



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Monday 14 September 2015**

**SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE & MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART AUSTRALIA present**  
**As part of the Sydney International Art Series**

## **GRAYSON PERRY: HOW TO BE AN ARTIST JUST LIKE ME**

Leading British contemporary artist and Turner Prize recipient **Grayson Perry** will speak at the Sydney Opera House on Sunday 13 December, his first Australian address, to coincide with the opening of a major exhibition of his works, titled *Grayson Perry: My Pretty Little Art Career*, at the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia from 10 December 2015 – 1 May 2016.

**Sydney Opera House Head of Talks and Ideas, Ann Mossop**, said *“Grayson Perry is not only a fascinating and original artist, but someone who brings unique insight to the conversation about what art means in our lives. It is a pleasure to partner with our friends at MCA to see Perry take to the Sydney Opera House stage to talk about his life, work, influences, the art world and his major exhibition exclusive to Sydney.”*

Part of the 2015-2016 **Sydney International Art Series**, this exhibition will be Perry’s first major survey in the Southern Hemisphere. Created by the NSW Government’s tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW, the Sydney International Arts Series is a signature event on the NSW Events Calendar, bringing the world’s most outstanding exhibitions exclusively to Sydney.

With a keen eye for detail and a love of the popular and vernacular, Grayson Perry is known for his ceramics, sculptures, drawings, prints and large-scale tapestries. An astute chronicler of contemporary life, he infuses his artworks with a sly humour, reflecting on society past and present, the personal and political. Perry’s multi-faceted practice explores themes ranging from the history of taste and social class in Britain and religious and folk iconography to representations of gender and sexuality. Embellished with photographic transfers, graffiti drawing and text, his highly decorated ceramic pots are characterised by a unique combination of pathos and wit. Perry’s transvestism and feminine alter ego Claire – described by the artist as ‘a central plank of [his] creative drive’ – emerges through his practice as a recurring visual motif.

For more information about the Grayson Perry exhibition at the MCA, visit [www.mca.com.au/exhibition/grayson/](http://www.mca.com.au/exhibition/grayson/)

### **ABOUT GRAYSON PERRY**

Grayson Perry held his first solo exhibition in Britain in 1984 and has exhibited his works internationally since the early 1990s. He was the recipient of the prestigious Turner Prize in 2003 and in 2011 combined his own works with historical artefacts from The British Museum collection in *Grayson Perry: The Tomb of the Unknown Craftsman*. He has made numerous television appearances, hosting his own Channel 4 series *In the Best Possible Taste – Grayson Perry* in 2012 and *Grayson Perry: Who Are You?* In 2013, he delivered The Reith Lectures, BBC Radio 4’s annual flagship talk series by international thinkers, to widespread critical acclaim, and in late 2014 held a solo exhibition on the theme of portraiture and British identity at the National Portrait Gallery, London. Today he is a trustee of The British Museum and a Royal Academician.

Follow Grayson Perry on Twitter [@alan\\_measles](https://twitter.com/alan_measles)  
[#GraysonPerry](https://twitter.com/GraysonPerry)



## ABOUT IDEAS AT THE HOUSE

**Ideas at the House** is Sydney Opera House's talks and ideas program. It presents ideas, conversation and debate from leading thinkers and culture creators. Ideas at the House online extends the reach of live events with unique content. As well as a year-round program of inspiring events, Ideas at the House features the annual festivals *All About Women* and the *Festival of Dangerous Ideas*, and one-day events *For Thought* and *Carnegie Conversations: Ideas for a better Australia*. The next *Festival of Dangerous Ideas* will take place on 5-6 September 2015. More info: [www.sydneyoperahouse.com/ideasatthehouse](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/ideasatthehouse)

## ABOUT THE SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART SERIES

**The Sydney International Art Series** brings the world's most outstanding exhibitions exclusively to Sydney, Australia. Created by the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW, the Sydney International Art Series is a signature event on the NSW Events Calendar. More info: <http://www.qtix.com.au/artpass/package/261.aspx>

## EVENT DETAILS:

WHAT: Grayson Perry: How To Be An Artist Just Like Me  
WHEN: Sunday 13 December, 3pm  
WHERE: Joan Sutherland Theatre, Sydney Opera House  
TICKETS: From \$35 (packages including entry to MCA Exhibition also available from Sydney Opera House Box Office)  
MORE INFO: [www.sydneyoperahouse.com](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com)

## CONNECT WITH IDEAS AT THE HOUSE:

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/IdeasAtTheHouse>  
TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/ideasatthehouse>  
INSTAGRAM: <http://instagram.com/sydneyoperahouse/>  
YOUTUBE: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ideasatthehouse>  
IATH HUB: <http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/ideasatthehouse>

## CONNECT WITH MCA:

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/MCA.Australia>  
TWITTER: [http://www.MCA\\_Australia](http://www.MCA_Australia)  
INSTAGRAM: [http://instagram.com/mca\\_australia\\_now](http://instagram.com/mca_australia_now)

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## PRESENTING PARTNERS

Museum of  
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