

The Sydney Morning Herald

CULTURE ART & DESIGN ARTS

This was published 4 months ago

Seven sculptures by the sea head west

By [Linda Morris](#)

November 26, 2019 – 3.04pm



Seven works exhibited in this year's Sculpture by the Sea have found homes in a new sculpture walk in Sydney's south-west as the founder of the Bondi arts festival explores new expansion opportunities.

The Liverpool Sculpture Walk is the festival's first NSW offshoot, giving a second exhibition opportunity for artworks displayed along the dramatic Bondi-to-Tamarama coastal walk.

From December 7 until August 2020 works will be positioned on 20-hectares of riverside parkland, sitting between Casual Powerhouse Art Centre and a precinct of playgrounds, outdoor gyms and dog parks.



Coming to Casula: Tetsuro Yamasaki's Circle Door to the Future.

The exhibition had been in development since the start of the year, Sculpture by the Sea founder David Handley said, and was not a response to the challenges the Bondi event faced when it locked horns with Waverley Council over major

structural changes to the festival's dress circle location at Marks Park that compromised, or eliminated, the location of a dozen sculptural works.

"I have been trying to get these type of lease projects up for well over a decade to find second homes for sculptures from our Bondi and Cottesloe shows" he said.

"As a result, there is a major collection of over 20 works now on Granite Island at Victor Harbor in South Australia with five more sculptures to be shortly installed."

The partnership with Sculpture by the Sea was a chance to bring wider cultural experience to people of south-west Sydney within a discreet budget, Casula's director Craig Donarski said.

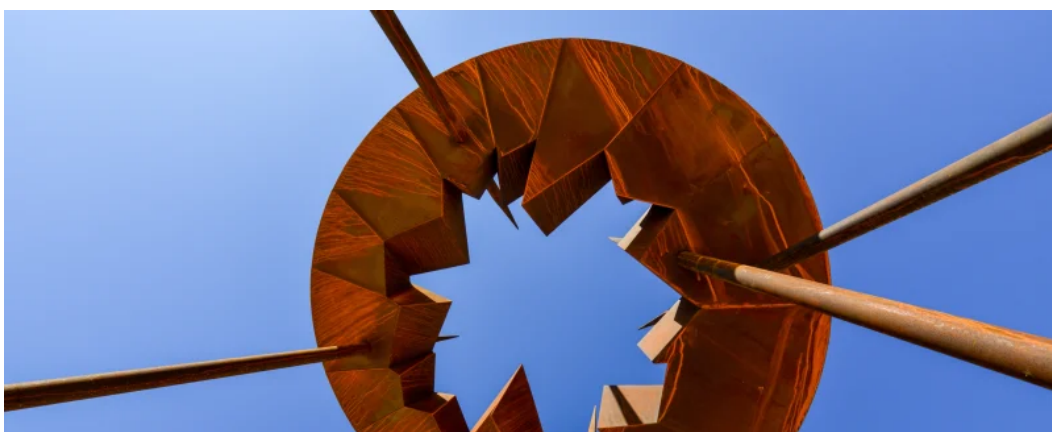


Second viewing: Denise Peppers' SEQUENTIAL Reflections. SCULPTURE BY THE SEA

A survey of 700 Liverpool Council residents carried out early this year found an overwhelming majority of locals wanted to see more outdoor sculpture in the area beyond the more "predictable cast bronze historical figures", Donarski says.

"With this partnership arrangement, we can take a smaller selection of works from this year's festival as soon as it finishes and have them up. What's really exciting is we'll be annually updating and renewing the sculpture walk each year with a fresh batch to replace the previous year's ones," he said.

Donarski is hopeful this year's nucleus of works will draw interest elsewhere. Impressed with the National Art School's graduate show, he is negotiating to exhibit some of the graduates' best works at Casula.





David Ball's *Celest*. SCULPTURE BY THE SEA

Handley said all artists' costs would be covered including freight, plus they would be paid a lease fee while the sculptures would still be available to be acquired

"While it's obviously easier to find the funds to more appropriately support the artists when there are seven sculptors in a show compared to 100, it really is time the three levels of government and their arts funding agencies get behind the artists in Sculpture by the Sea - remembering the Australia Council has decided the artists won't get any funding at all, not one cent, from 2021," he said.

The seven sculptures are a mix of the monumental, witty and clever: *Celest* by David Ball, *Time After Time* by Cui Yi, *SEQUINTial Reflections*, by Denise Pepper, *Floating Grounded Figure* by Greg Johns, *Red Gum* by Naomi Taylor Royds, *The Water Carrier* by Paul Selwood and *Circle Door to the Future* by Tetsuro Yamasaki.

As to the fate of Sculpture by the Sea at Bondi, Mr Handley said the event's board continued to explore options for next year. "Thank you for asking but it's too early to add anything further."



Linda Morris



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