



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

September 10, 2018

### **Call for submissions now open for Sculpture at Scenic World 2019**

Scenic World is now welcoming submissions for the eighth annual Sculpture at Scenic World exhibition which will transform the ancient rainforest into an outdoor art gallery from April 5 to May 5, 2019.

Set adjacent to the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains National Park, Sculpture at Scenic World has attracted interest from local, national and international artists for its stunning outdoor setting and exceptional calibre of works which centre around themes of environment and sustainability.

The four week exhibition also provides a unique opportunity to celebrate the talents of artists from near and far, featuring a prize pool of \$30,000, including the highly coveted \$20,000 Scenic World Major Award.

Selected artists will go in the running for a number of awards, including the \$5000 Artist Peer Award, the \$3000 Environmental Award, the \$2000 Scenic World Staff Choice Award, and the \$1000 Carrington Hotel People's Choice Prize. Shortlisted artists will also receive a \$1000 grant for exhibiting in the 2019 exhibition.

Sculpture at Scenic World Exhibition Manager Justin Morrissey said the exhibition's unique position on a site of rich natural beauty and cultural significance was a major drawcard for artists from across the globe.

"The Blue Mountains attracts visitors from far and wide for its stunning natural environment and thriving creative community which is committed to preserving and protecting the local environment," he said.

"Sculpture at Scenic World invites visitors to experience art and nature in new ways and we encourage artists to push boundaries and create meaning in new ways by considering the materials and mediums they use to communicate ideas."

Welcoming over 100,000 visitors each year, Sculpture at Scenic World is recognised as a Flagship Event under the NSW Government's regional events program for its proven success to attract visitors to the Blue Mountains.

The exhibition is also highly regarded among the global arts community for its capacity to recognise the talents of established and emerging artists such as Mark and Hannah Surtees who took home the Scenic World Major Award in 2018 for their work, *Geronimo!*.

Judges applauded the Blackheath-based duo for presenting a "highly accomplished, simple, exquisitely executed and playful sculpture", with the \$20,000 cash prize helping to fund the winners' joint practice and family travel.

“Winning Sculpture at Scenic World has allowed us to explore new and exciting mediums, experiment with new materials and expand our creative practices into new territories,” Mark said.

Artists are encouraged to visit the Sculpture at Scenic World website and contact Scenic World directly on [JustinM@scenicworld.com.au](mailto:JustinM@scenicworld.com.au) to discuss their application prior to submission.

Submissions close on Monday November 12, 2018, and all entries will be assessed by an independent panel of arts industry professionals who will be announced in the coming weeks.

For more information and to apply, visit [www.sculptureatscenicworld.com.au](http://www.sculptureatscenicworld.com.au).