



firstdraft your proposal guidelines

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firstdraft.org.au**

firstdraft supports the development of emerging and experimental artistic practice through a diverse and inclusive range of programs.

For the Feb 2018 - July 2018 callout, firstdraft is seeking proposals from artists, curators and writers to be considered for our Exhibition Program, Curators Program & Writers Program.

Applications to develop and/or present new work at firstdraft will be considered favourably.

Final submissions can be made at firstdraft.org.au from 26 Jul - 10 Sep 2017.

firstdraft exhibition program artist fees

In 2018 Firstdraft will be paying all participants in the exhibition program an artist fee of \$1000 per exhibition. This initiative has been designed to support emerging and experimental practices. Firstdraft is committed to championing risk and encouraging ambition, through the experience of exhibiting in a professional context at a leading artist run initiative in Australia.

*This initiative is supported by the Australia Council for
the Arts and private support.*

firstdraft

nsw regional artist fund

The NSW Regional Artists Fund is designed to assist emerging and experimental artists residing and working in regional NSW to present their work at Firstdraft. Aimed at facilitating regional NSW artists to access a national dialogue and present their work away from home, the fund subsidises costs related to travel and accommodation. Funds may be allocated to eligible projects selected for the Exhibitions, Writers and Curators programs from the open callouts. Artists wishing to be considered for funding will need to provide a project budget as part of their proposal. Project budget outlines are included in the proposal forms online. As a capped fund, the NSW Regional Artist Fund may not reach to support all eligible regional projects. Note that funding does not cover material or production costs.

This initiative is supported by Arts NSW.

Note:

- Money granted to applicants will be paid out as reimbursements only. Quotes for expenses must be provided to Firstdraft for approval (at Firstdraft's discretion) before booking travel or accommodation.
- Reimbursements will only be made for receipts from organisations with ABN registration and on production of a GST invoice in the name of the artist(s) only. (Unless Firstdraft approves otherwise in its discretion.)
- We will pay for accommodation and travel for the exhibiting artist(s), curator(s) or writer(s) only.
- The fund has been developed to assist artists with travel and accommodation costs associated with exhibiting at Firstdraft. As such, dates for these costs must fall within the month of exhibition with Firstdraft.
- Firstdraft adheres to the definition of regional artists as indicated by Regional Arts NSW <http://regionalartsnsw.com.au/networks/>

firstdraft

national travel fund

Firstdraft supports emerging and experimental artists through the National Travel Fund. Committed to supporting a national dialogue and providing opportunities to artists across Australia, the fund is aimed at assisting artists to present work outside of their immediate communities. The fund will support costs related to travel and accommodation. Funds may be allocated to eligible projects selected for the Exhibitions, Writers and Curators programs from the open callouts. Artists wishing to be considered for funding will need to provide a project budget as part of their proposal. Project budget outlines are included in the proposal forms online. As a capped fund, the National Travel Fund may not reach to support all eligible projects. Note that funding does not cover material or production costs.

This initiative is supported by Australia Council for the Arts.

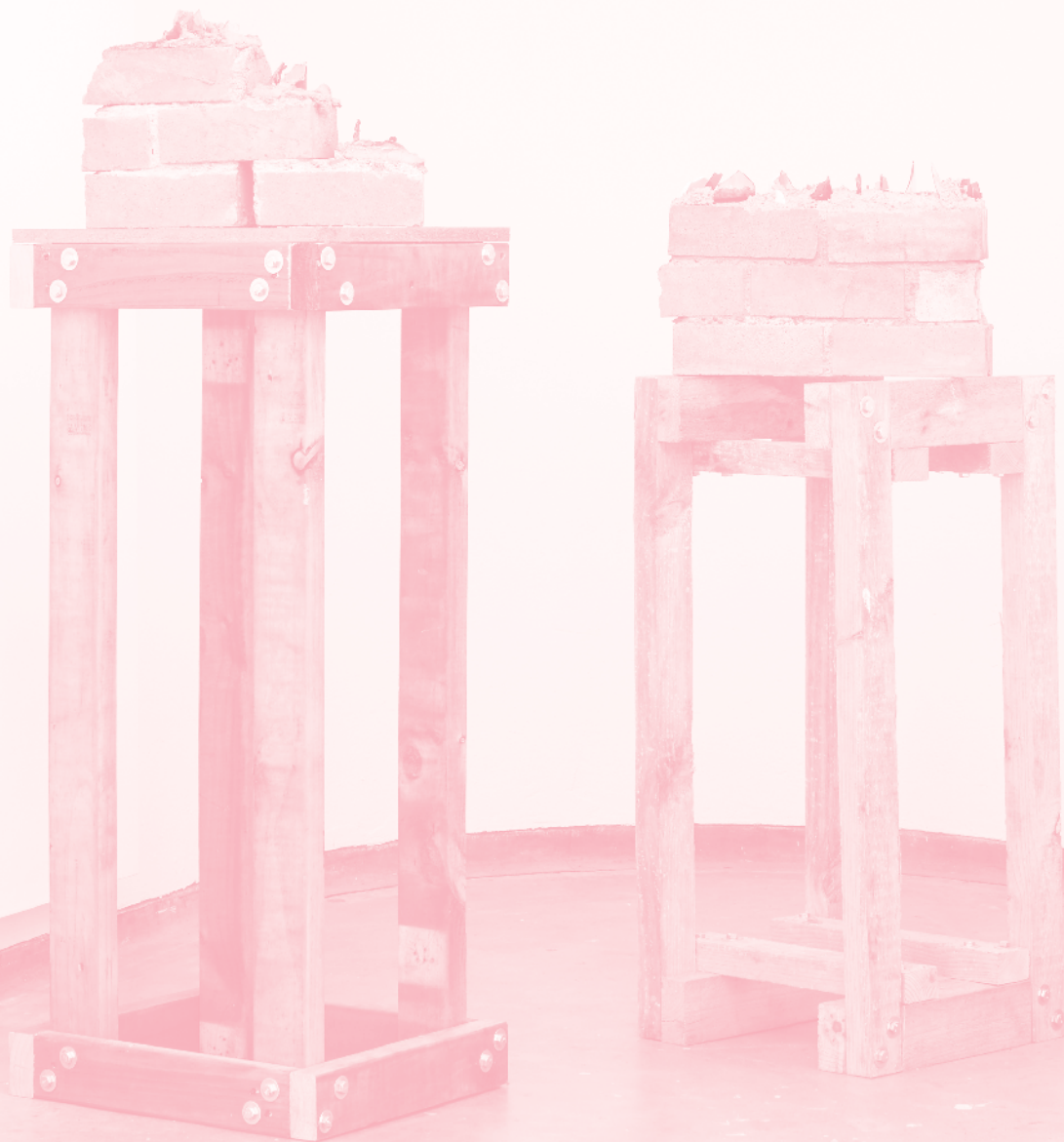
Note:

- Money granted to applicants will be paid out as reimbursements only. Quotes for expenses must be provided to Firstdraft for approval (in Firstdraft's discretion) before booking travel or accommodation.
- Reimbursements will only be made for receipts from organisations with ABN registration and on production of a GST invoice in the name of the artist(s) only. (Unless Firstdraft approves otherwise in its discretion).
- We will pay for accommodation and travel for the exhibiting artist(s), curator(s) or writer(s) only. Eligibility amounts listed below apply per exhibition, regardless if exhibitors are single exhibitors or collaborations.
- The fund has been developed to assist artists with travel and accommodation costs associated with exhibiting at Firstdraft. As such, dates for these costs must fall within the month of exhibition with Firstdraft.
- As a guide to assist artists with asking amounts for funding, please see the table below:

ACT	\$800
NT and Far North Queensland	\$1050
Queensland	\$800
South Australia	\$850
Tasmania	\$850
Victoria	\$800
Western Australia	\$1150

*As a capped fund, the National Travel Fund may not reach to support all eligible projects, and available funding depends on the number of applicants supported each round. Eligibility amounts listed above are the maximum amounts exhibiting artists may receive. However, your submitted budget may, exceed these amounts in order to reflect actual costs, and Firstdraft may issue a partial reimbursement in discussion with the applicant.

firstdraft exhibition program



information for applicants

The following Proposal Guidelines have been produced for the practical use of applicants.

When preparing your submission, please consider:

- The clarity of your proposal.
- The quality and consistency of the support material provided and its ability to effectively demonstrate the aims of the proposal as well as your overall practice.
- The conceivability of the project - the scope of the proposal must be viable to produce and/or implement within the space and time frames elected in the Application Form.

Please note

- Firstdraft is an equal opportunity organisation. Selection for our programs will be made on the basis of relative merit.
- Applicants may submit separate applications to multiple programs, however no more than one application will be awarded overall.
- Applications are welcomed and encouraged from both interstate and international practitioners, however Firstdraft cannot provide any assistance with travel to or accommodation within Sydney (apart from that offered by the *NSW regional artist fund* and *national travel bursary*). If you are an international artist, please factor in the extra time and travel considerations when submitting an application. At our discretion, we may provide a Letter of Support to assist in pursuing external support e.g. residencies, grants etc that directly assist the successful applicant's project at Firstdraft.
- Gallery minding supported by the Firstdraft Volunteer Program
- Late, faxed, hardcopy, handwritten or incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submission within 2 months of the closing date
- All programming decisions made by Firstdraft are final.

Successful applications

- Successful applicants will be required to enter into a contractual agreement with Firstdraft. This agreement details all aspects of developing and/or exhibiting work through Firstdraft, including but not limited to: media requirements, public program obligations, practical installation, deinstallation and invigilation requirements.
- All successful applicants to programs culminating in exhibitions at Firstdraft will be awarded the same presentation outcomes and be subject to common contractual obligations i.e. awardees of the Curators program will receive an exhibition at Firstdraft and be subject to the same associated benefits and stipulations as those awarded in the Exhibitions Program.

exhibition program

The Exhibition program aims to profile an exciting cross-section of emerging artistic practice and experimentation. Exhibition proposals for Firstdraft's galleries are invited from individuals and groups of artists. Curators must apply through the Curators Program.

Gallery costs

In 2018 Firstdraft will be paying all participants in the Exhibition Program an artist fee. This initiative has been designed to support emerging and experimental practices. Firstdraft is committed to championing risk and encouraging ambition, through the experience of exhibiting in a professional context at a leading artist run initiative in Australia.

Successful applicants receive

- A fee of \$1000 paid to artists per exhibition
- A fully subsidised four-week exhibition at Firstdraft.
- Access to and assistance with Firstdraft's equipment and resources.
- Digital promotion through the Firstdraft website, electronic newsletters and social media platforms.
- Opening night bar provision and attendance.
- Gallery minding supported by the Firstdraft Volunteer Program.

What you must submit

- Proposal (max. 1 A4 page, approx. 500 words) detailing your exhibition title and concept.
- CV (max. 1 A4 page) detailing relevant experience.
- Up to 10 labeled, screen resolution (72dpi) images of your work formatted into a single PDF (max.10MB)
AND/OR
Up to 3 video/multimedia works uploaded to a third party sharing site such as YouTube or Vimeo, with an applicable link provided at the end of your Proposal document.

To submit your application for this program, visit firstdraft.org.au

firstdraft curators program



curators program

Firstdraft invites curators in the early stages of their career to propose an exhibition to be staged. Through the Curators Program, Firstdraft aims to encourage curators or artist-curators to expand their professional practice by conceiving of and realising a project at the gallery.

Further program details

- Collaborative applications from multiple curators/curatorial collectives are welcome, however this program cannot accommodate additional financial allowances.
- The selected curator/s will be solely responsible for organising the exhibition. Namely, the selection of artists and artwork, liaising with artists, obtaining and accepting liability for externally sourced equipment, supervising installation and de-installation.
- Unsuccessful applications to the Curators program will be considered for the Exhibition Program, however inclusion in this program is not guaranteed.

Successful applicants receive

- A fully subsidised four-week exhibition at Firstdraft across the first floor spaces, Galleries 1 & 2 (see Exhibition Program for more details of what this encompasses).
- A fee of \$2500 to contribute to the payment of artist fees, curatorial fees, and the production costs of a publication that supports the exhibition.
- Access to and assistance with Firstdraft's equipment and resources.
- Gallery minding supported by the Firstdraft Volunteer Program.

What you must submit

- Proposal (max. 1 A4 page, approx. 500 words) detailing your exhibition title and concept.
- CV (max. 1 A4 page) detailing relevant experience.
- Up to 3 labeled, screen resolution (72dpi) images per artist, formatted into a single PDF (max.10MB)
AND/OR
1 video/multimedia works per artist, uploaded to a third party sharing site such as YouTube or Vimeo, with an applicable link provided at the end of your Proposal document.
- Image labels are to be expressed: Artwork Title, materials, dimensions/duration (if applicable), date produced.

To submit your application for this program, visit firstdraft.org.au

firstdraft writers program



firstdraft writers program

Firstdraft is seeking proposals from writers and artists interested in writing to be considered for the Firstdraft Writers Program.

The Firstdraft Writers Program seeks to foster an expanded arts writing practice, whereby writers are positioned alongside artists as both makers and thinkers. It welcomes writers exploring the intersection of the critical and the creative; the text and its enunciation; and text as both idea and material. Successful applicants are required to produce an experimental text to be launched at Firstdraft and published through Firstdraft's online publication archive. The text can take any number of forms – print, digital, performed; critical or otherwise; responsive to exhibitions or independent. We encourage writers to explore and examine, interrogate and re-imagine existing forms; and/or imagine new modes of textual presentation.

Emphasising the emerging and the experimental, this program gives writers the opportunity to explore inventive ways of producing texts. Not limited to the printed form, the Firstdraft Writers Program encourages writers to consider the relationship between text and the acts of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Applications to develop and/or present new work at Firstdraft will be considered favourably.

Writers Program

Firstdraft provides artists fees of \$500 per writer. Writers are required to produce one outcome for presentation.

Successful applicants receive

- ☐ An artist fee of \$500.
- ☐ The option of a fully subsidised studio space for one month.
- ☐ Digital promotion through the Firstdraft website, electronic newsletters and social media platforms.
- ☐ Support from the Firstdraft Writers Program contact to develop and facilitate presentation outcomes.
- ☐ Presentation outcomes published through Firstdraft's online platform, Firstdraft Publications.
- ☐ A launch event including bar provision and attendance.
- ☐ Assistance in identifying and facilitating introductions with mentors and peers.

What you must submit

- ☐ Proposal (max. 1 A4 page, approx. 500 words) detailing your proposed project.
- ☐ CV (max. 1 A4 page) detailing relevant experience.
- ☐ A sample of your writing of up to 1500 words OR Up to 3 video/multimedia works (that demonstrate an engagement with text) uploaded to a third party sharing site such as YouTube, Vimeo or Soundcloud, with an applicable link provided at the end of your Proposal document.

firstdraft writers program information for applicants

The following Proposal Guidelines have been produced for the practical use of applicants. When preparing your submission, please consider:

- The clarity of your proposal.
- The quality and consistency of the support material provided and its ability to effectively demonstrate the aims of the proposal as well as your overall practice.
- The conceivability of the project - the scope of the proposal must be viable to produce and/or implement within the space and time frames elected in the Application Form.

Firstdraft's core values that we assess applications on are:

- Artistic merit.
- Emergent and experimental practices.
- Advancement of individual practice and professional development.
- Responsiveness to contemporary contexts.
- Geographic, demographic and artform diversity.

Work does not need to include all of these criteria, but should reflect at least one.

Eligibility guidelines

The Firstdraft Writers residency is for the creation of new work.

Applications are open to artists and critical writers.

More established artists/writers must demonstrate that the work they are proposing is of an experimental nature and represents a departure from their current practice.

Preference is given to artists/writers who have not exhibited at Firstdraft or taken part in the Firstdraft Writers Program in the past 18-months.

Please note

Firstdraft is an equal opportunity organisation. Selection for our programs will be made on the basis of relative merit.

Applicants may submit separate applications to multiple programs, however no more than one application will be awarded overall.

Applications are welcomed and encouraged from both interstate and international practitioners, however Firstdraft cannot provide any assistance with travel to or accommodation within Sydney (apart from that offered by the NSW regional and the national travel funds.) If you are an international artist, please factor in the extra time and travel considerations when submitting an application. At our discretion, we may provide a Letter of Support to assist in pursuing external support e.g. residencies, grants etc that directly assist the successful applicant's project at Firstdraft.

Late, faxed, hardcopy, handwritten or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submission within 2 months of the closing date.

All programming decisions made by Firstdraft are final.

Successful applications

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a contractual agreement with Firstdraft. This agreement details all aspects of developing and/or exhibiting work through Firstdraft, including but not limited to: media requirements, public program obligations, practical installation, deinstallation and invigilation requirements.

All successful applicants to the writers residency program at Firstdraft will be awarded the same fee and be subject to common contractual obligations.

firstdraft our space



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Rakini Devi live performance of *The Widow* and *Kali Madonna* during *Ouroboros: The End is the Beginning Is the End Party*, , curated by Justin Shoulder as part of the firstdraft live program
Photo Credit: Document Photography

our space

Ground Floor

Gallery 3

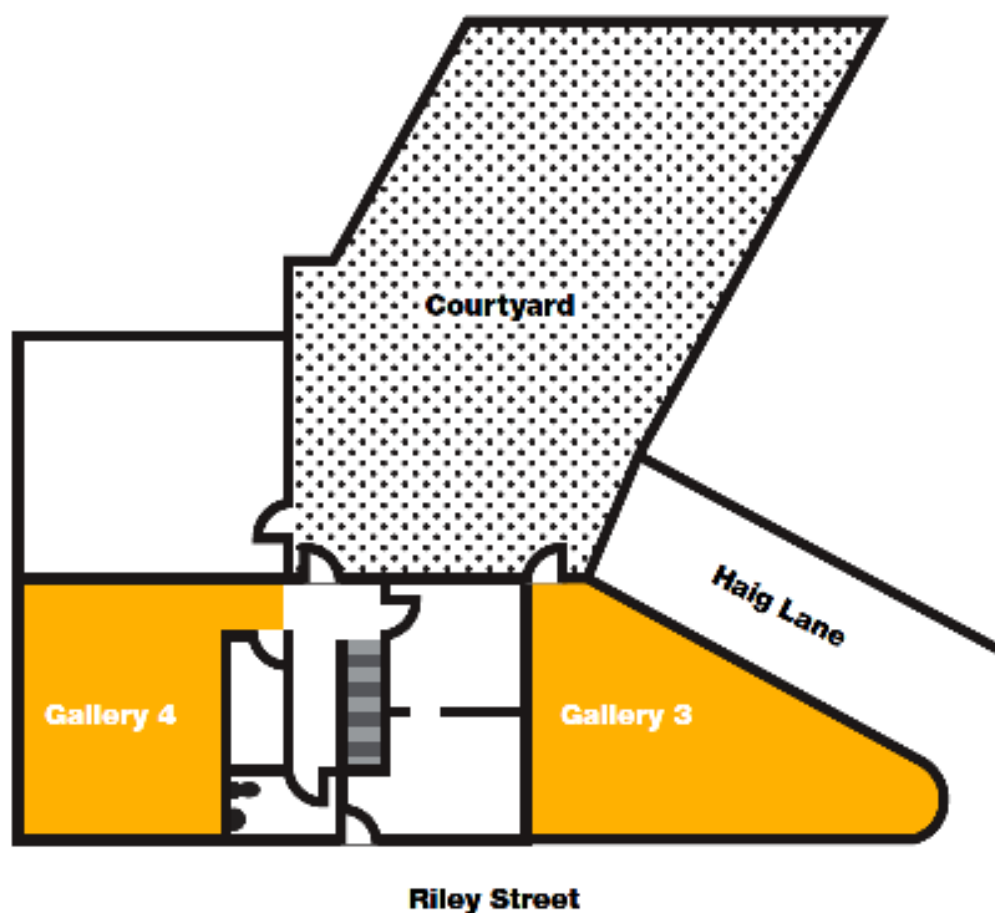
Unsealed concrete floor

Exterior access

Gallery 4

Black linoleum floor

Courtyard



First Floor

Gallery 1

Black timber floorboards

Three windows

Gallery 2

Unsealed concrete floor

Two windows

All gallery spaces
feature uniform
fluorescent lighting



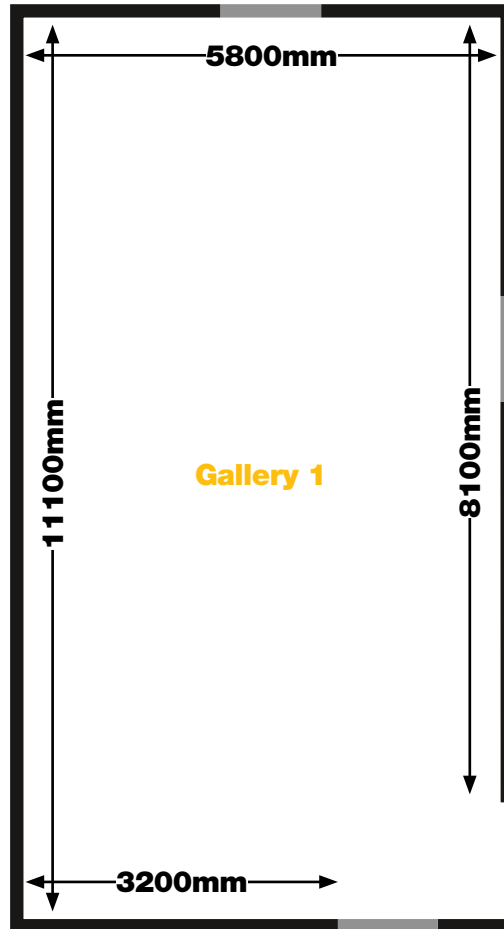
gallery 1

First Floor

Gallery 1

**Black timber
floorboards**

Three windows



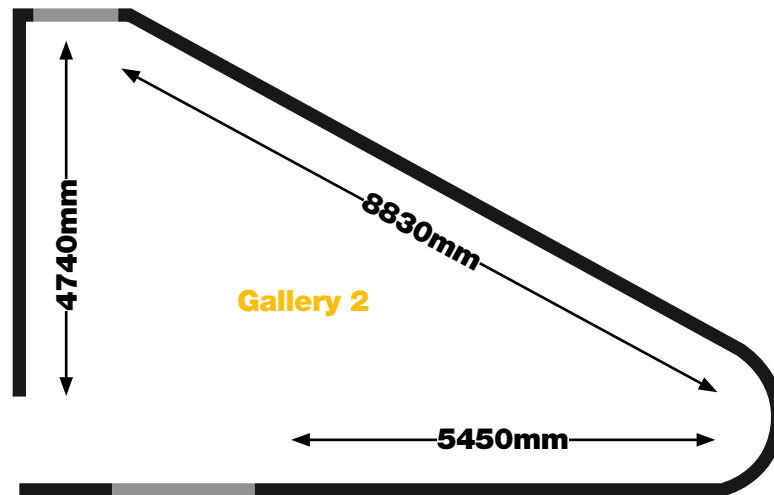
gallery 2

First Floor

Gallery 2

Unsealed concrete

Two windows



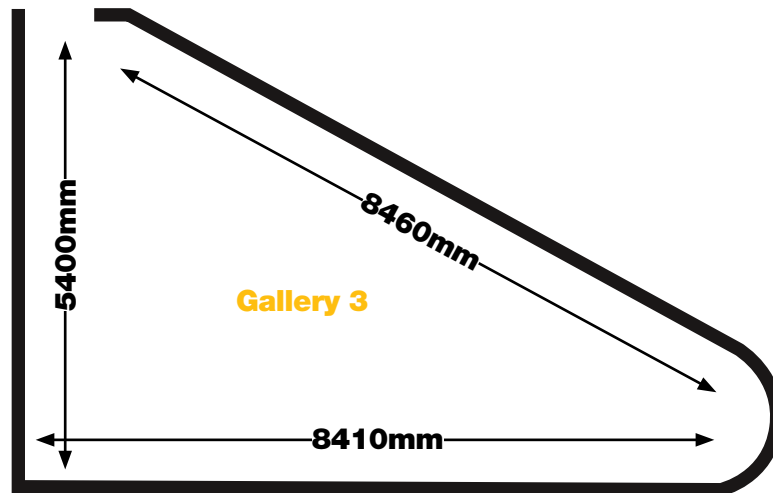
gallery 3

Ground Floor

Gallery 3

Unsealed concrete

Exterior access

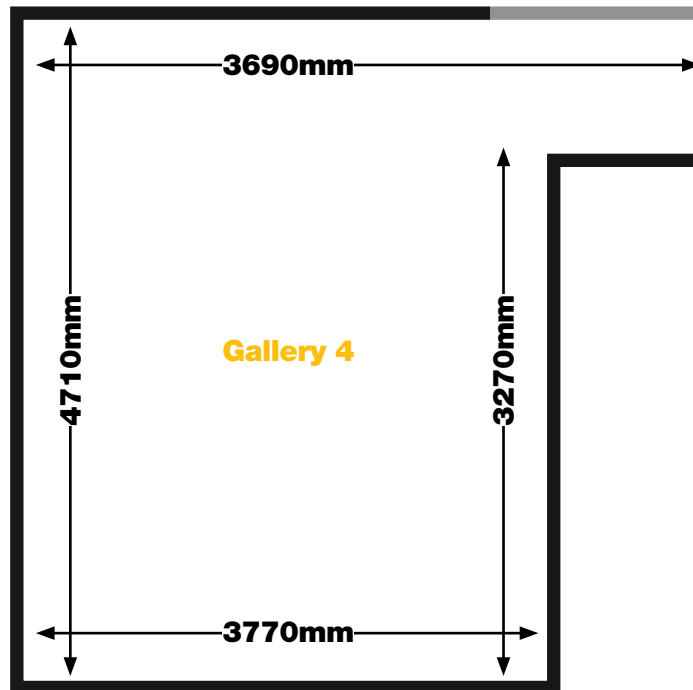


gallery 4

Ground Floor

Gallery 4

Black linoleum floor



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Danae Valenza
The Torn Cloud , 2016
Photo Credit: Zan Wimberley

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Create NSW
Arts, Screen & Culture



Australian Government

**Australia
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for the Arts**



**CREATIVE
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