



and **John R Neeson's** site-specific project employs mirrors positioned on easels, referencing the illusory paintings of Rene Magritte, to capture vistas he paints as simulated reflections.

The exhibition extends beyond the medium of painting to explore optical illusion and tricks of the eye in sculpture, photography and moving images. **Ricky Swallow** humorously casts a faux magnifying glass to suggest a shift in the scale of everyday objects such as rope and tubular piping, in his playful bronze sculptures. Inspired by seventeenth-century Dutch painted perspective boxes and an illusion known as the Necker cube, **Georgina Cue's** three-dimensional sculptural installation merges tapestry, optical trickery and imagery from early twentieth-century New York crime scene photographs; **Anne Zahalka** photographs the trompe l'oeil dioramas at the American Museum of Natural History in New York in works from her series *Wild life*. Combining realistically painted backdrops with taxidermied specimens, these staged dioramas blur the line between real and non-real; and the video work of **Daniel Crooks** brings the traditions of trompe l'oeil into the twenty-first century, confounding viewers' sense of proximity and perceptions of space through collaged landscapes.

*Tricking the eye—contemporary trompe l'oeil* invites visitors to consider the artistic traditions of trompe l'oeil painting—that also extend into everyday life—in the context of the work of these contemporary Australian artists. – Ends –

## Public programming—

### Floortalks

**Thursday 1 December, 11.00am**

presented by Jan Murray, exhibiting artist

**Wednesday 18 January, 12.00pm**

presented by Lisa Sullivan, Curator

**Saturday 4 February, 2.00pm**

presented by Chris Bond, exhibiting artist

### Meet the artist

**Wednesday 30 November, 11.30am – 12.00pm**

**Saturday 3 December, 1.00pm – 1.30pm**

Meet exhibiting artist John R Neeson as he completes his commissioned works for *Tricking the eye—contemporary trompe l'oeil* within the Gallery

### First Friday—Illustrated lecture

**Friday 3 February at 11.00am**

Join Curator, Lisa Sullivan as she presents an overview of *Tricking the eye—contemporary trompe l'oeil*. Lisa explores the centuries old tradition of trompe l'oeil painting (trick of the eye) and works by contemporary practitioners that are intentionally illusionistic, play with perspective or are something other than what they first appear to be. Cost—Members: \$10 and Non-members: \$12

## Exhibition sponsor



This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

## Government partners



Geelong Gallery is supported by the Victorian Government through Arts Victoria

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Little Malop Street Geelong VIC 3220 | T: 03 5229 3645 | **Free entry** Open daily 10am–5pm  
Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day | [www.geelonggallery.org.au](http://www.geelonggallery.org.au)

**Geelong  
Gallery**