from an Annabelle Collett exhibition.

Please see our friendly staff in the Gallery Shop if you are interested in purchasing a work.

Acclaimed as one of South Australia's premier regional galleries and set in the heart of the town's arts precinct, Murray Bridge Regional Gallery is a convenient 45-minute drive from Adelaide, on beautiful Ngarrindjeri Ruwe (Country) near the banks of the majestic River Murray. The Gallery brings enriching and adventurous contemporary arts experiences to the region, with culturally and conceptually diverse projects. The exhibition program and Gallery Shop also showcase local arts practices from across the Murraylands and surrounds, ranging from seasoned to experimental artforms, by leading, mid-career and emerging artists, as well as recreational makers and young people.



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