anything at all: an extraordinary exhibition about ordinary things

anything at all is a major upcoming exhibition at Adelaide Central School of Art and is a feature event in the 2016 SALA Festival program. Held in Adelaide Central Gallery and the School’s Teaching & Studio Building from 14 August – 17 September, anything at all stands out among the 630 SALA Festival exhibitions with an impressive line-up of established and respected South Australian visual artists.

Curated by Adelaide’s renowned art writer and curator, John Neylon, the exhibition features Narelle Autio, Deidre But-Husaim, Sasha Grbich, Aldo Iacobelli, Ian North, Sophia Nuske, Christopher Orchard and Geoff Wilson. It will be opened by Nick Mitzevich, Director of the Art Gallery of South Australia, on Tuesday 16 August.

anything at all explores the simple truth that art can come from, and be about, anything at all. It presents artists’ responses to moments in the everyday, when something familiar and normally taken for granted has become a catalyst to create. Objects, places and things, such as matches, urban scenery and telegraph poles, which are often overlooked for their ‘ordinary’ nature, are interrogated, reinvented and transformed in this extraordinary exhibition.

“Finding art a real job in a world where on one hand it is buried in a compost heap of mass consumerism and on the other hand elevated on a pedestal of spectacle, gigantism and celebrity – is a real challenge”, John Neylon writes in his catalogue essay. “One thing to come out of this however is a quietude and perhaps a rediscovery of art-based behaviour’s capacity to render lived experience meaningful and interesting. Because. Ticking away. Behind that noisy screen of desperately-seeking-an-audience-art is a truth that art can be from and about anything at all.”

“It has been a pleasure for us to work with John Neylon, such an accomplished curator, and we have been privileged to enter the private worlds of these South Australian artists,” says Ingrid Kellenbach, Adelaide Central School of Art CEO. “We anticipate that our audience of students, staff and members of the general public will be surprised, delighted, and challenged by these extraordinary works. The accompanying videos produced by Sasha Grbich provide candid insights into the how each artist approaches their work.”

The anything at all opening event is on Tuesday 16 August 2016 from 6-8pm. All welcome, refreshments provided.
Additional Information

Please note this is a brief overview of the participating artists and curator. A media kit of artist profiles is available.

**Narelle Autio** (Semaphore) is an Adelaide-based photographer represented by Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide. She was named in *Australian Art Collector Magazine*’s ‘50 Most Collectable Australian Artists’ in 2001, and has won World Press Awards, an American Picture of the Year Award and a Walkley Award. In 2002, she was the first Australian to win the prestigious Leica Oskar Barnack Award.

**Deidre But-Husain** (Prospect) is represented by Hill Smith Gallery, Adelaide, and has been a finalist in numerous major Australian art prizes including the Sulman Prize, Archibald Prize and the Portia Geach Award. In 2014 Deidre was selected for the Guildhouse Collections Project at the Art Gallery of South Australia. She is currently a finalist in the 2016 Geelong Contemporary Art Prize and performs at Adelaide Central School of Art.

**Sasha Grbich** (Mile End) is an artist, writer and lecturer who works in sculpture, installation, sound and video. She is the current Bachelor of Visual Art and Honours Coordinator at Adelaide Central School of Art. Grbich has worked at the New Zealand International Film Festival, the Venice Biennale, the ABC, and completed her Masters by Research in installation and performance art at the University of South Australia in 2015.

**Aldo Iacobelli** (Trinity Gardens) is a multi-disciplinary artist represented by BMGArt, Adelaide. His work is represented in national collections including the Australian National Gallery; Art Gallery of South Australia; Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney; Artbank, Sydney and the South Australian Museum. His work is also represented in several collections in Europe. He currently divides his time between Australia and Spain.

**Ian North** (Kent Town) is an artist and writer represented by GAGPROJECTS, Adelaide. He was Director of the Manawatu Art Gallery (1969-71) and Curator of Paintings at the Art Gallery of South Australia (1971-80) before becoming Foundation Curator of Photography at the National Gallery of Australia (1980-84). He is currently Adjunct Professor of Visual Arts, University of Adelaide, and a member of the J.M. Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice.

**Sophia Nuske** (Norwood) is a ceramic artist based at JamFactory in Adelaide who teaches in the School’s short course program. In 2014 she held a residency at The Pottery Workshop Jingdezhen, China and the following year undertook the *Beyond Limitations Mentorship* with Stephen Bird in South Korea. In 2015 she also exhibited a solo show at Hugo Michell Gallery.

**Christopher Orchard** (Millswood) is a lecturer at Adelaide Central School of Art and is regarded as one of the leading exponents of the drawn image in Australia. He was recently named as the SALA Festival FEATURE ARTIST FOR 2017. Respected and recognised by his peers and critics, Orchard is represented by BMGArt, Adelaide, Wagner Gallery, Sydney, and Stephen Rosenberg Fine Art, New York.

**Geoff Wilson** (Belair) is an esteemed South Australian painter. Following more than 30 years of public and private visual art teaching at various South Australian schools, Wilson retired to focus on his artmaking practice in 1982. A retrospective of his work, *Geoff Wilson: Interrogated Landscape*, curated by Barry Pearce, was held at the Samstag Museum of Art in 2015.

**John Neylon** (Belair) is an art writer and curator who lectures at Adelaide Central School of Art. He has written several books and numerous essays on South Australian artists and is the inaugural art critic for *The Adelaide Review*. In 2014 Neylon was awarded the Lorne Sculpture Biennale’s Scarlett Award for critical writing.


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Additional Information

**Adelaide Central School of Art** is the only independent, single focus, tertiary provider of visual art education in South Australia. It is dedicated to training Australia’s next generation of professional practising artists. Located in the Glenside Cultural Precinct, the School offers Bachelor of Visual Art and Bachelor of Visual Art (Honours) degrees, specialist courses, workshops, and masterclasses on its award-winning campus.

The School will host three exhibitions for **SALA Festival** in 2016 (held across the state from 1-31 August), including *Daily Practice* (Annalise Rees and Sally Parnis, 6 July – 6 August), *Stilled Life* (Cassie Thring, 2 August – 3 September) and *anything at all* (14 August – 17 September).

**Adelaide Central Gallery** is a not-for-profit contemporary art gallery located within Adelaide Central School of Art. The Gallery exhibits a diverse annual program featuring survey and solo exhibitions of significant recent work from South Australia’s most esteemed and celebrated emerging and established artists, as well as respected national and international contemporary artists. It provides a learning resource for students of the School, who benefit from opportunities to engage with a professional gallery and also connect with external artists, curators and writers.