



Media Release

For Immediate Release

DATE: 2 April 2020

SUBJECT: Jumpers and Jazz in July 2020

This year's festival cancelled

Warwick Art Gallery is in full support of the Jumpers and Jazz in July committee's decision to cancel the 2020 festival. The decision was the most difficult that the festival team has had to make in our 16 year history. The pandemic and our government's response to protect us, is not a short term issue. We are beginning to realize that the change in how we live is going to be with us for an indefinite time.

Our main motivation to support this decision is an understanding that the creation of artworks for the festival in predominately collaborative. Our proudest moments have been ones where people have approached their project with the number one priority being fellowship. With the commencement of strict self-isolation recommendations, the joy of collaborating and socializing whilst making something beautiful for our festival has been quashed.

We acknowledge that many of our fantastic Tree Jumper artists are already elbow deep in their entries for the 2020 festival. This year's theme, Crackers, has been so popular and we will just have to wait until 2021 to see everyone's creative interpretations. All current registrations will be transferred to next year's event. We are also happy to accept cancellations and refund the entry fee. Please email the gallery at warwickart@sdrc.qld.gov.au to arrange your refund.

The world famous Yarttopians team, though disappointed, will focus their attention on making even more elements for their *The Front Room* installation. It will be a key part of our festival exhibitions program in 2021. The team is as active as always under the leadership of Gallery staff member Loretta Grayson. You can join the team by following the links on our website. They have in place several lovely ways to support each other during this difficult time.

While Warwick Art Gallery is closed along with all other galleries and museums in Australia, we are still working behind the scenes to keep the arts alive and thriving on the Southern Downs.

Written by Karina Devine, Gallery Director, Warwick Art Gallery