



ARTSNATIONAL
Cairns

Welcome to ArtsNational Cairns

A place where curiosity meets creativity, and art lovers connect.

ArtsNational Cairns is part of a vibrant, not-for-profit network of over 5,500 members and 36 societies across Australia – all passionate about sharing and exploring the world of the arts. Our Cairns branch is a small, lively and welcoming community of locals who enjoy thought-provoking lectures, rich storytelling, and the chance to come together over a shared love of culture.

We host eight beautifully illustrated talks each year – all delivered by expert speakers in their fields. In addition to our lecture series, we also enjoy relaxed social outings throughout the year – visiting local exhibitions, trivia, and exploring Cairns' creative side together.

Whether you're a long-time art enthusiast or just keen to learn something new, you'll find a friendly space here to connect, be inspired, and enjoy the arts in good company.

Membership

Annual Membership is \$140 per person which includes:

- + entry to all 8 presentations
- + a free guest entry for a friend

Scan

for more info

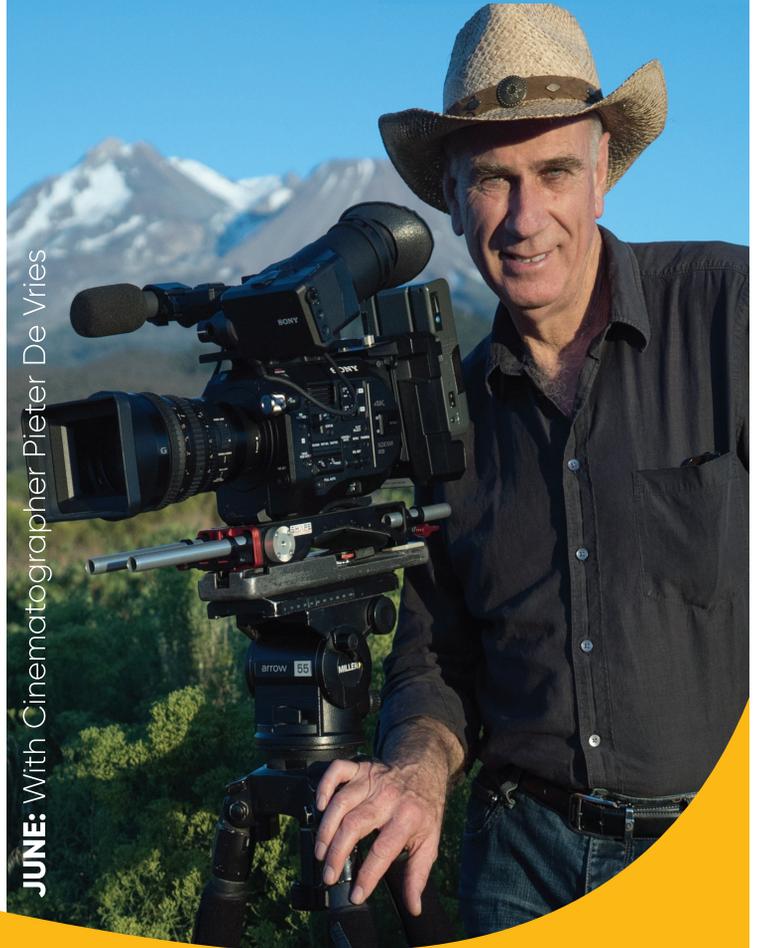


ARTSNATIONAL
Cairns

Contact Us

cairns@artsnational.au
www.artsnational.au/societies/cairns
www.facebook.com/ArtsNationalCairns

JUNE: With Cinematographer Pieter De Vries



March – June 2026 Calendar
Illustrated talks
+ socialising & refreshments

Venue: City Council Library
Meeting Room
151 Abbott St, Cairns

Doors open: 1:30pm for a 2pm start.

Tickets: \$25per person, members free.

Sunday 1st, MARCH



**SUSAN
KAY-WILLIAMS (UK)**

Imperial Purple To Marie Antoinette's Fleas: The Colourful History Of Textiles

This lecture explores the fascinating story of how dyes were discovered, made, and used from the earliest time to the end of the 18th century. It shows the social importance of certain colours including red, blue, and purple. It is a story that travels from Europe to India and the Americas, a story of exploration, invention, war, the church, money, power, and sex.

Sunday 12th, APRIL



**PETER
MCNEIL (AUSTRALIA)**

Paddington: The Arts Hub

Paddington, Sydney, is renowned as an almost intact nineteenth-century precinct. Once shabby and down at heel, by the 1960s it was Sydney's 'arts hub'. How and why did this happen? What makes Paddington so loved by our creatives? How did the galleries start up? By the 1970s the suburb was brimming with artists, writers, musicians, designers, journos and filmmakers, whose studios and shops we will visit in an exciting review of the well-known artists, designers and restaurants of the times.

Sunday 10th, MAY



**ZARA
FLEMING (UK)**

The Arts And Crafts Of Kashmir

Kashmir conjures up a beautiful valley surrounded by the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas, for others it appears as a land of conflict. Less well known is that it has been of historic artistic importance for nearly 2000 years. This lecture introduces the astonishing diversity of arts and crafts produced in this tiny area, influenced by Buddhist, Hindu and Islamic cultures. Despite its troubled history, Kashmir has fostered a unique environment of artistic diversity and religious co-existence.

Sunday 21st, JUNE



**PIETER
De VRIES (AUSTRALIA)**

On The Wild Side: Filming Creatures Great And Small

In this lecture, Pieter will share his techniques for capturing extraordinary images for Sir David Attenborough and National Geographic. From playful Macaque monkeys in China to majestic Cassowaries in Northern Australia, he will illustrate his presentation with segments from his nature documentaries.

VENUE TBC:

Sunday 5th July: Charlie Hall (UK)

"Peggy Guggenheim - A Life Of Collecting"

Sunday 9th August: TESSA BOASE (UK)

"Fashion, Feathers And Feminism: Women's Fight For Change"

Sunday 6th September: Mariska Beekenkamp-Wladimiroff (UK)

"The Dutch Golden Age In Six Paintings"

Sunday 11th October - Graham Jones (UK)

"The Music Of The Caribbean"