

ARTSNATIONAL EMERGING ARTIST PRIZE

Members of the 2026 Judging Panel and their expertise

CLAUDIA CHAN SHAW

Qualifications: BA in Visual Communication Design from Sydney College of the Arts.

Claudia Chan Shaw has a multi-faceted career as a television and radio presenter, lecturer, author, designer, curator, podcaster, and artist.

She is the co-host of TV show *Antiques DownUnder* and was a familiar face on ABC TV's much-loved program *Collectors*. Her book, *Collectomania: From objects of desire to magnificent obsession*, is a lively celebration of the curious and captivating world of collecting.



Claudia was the inaugural curator for the City of Sydney's Chinese New Year Festival and was on the selection panel for the Head on Photo Festival 2026.

Claudia also leads cultural tours around the globe for the Art Gallery Society of NSW, guiding travellers through design history with her popular *Art Deco to Art Now* and *Art Nouveau* tours. With a deep passion for the decorative arts and a gift for storytelling, she brings history, design, and culture vividly to life.

LEIGH CAPEL

Qualifications: BA (Communications: Media Arts & Production)

Leigh has been working in the auction industry as a valuer and specialist since 2013, working for Menzies, Mossgreen and Sotheby's. In 2018, he left the auction industry to become Director of Belle Epoque Fine Art & Antiques, his Mother's business, known for supplying art and furniture to the Australian Film & Television industry, particularly Baz Luhrmann's films. In 2019, Leigh replaced the late, great art dealer Lauraine Diggins at The Sydney Fair at Royal Randwick & The Melbourne Fair at Caulfield. Leigh's projects have featured in *Vogue Australia*, *FilmInk* magazine & *The Daily Telegraph*. He is an accredited valuer of the Auctioneers & Valuers Association of Australia. Leigh's experience within the auction industry and outside as an art dealer provides a rounded perspective of the art market and art history.



Relevant Experience: Committee member, ArtsNational Sydney Inc.; Art dealer, Director, Belle Epoque Fine Art (NSW); Fine Art Lecturer; Accredited Fine Art Valuer AVAA (CVAu); formerly Specialist for Sotheby's Australia (Sydney NSW). Leigh's projects have featured in *Vogue Australia*, *FilmInk* magazine and *The Daily Telegraph*.

RON RAMSEY

Qualifications: Higher Diploma of Teaching (Art & Craft), Bachelor of Education, Graduate Diploma of Applied Science (Cultural & Heritage Management).

Relevant Experience: A wide range of management, programming, education and curatorial roles at the National Gallery of Victoria, National Gallery of Australia, Art Gallery of NSW, Newcastle Art Gallery, Potter Art Museum, University of Melbourne and the Australian Bicentennial Authority. Director of Cultural Relations, Embassy of Australia, Washington DC. Manager, Australian Pavilion, Venice Biennale.

Lectured at NGA, NGV, AGNSW, NAG, Corcoran Gallery, Washington DC, ArtsNational Newcastle as well as a range of regional art galleries.

Schools Liaison Officer at NGV and NGA. Judge Newcastle Club annual art competition and other competitions (e.g. Canberra).

A range of educational publications in support of NGA, NGV, NAG and ABA exhibitions.

He is an ArtsNational lecturer and often comes to ArtsNational Newcastle as a guest. He is knowledgeable of, and cares deeply for, arts education.



Communications with the Judging Panel members, the Prize entrants, with the ArtsNational Philanthropic Fund Management Committee and with the media etc. will only be through the chair of ArtsNational.

E: chair@artsnational.au
