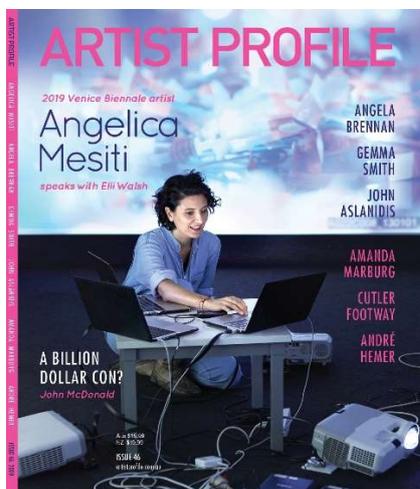


ARTIST PROFILE ISSUE 46 – March 2019  
A Billion Dollar Con? Powerhouse move in the spotlight

This month's bumper edition of ARTIST PROFILE blows the lid on the highly controversial on-again, off-again efforts of the NSW government to move the Powerhouse Museum to Sydney's West.



Issue 46 Artist Profile. On sale now.



Illustration: David Rowe

ARTS PROFILE principal writer and leading Australian art critic **John McDonald** pens a provocative open letter to the Michael Daley – with some choice words of advice for the NSW opposition leader.

In a timely essay, McDonald urges the ALP leader to nail his colours to the mast, in the interest of repairing the state - and the nation's - cultural reputation.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian's government, says McDonald, has refused to listen to its critics and has tried to keep its plans from public scrutiny – and it's no secret that the current site has been re-valued upwards by some \$220 million.

“There are no convincing arguments in favour of the move... too many questions remain unanswered, too many other projects have been hurried or bungled.

“What world city moves a major cultural asset out of the metropolitan area? It would like London moving the Victoria and Albert Museum to Essex, or New York punting the Guggenheim to New Jersey.

“The government’s sole remaining rallying cry seems to be ‘Build it and they will come!’. It is, incidentally, the same rationale being trumpeted for the Art Gallery of NSW’s Sydney Modern extension.”

“Mr Daley, you’ve shown you can respond positively when we rose up against the sporting stadiums, now let’s see you save the Powerhouse.”

ARTIST PROFILE is Australasia’s leading quarterly journal, diving into current art world issues and taking its readers into the studios and minds of contemporary artists across Australasia and beyond.

Issue #46 also features:

## Profiles

- Angelica Mesiti – Australian’s 2019 Venice Biennale artist reveals her new commission;
- Cutler Footway – aka Bruce James, former SMH art critic and ABC broadcaster - returns with a major exhibition after a 14 year reclusive period of painting;
- Pierre Mukeba – As a boy he fled the Congo civil war. A decade later he has won the Churchie National Emerging Art Prize;
- John Aslanidis – A geometric painter influenced by wrestling, gardening and cryptocurrency;
- Kawita Vatanajyankur – An endurance performance artists confronting female labour inequality in traditional Thai society;
- Amanda Marburg – Translates ‘found’ photographs into clumsy plasticine models which she paints.

## Essays

- Richard Bell – His Aboriginal Embassy at the Tate Modern London;
- Ildiko Kovacs – A touring exhibition of recent abstract paintings;
- Suzanne Archer – A 50 year retrospective at the Campbelltown Arts Centre;
- Lucy Stranger – Investigates the growing six figure art student university debts in the US;
- David Stein – Warns of the impact of events on artists’ objects in museum and galleries;
- Joe Frost – Celebrates the 100th anniversary of Parkers art supplies and frames for artists.

***Media: John McDonald and all the above are available for interview.***

***For more information, images, magazine copies, interviews with editor Kon Gouriotis, profiled artists, feature writers and more, contact Geoff Sirmai at Sirmai Arts Marketing: (02) 9345 0360 / 0412 669 272 / [geoff@sirmai.com.au](mailto:geoff@sirmai.com.au)***