

MEDIA RELEASE



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REGIONAL TALENT UNDER THE HAMMER EEL FESTIVAL ART AUCTION

Some 30 artworks by talented regional artists will go under the hammer at this year's Lake Bolac Art Auction.

The auction which showcases South West artists helps raise money to keep the festival at affordable prices.

"The auction is a chance for people to purchase unique artworks at very affordable prices," festival chair, Rachel Taylor, said.

"It's also a great night out with an Indigenous-inspired dinner by Castlemaine's Murnong Mummas.

Artists whose works will be on sale include: Eileen Harrison, Howard Brandenburg, Ken Rookes, Brett Clarke, Anne-Marie Randall, Josh McLean, Kylie Moroney and Tinika Clifford.

Artworks are in a range of media including textile, linocut, photography, illustration and drawing inspired by nature and Indigenous history and knowledge.

Reserve prices range from \$100 to \$400 with 30 percent of proceeds supporting the ongoing viability of the festival.

The festival, the 14th to be held, is on Friday 22 to Saturday 23 March with the art auction on the Friday night.

Auction attendees will be treated to the music of Where Water Meets, a captivating chamber folk duo.

Auction and dinner tickets have been kept at the same price as the last festival (\$33) and can be purchased via www.eelfestival.org.au

The festival is held every 2 years to mark the autumn gathering of local First Nations for the eel season.

It is sponsored by Ararat Rural City Council, the Willaura and Lake Bolac Bendigo Community Bank, Pitch, GWM Water, Glenelg Hopkins CMA, South West TAFE and the Beyond Bolac Catchment Action Group.

Applications are still open for artists who would like to submit up to 2 artworks. Contact the Art Auction Coordinator Lisa Hall at lisanaomihall@gmail.com or on 0488 102 191.

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