

# Arcadia!



**ARC**

UNSW Student Life

@ ART & DESIGN

## ARCADIA TEAM

Anna May Kirk  
Kieran Butler

## CONTRIBUTORS

Student Council  
Katie Winten  
Amaya Lang

## FRONT COVER IMAGE:

Naomi Hamer, 'Now  
Your Mess is Mine', 2015, 'installation view.

## PRINTING

Arc @ UNSW

## THANKS

All the contributors  
Arc @ UNSW Ltd

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# EDITORIAL

The last edition of Arcadia is upon us!

This is the last instalment of on campus happenings, fun and updates for 2015. Don't worry the Arc team will be back for 2016 with a whole year of crazy fun planned for you. This year has been amazing and full of wonderful opportunities that students have been involved with at every turn.

From our exciting Kudos programs for the whole year, to Brightside, our Gallery Crawls, Framework, the Green House program and our A&D Grants we have had a busy but brilliant year.

We're talking to the Kudos Award winner and the Girl Genius winner in this last edition of Arcadia. We also talk to artist

and curator/artist Naomi Hamer about her show at Kudos, interview Monica Rudhar as our Student SnapShot.

We also bring you our usual updates of what is happening on campus as well as updates from our Student Council.

It's been an action packed year of some epic art making, writing and curating.

From everyone at Arc @ UNSW Art & Design have a wicked break, you've worked hard. You deserve it. Catch you all next year!!

Everyone in the Arc @ UNSW Art & Design team!

ANGEL

**KUDOS  
AWARDS  
ANGRY  
ANGEL,**

**ATHENA  
THEBUS**



Now in its 14th year The Kudos Award is an award that seeks to recognise, nurture and support innovation and excellence across a multidisciplinary field of makers at UNSW Art & Design. The Award, open to entries from all students at UNSW Art & Design, awards a major prize of \$1500 from Arc @ UNSW Art & Design to a winner designated by a panel of external judges comprised of artists, designers, curators and arts professionals.

The 2015 winner, Athena Thebus was presented with the Award for her work "Angry Angel" and spoke to us about it and the experience of winning the Kudos Award for 2015.

### How excited were you to hear about winning the Kudos Award for 2015?!

It was such a surprise! I've never won an award before, so this was really cool and affirming.

### What inspired your winning work?

Knighting myself an angel had to do with this memory I have of riding the bus in Los Angeles where I was living last year.

This elderly lady hopped on and started preaching about John the Baptist, heaven and hell, Satan and redemption. She then sung hymns of the same themes and it held this packed bus in silence. I am not particularly religious but the moment was so affecting. There was so much drama

and theatre in this every-day scenario. I felt this

overwhelming sense of shared disappointment, of being forsaken in this city where I first fully felt the hardships of hustling under capitalism. I felt an obscure sense of salvation and I wanted to honour it.

So, did so by tattooing the word ANGEL on the back of my skull. It fits with this grandiose self-love theme of my tattoos. For example, I have 'super star' spelled out across my feet. The placing is strategic – it's nice to be reminded as I get out of bed each morning. It's partly a joke, partly quite serious.

### What made you want to enter that work specifically?

Well actually a friend encouraged me to enter the banner. People seem to really respond to it, which is great because that means that that feeling I felt on the bus is

communicated and shared further. And perhaps this is because we are all, in some kind of way, rogue angels.

### Where can we see more of your stuff in the future?

I'll be part of a group show at Boxcopy in Brisbane mid-December titled Sense Gratification with old mates Llewellyn Millhouse and Benjamin Crowley. No concrete plans yet for 2016 but a lot of hope and dreams.

**KUDOS**  
EMERGING ARTIST + DESIGNER  
**AWARD**



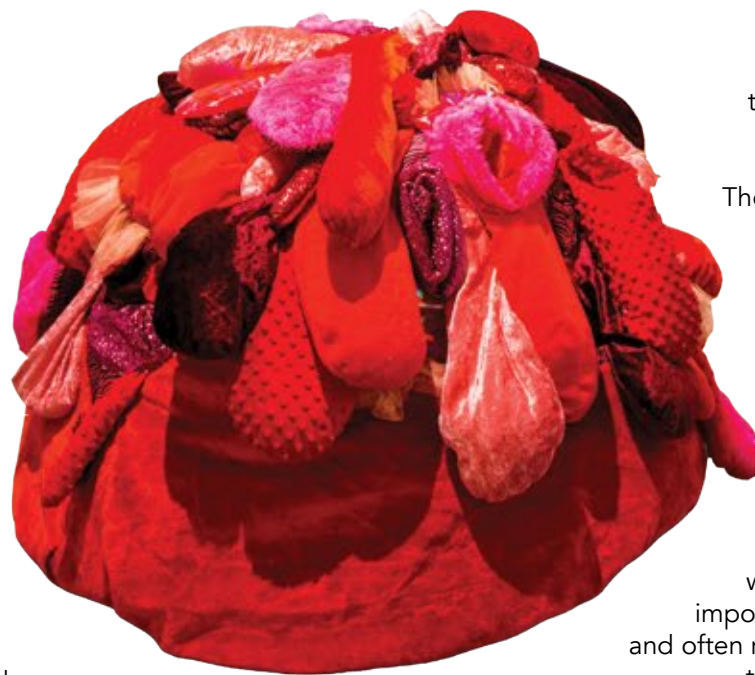
the meantime, check out:  
[athenacalifornia.tumblr.com](http://athenacalifornia.tumblr.com)  
and  
[athenathebus.com](http://athenathebus.com)



# THE BODY POLITIK

The exhibition, *The Body Politik* at Kudos Gallery invites the audience to explore the political and to find your voice, entering a conversation of: What happens when your body fails you or stops living up to expectations? When you find yourself not represented at all?

The show explores the global and intimate feminist body; mental illness and disability; infirmity/disruption and



the family unit; the national body of Australia's backlash towards the global refugee crisis.

The *Body Politik* was an investigation into the practices of four emerging artists from the UNSW Art and Design Textiles program Louella Adey, Bailee Lobb, Alice Tait and Naomi Hamer.

Naomi, artist and curator spoke to us about the show, her practice and where she is headed.

## What is the premise of your art practice?

My work and curating examine the body as something that is personal and of the world. The works included are by the artists who are emerging, but importantly are also textiles students. We're a smaller group and often not given a lot of exhibition space or opportunities and this show was a way to provide them with an exhibition.

We've focused on textiles, texture and the familiarity this provides. But for me there is also an element of socially engaged and conceptual works. Personally, my work draws on art and activism. The passion I have for the working with refugees and asylum





works.

Are there any particular influences for it?

The crossover of art and activism as well as protest art inspires my work. There has been a sudden move within Australia toward more socially and politically engaged art and, for me, the timing felt right. It was a chance for us all to talk about overt politics in Australia as well as politics within the arts itself.

**Where can we expect to see your work in the future?**

My work will be in the Annual 2015 (24th of November) and you can also check out:

[www.naomihamer.com](http://www.naomihamer.com)

or my Instagram:

[@hamernaomi](https://www.instagram.com/hamernaomi)

seekers as well as

the Refugee Action Coalition is seen in the work MESS. It was a response to offshore processing and how Australia treats these people as if they were a mess in the corner, on the floor. Including works like this in the exhibition invites these issues into the conversation.

**What has inspired this show?**

Having worked with these artists and seeing how we were developing together inspired me a lot. This show saw us all playing with the political, it was a tongue-in-cheek look at textiles, tactility and play.

examine as a place play with

In this we could the gallery space to touch and tactility being a common element for the



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**ANNUAL 15**

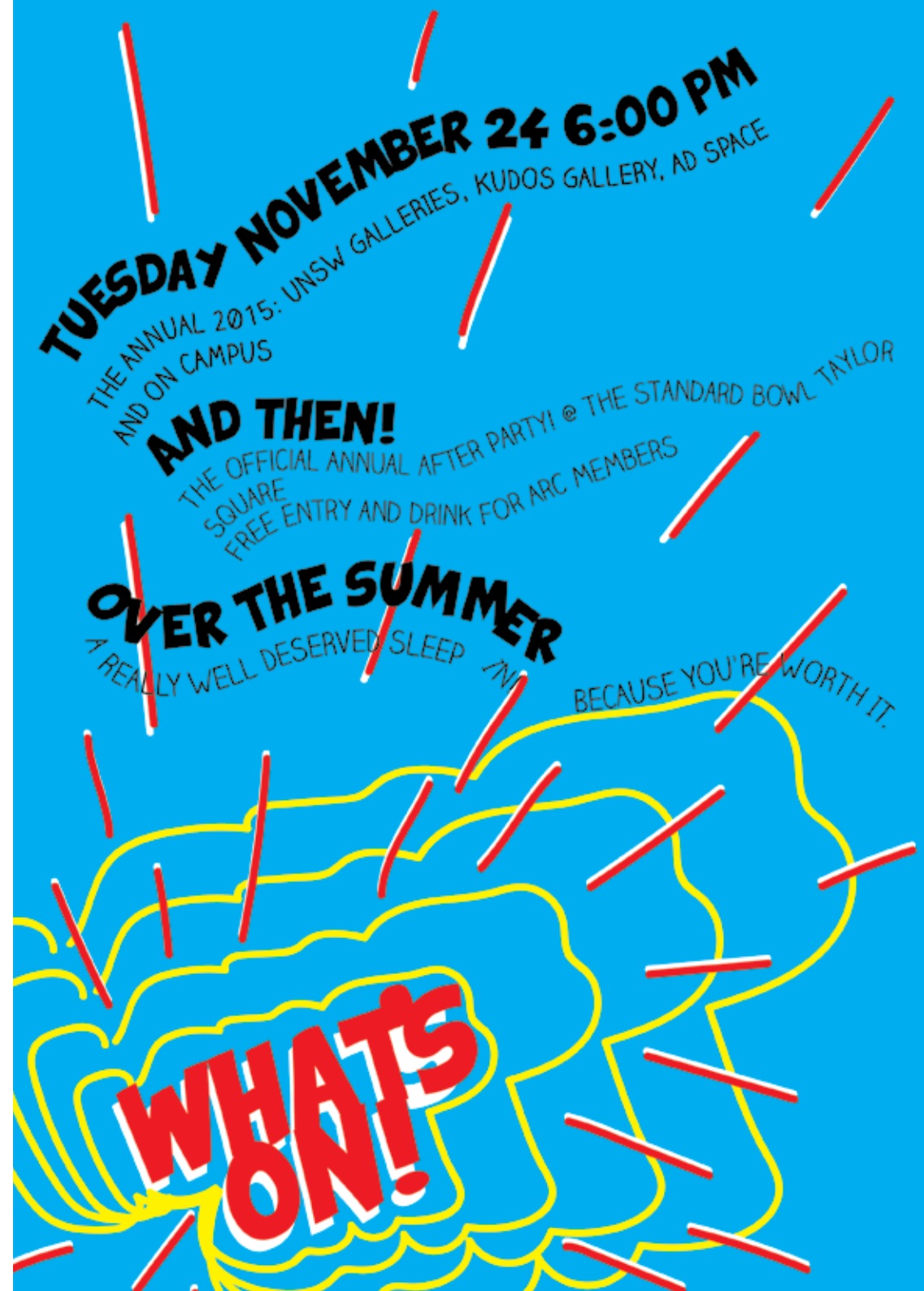
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UNSW ART & DESIGN

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NOV 24 - DEC 12  
OPENING: 6 PM TUE NOV 24

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**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24 6:00 PM**  
THE ANNUAL 2015: UNSW GALLERIES, KUDOS GALLERY, AD SPACE  
AND ON CAMPUS

**AND THEN!**

THE OFFICIAL ANNUAL AFTER PARTY! @ THE STANDARD BOWL TAYLOR  
SQUARE  
FREE ENTRY AND DRINK FOR ARC MEMBERS

**OVER THE SUMMER**

A REALLY WELL DESERVED SLEEP

BECAUSE YOU'RE WORTH IT.

**WHAT'S  
ON!**



# FRAMEWORK

#12 | PROMISE

It has been a wonderful year for arts writing on campus! With the four issues of Framework each critically examining the art world around us in new and exciting ways, thinking ever more complexly about the way art is produced, received and why it is so important to continually analyse our global visual cultures.

From the first issue, focusing on Periphery, to the Provocative second issue, semester one was full of words challenging the ways in which the arts operate. Second semester continued this, with the alternative perspective offered in the third issue and our final issue, examining the promise art holds.

The work of each contributor this year has been amazing and a pleasure to read, as editor. These issues have demanded considered responses from our campus' aspiring art writers, and they

went above and beyond this.

This year has been amazing, working with a brilliant team at Arc and the most wonderful art writers. You've all made this year the wonderful pleasure it has been in editing and producing one of the best art writing opportunities available to students for their professional development and entry into the art industry.

I like many others look forward to what 2016 holds for this consistently exciting student journal!

To read the latest Framework head to:

[arc.unsw.edu.au/entertainment/publications/framework](http://arc.unsw.edu.au/entertainment/publications/framework)





MARCIA SWABY IS: GIRL GENIUS

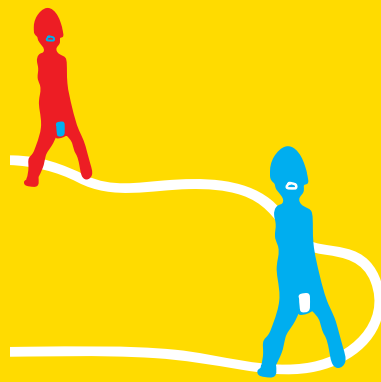
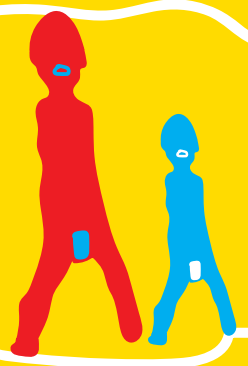


**KUDOS**  
EMERGING ARTIST + DESIGNER  
AWARD

2015 JUDGES:  
Frances Barrett | Emma Pike | Claire McCroftin  
(HIGHLY COMMENDED)  
The Girl Genies Award Winner!

AWARDED TO: Marcia Swaby  
FOR THE WORK: "Pores 1 & 2"

ARC



The Girl Genius Award is awarded at the annual Kudos Award. This year makes the 14th year of the Kudos Award and the 2nd year of the Girl Genius Award. Founded in 2014 by Tess Allas (Director of Indigenous Programs at UNSW Art & Design) and Miranda Samuels (UNSWAAD Alumni) the award addresses the gender inequity that exists within the pedagogy of art and the under-representation of female artists in the professional art world.

The title of the award stems from our research into how the term 'genius' is frequently used to describe young male artists ('the boy genius') but seldom applied to their female counterparts. Hence, the idea of the artistic 'girl genius' was born.

The 2015 winner, Marcia Swaby had a brief interview with us about winning and her work.

### How excited were you to hear about winning the Girl Genius award for 2015?

What a night! This was so unexpected and I felt completely elated and honoured to have received such an

award particularly with so much wonderful work in the gallery. After I got home and called my mum after which I then sat pondered that I just have to push on and believe in myself.

Thank you so much for

the boost in confidence!

### What inspired your winning work?

I am a member of a diaspora generation where my identity is based on a twice-displaced

upbringing – as a British citizen living in Australia with Jamaican (JA) heritage. In recognising the rhythmic nature that for which JA culture is known, I try and integrate a

works as an attempt to create skin and give identity and life to each work.

### What made you want to enter that work specifically?

As an artist majoring in jewelry, the work specifically chosen for this exhibition reflects part of my developing research into Jamaican history. My hope is that the unrefined ideas that I have been developing will be relevant to other upcoming artists in similar positions of self-discovery.

### Where can we see more of your stuff in the future?

I plan to enter more exhibitions as well as develop a website but until then my Instagram page is "MARCIA SWABY"



methodical rhythm when creating my work. This can be seen through the minute 'dots' hammered on to the metal in a porous nature. These small marks are seen through all of my



# STUDENT



# SNAPSHOT

**Your name:** Monica Rudhar

**Your degree (and stage of it):** B. Fine Arts (Honours)

**Title of your most recent or current project:** Most recent project was 'Metamorphosis'.

**What is it all about?**

The work consists of over 20 suspended cocoons made from plastic and copper, that are solar powered and light up in the dark. The concept of my work stems from the idea that we store within us potential actions and thoughts. The

cocoons represent the chamber where these future events are stored that will one day become realised and alter the person we will be, whether it be good or bad. The work looks at personal change and transformation.

**Where can we hear about it?:**

It will be exhibited as a part of the Creative Corner festival on Oxford Street from November 28th! I'm so excited!

**Anything else you're up to recently?:**

Yes, heaps of fun and awesome things! I'm currently making a work that explores touch, and the physical / emotional space between two people. This is currently a work in progress but will be exhibited as an end of year show with the SPI third year collective 99 cents.

I'm also preparing for a performance with Show Us Your Teeth, a feminist collective with

three amazing gals who I met here at UNSW Art & Design.

More details to be released soon!

**Where can we find out more about it all?:**

Come to VEX at Airspace Projects!!! 10 Junction Street Marrickville, Sydney from 4-19 December. Our show will occupy all four galleries, and there is some crazy amazing works being exhibited by some very talented people. Also, keep up with my collective, Show Us Your Teeth on Instagram @ showusyourteeth . Performance details will be released shortly!





# ART+ DESIGN STUDENT COUNCIL

University of New South Wales

We're at the end of the year and most recently had our Oxford Street Art School Ball! It was a fun, crazy cross over between NAS and us. It was very popular with OUT OF THIS WORLD performances by The Pinheads and Solid Effort. Students also did performance pieces, which were largely audience interactive Ilana Westly was amazing with her interactive kissing booth with walkie talkies to communicate through glass.

We also held our Spring Fair! Again this was a success with multiple stores, run by students selling their jewellery, art and other creations.

Very importantly!! The election for the 2016 council was held and we're pleased to say that it was extremely successful with over 150 votes with results pending, but very excited about the 2016 council.



Finally, before the council leaves for 2015 a mural in the Council space to invigorate the space and make it more welcoming for students to come and talk.

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2016!



# GET PAID IN 2016.

visit [arc.unsw.edu.au/jobs](http://arc.unsw.edu.au/jobs)

## PRESS HER

MADELINE BECKETT

Press Her looks at the human form in response to pressure - as it is made vulnerable, susceptible and impressionable.

Pressure is an immaterial force we all come into contact with. Its effects are accumulative and wear on the body. Press Her addresses the body under pressure, attempting to visualise this invisible force in its various manifestations, in a search for an affective and therapeutic release.

Press Her operates through a multi-dimensional performance installation involving partial audience participation. An arrangement of performance systems expose the body to pressure - whether this be the physical pressure of reciprocal touch, the pressure of materiality exerted on the moving, strained or immersed body, or the abstract suggestion of slow accumulated pressure. It hints at the conditions exerted and experienced by bodies in everyday life on a visual platform to consider and reimagine the immaterial force of pressure.



**Opens** Tuesday 10 November 2015, 5-7pm  
**Closes** Saturday 14 November 2015

## ANNUAL 15

THE UNSW ART & DESIGN 2015 ANNUAL GRADUATE EXHIBITION

**Opens** Tuesday 24 November 2015 5 pm  
**Closes** Saturday 12 December 2015



**KUDOS GALLERY**  
6 Napier St Paddington NSW 2021

**11am-6pm Wed to Fri, 11am-4pm Sat**  
**T** 02 9326 0034  
**E** [kudos@arc.unsw.edu.au](mailto:kudos@arc.unsw.edu.au)  
**W** [arc.unsw.edu.au/kudos](http://arc.unsw.edu.au/kudos)

Kudos Gallery is run by Art & Design students and funded by Arc @ UNSW Limited

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UNSW Student Life

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PRESENTS!

# On Tuesday's We Wear Punk

THE OFFICIAL  
ANNUAL  
AFTER PARTY!

• THE STANDARD  
BOWL  
TAYLOR  
SQUARE (ABOVE  
KINSELAS)

TUESDAY NOV 24  
8PM TILL  
LATE

FREE  
ENTRY

+ FREE DRINK FOR ARC MEMBERS!

