

TOWARDS 2022

The National Art School
Centenary Plan



NATIONAL
ART
SCHOOL



FROM THE DIRECTOR



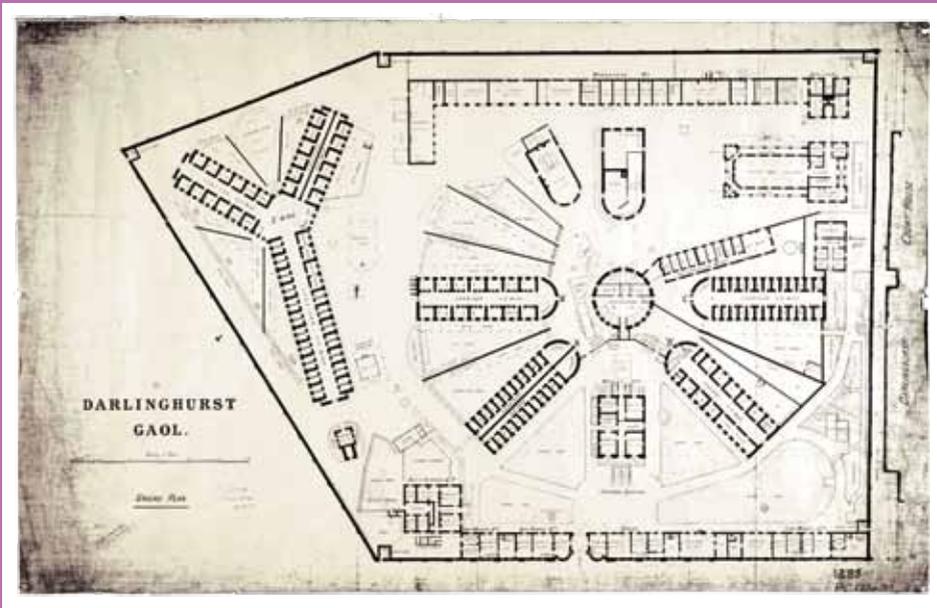
The National Art School will celebrate its centenary on the Darlinghurst site in 2022. We became an independent company in 2009. We are both old and young, and we have planned the next stage of our journey with the wisdom of experience and vigour of youth.

This renewal is built upon understanding the symbolism of our place: the Darlinghurst Gaol, where the populace of the fledgling city of Sydney could look up the hill, come to the public executions and not forget it was a penal colony; and then its reinvention as the place where many of those who define Australia through art can look outwards to new horizons.

We understand the need to forge new visions, to open our rich histories to new communities, to honour our traditions while embracing the future.

Our new vision is expansive, broadening our higher education core into a wider arts and cultural sphere, and we look forward to your company on this journey.

Michael Snelling



Education & Communities



Trade & Investment
Arts NSW





CONTEXT

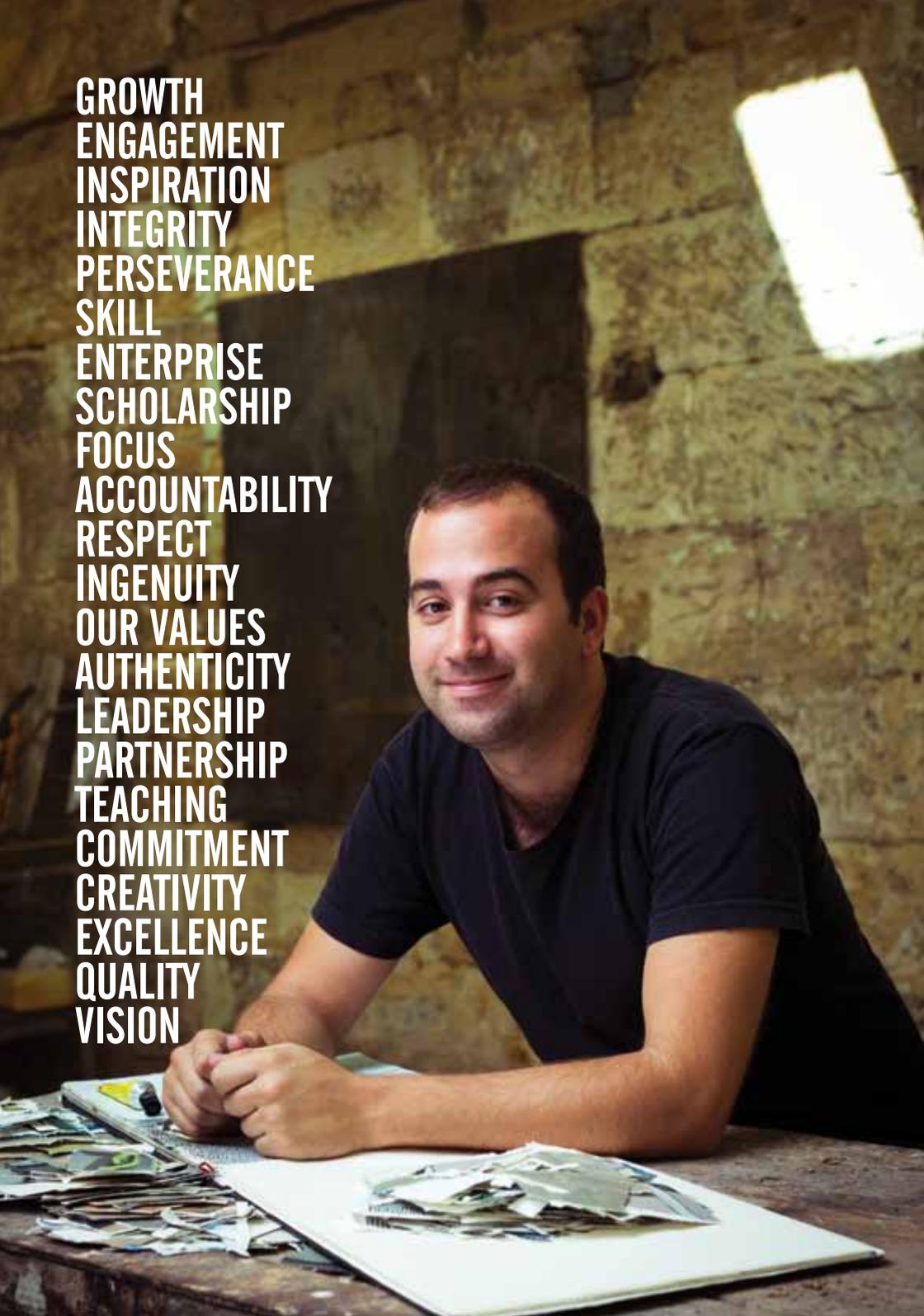
The National Art School (NAS) is an independent visual arts institution dedicated to providing a rigorous and comprehensive education and training for professional artists. Dating from the 1840s, the National Art School has the longest continuing history as a publicly funded art school in Australia. We have been housed in the historic former Darlinghurst Gaol in East Sydney since 1922.

Today, these exceptional historic buildings provide spacious dedicated studio accommodation, project spaces, a gallery, theatre, technical workshops, specialised arts library, study centre for drawing and the NAS collections and archives.

OUR MISSION

The principal mission of the National Art School is to be a centre of excellence for the provision of higher education and research, scholarship and professional practice in the visual arts and related fields.

The National Art School utilises its independent identity and its historic site to develop and deliver arts and cultural awareness in a local, national and international context.



GROWTH
ENGAGEMENT
INSPIRATION
INTEGRITY
PERSEVERANCE
SKILL
ENTERPRISE
SCHOLARSHIP
FOCUS
ACCOUNTABILITY
RESPECT
INGENUITY
OUR VALUES
AUTHENTICITY
LEADERSHIP
PARTNERSHIP
TEACHING
COMMITMENT
CREATIVITY
EXCELLENCE
QUALITY
VISION



OUR FOUR PILLARS

- 1** To be the institute of choice for the study of visual art practice in Australia
- 2** Unlock the historical and cultural significance of the National Art School site for the benefit of the broader community
- 3** Create a vibrant cultural hub that attracts and inspires Australia's diverse communities
- 4** Strengthen operational capacity to ensure the highest quality corporate and academic outcomes



1

TO BE THE INSTITUTE OF CHOICE FOR THE STUDY OF VISUAL ART PRACTICE IN AUSTRALIA

Why this focus?

The NAS is a core educational institution in NSW that provides foundation and advanced training in the visual arts. Our teaching and learning methods are studio and practice-based. In addition to producing outstanding practicing artists the NAS is an incubator for cultural and creative industries, evidenced by the achievements and diverse vocations our graduates have gone on to fulfil.

What we will do

- Introduce a revitalised academic program that will increase demand for courses and attract the most talented visual art students
- Encourage wider diversity and create new opportunities for participation in art practice

- Increase opportunities for our graduates to achieve professional success

The result

The NAS will be the institute of choice for tertiary level Visual Arts students and degree places at the NAS will be coveted and in high demand. Students will report exceptional satisfaction rates.

The student body and faculty will be more culturally diverse. We will be proud of our strong links with indigenous, regional and international communities.

Our graduates will continue to develop rich professional lives and contribute substantially to the cultural fabric of our society.

2

UNLOCK THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NATIONAL ART SCHOOL SITE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BROADER COMMUNITY

Why this focus?

The NAS site has enormous cultural and historical importance. The building is one of the oldest in Australia with construction commencing only 34 years after the first fleet arrived. As custodians of the site, the NAS will work to conserve and protect the site. We will open the site to the wider community for educational, historic and cultural activities.

What we will do

- Establish a stable site tenure arrangement and develop a site management plan
- Position the NAS site as a popular destination for educational and historic tours
- Create a cultural precinct with diverse income streams

The result

Increased visitation and access to the site and its histories.

Community pride in a beautiful and preserved piece of history in close proximity to the CBD.

The reasons for people being on the site will be far more varied – visiting markets, viewing a performance, eating at the café as well as studying at the best art college in the country.





3

CREATE A VIBRANT CULTURAL HUB THAT ATTRACTS AND INSPIRES AUSTRALIA'S DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

Why this focus?

The NAS trains artists who continue to contribute to the cultural fabric of the country and the world through their art practices and their broader intellectual and career pursuits. This goal broadens our scope of interests into a wider arts and cultural sphere.

What we will do

- Maintain and develop the NAS gallery program within a local and global framework
- Develop strategic partnerships with local, national and international cultural organisations
- Utilise and enhance the NAS archive and collection
- Raise awareness of the NAS site and its cultural and historical significance

Photo by Corey Rankin.

The result

Increased visitation and access to arts and cultural programs.

Increased opportunities for artists and the public to develop and engage with new artworks.

Vibrancy in a logical yet under-utilised city location.



4

STRENGTHEN OPERATIONAL CAPACITY TO ENSURE THE HIGHEST QUALITY CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC OUTCOMES

Why this focus?

To maintain world-class standards in Visual Art education and deliver a vibrant and diverse cultural program, the NAS must operate efficiently, effectively and with clear understanding of its capacity. The school needs to seek alternative sources of revenue and build cash reserves to ensure on-going financial security. To achieve its strategic vision, the NAS must build on its exceptional staff base and provide an excellent working environment that develops and encourages all to reach their full potential.

What we will do

- Create an organisational structure that supports the strategic priorities of the NAS
- Attract and retain the highest quality staff

- Strengthen financial capacity by building cash reserves, and developing new and existing income streams
- Establish stable funding arrangements with the NSW State Government and seek Commonwealth funding contributions

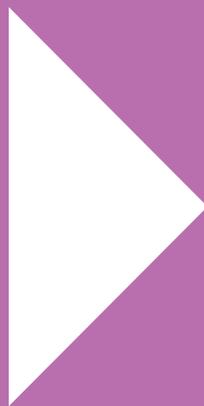
The result

The NAS will build unallocated cash reserves to a fifth of its annual expenditure to ensure that it is can meet future challenges.

The NAS will achieve this growth through inventive diversification of revenue streams that engages with the broader community.

Staff at the NAS will report exceptional job satisfaction and will be proud that they are employed by the best art school in the country.

HART AMOS JEAN APPLETON
PETER ATKINS TOM BASS
PHIL BELBIN VIV BINNS CHARLES
BLACKMAN TIM BURNS CRESSIDA
CAMPBELL LINDSAY CHURCHLAND
MARGARET CILENTO JOHN COBURN
ELISABETH CUMMINGS GEOFFREY
DE GROEN STAN DE TELIGA WILLIAM
DOBELL IAN DODD KEN DONE
DOUGLAS DUNDAS MAX DUPAIN
IVAN ENGLUND JOHN FIRTH-SMITH
THANCOUPIE GLORIA FLETCHER
JAMES BERT FLUGELMAN FIONA
FOLEY YVONNE FRANCAERT KLAUS
FRIEDEBERGER JAMES GLEESON
FIONA HALL ELAINE HAXTON NORMAN
HETHERINGTON (MR SQUIGGLE)
FRANK HINDER G.RAYNER HOFF
FRED JESSUP ENA JOYCE JUZ KITSON
ROBERT KLIPPEL COLIN LANCELEY
PETER LAVERTY MITTY LEE-BROWN
GUY MAESTRI TIM MAQUIRE MARIE
MCMAHON ARTHUR MCINTYRE
CLEMENT MEADMORE CHARLES MEERE
MENTAL AS ANYTHING GODFREY MILLER
JON MOLVIG REG MOMBASSA SUSAN
NORRIE JOHN OLSEN PETER POWDITCH
LES RICE PETER RUSHFORTH MARTIN
SHARP WENDY SHARPE GARRY SHEAD
PHYLLIS SHILLITO JOSHUA SMITH
TIM STORRIER ANN THOMSON
TOM THOMPSON BARBARA TRIBE
TONY TUCKSON KEN UNSWORTH
GUY WARREN PAUL WORSTEAD



nas.edu.au

Forbes Street
Darlinghurst
Sydney NSW 2010
Australia

t +61 2 9339 8744

CRICOS 03197B

