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# Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art)(Honours) Program

BH052 | Full Time | RMIT City Campus

## FAQs 2017-18

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**Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art)(Honours) Program**



Panayiota Peta Petrakis, *Pink Hyper*, 2017, oil on canvas.

# — Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art)(Honours) Program

## What will I study in the studio courses?

This program is strongly centred in practical studio-based learning, underpinned by a focused academic research culture. You will work on the development of a comprehensive, individualised and independent project over the course of one academic year.

The study structure, which consists of lectures, seminars, reading groups, individual and group critique sessions, personal guidance through individual supervision, and group workshops, forms a comprehensive overall practice-led-research environment, providing a framework in which to contextualise your work and your project in order to assist you to develop an informed and perspicacious contemporary art practice.

Academic teaching staff within the Honours program have many years of professional experience, shared through their expertise in the learning environment. All academic staff within the program are recognised artists, theorists or curators with local, national, and in most instances, international experience.

Students are provided with individual supervision by academic staff through the duration of their Honours project.

All practical workshops and studio sessions are taught in industry-standard facilities utilising the most recent and current technology.

Assessment is through a combination of creative works presentations through the development of your Honours project, accompanied by an exegetical research text, along with written reflections and seminar presentations.

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## **How do you apply for an Honours Degree in Fine Art?**

Applicants must apply for this program via Apply Direct.

## **RMIT applicants only:**

Direct application is available for RMIT students through myRMIT internal application.

## **What are the entrance requirements?**

Entry to the program requires that you have completed an Australian undergraduate degree, or its equivalent, in a relevant discipline. Therefore applicants cannot be afforded entry into the Honours program without having first completed all credit points within an undergraduate degree. Applicants undertaking summer courses enabling the completion of their undergraduate degree may apply.

## **Midyear entry**

We do not offer a mid year entry to the program.

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## What process is employed for the selection and notification of applicants?

All applications are reviewed and assessed by the Honours Selection Panel, which comprises a panel of experts from various fields of art, formed through representatives from discipline areas within the School, an academic with a curatorial practice, and chaired by the Honours Program Coordinator. The Honours Selection Panel reviews all the documentation provided by the applicant, assessing the application in terms of the merit of their artwork and/or curatorial projects, the applicant statement, academic records and, if relevant, any professional experiences.

A short-list of selected applicants is then formed.

In relation to the selection criteria, the Honours Selection Panel assesses applications in terms of:

- the quality of the written proposal and proposed project
- the quality of the examples of artworks or projects submitted to support the application (therefore these must be of, and indicate a professional standard)
- demonstrated knowledge within the field of practice
- demonstrated knowledge of artistic or theoretical contexts to support the application and proposed project
- the academic history of the applicant, and any professional experiences that indicate relevance to the field of art

All applicants will be notified in December of the decision of the Honours Selection Committee.

Current undergraduate RMIT applicants who intend to finalise the completion of their degree during the Summer Semester may be offered a provisional place within the Honours program, contingent on the completion of their Bachelor Degree.

Entry to the Honours program is competitive, and therefore some applicants will be placed on a wait-list and may then be offered a position in late January. Therefore some places within the program may become available in late January due to some selected applicants having deferred their place.

## How important is the folio submitted with the application?

The folio submission is the crucial element in your application. It should therefore contain what you believe to be your strongest work or curatorial projects. In your folio submission you must clearly represent the major interests and concerns within your practice through the works that you present. Representations of your work must be of an excellent quality and digital files are preferred.

All applicants must include a selection of examples of works or projects.

## Are interviews conducted for the Honours program?

All decisions are made on the basis of the application submitted by the applicant and therefore applicants are advised to ensure that they include all application requirements.

However, we may contact some external applicants for further information about their application if required.

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Fairy Turner, *Weak Signs*, 2017, mixed media.

### **How many students are accepted into the Program?**

Approximately 55 to 60 students are admitted into this program.

### **How many contact hours and self-directed study hours per week?**

Honours candidates are expected to attend approximately 8 hours of classes (generally held on Tuesdays and Thursdays) and to undertake approximately 30 hours of independent study and research weekly. Students are expected to continue their research through the non-teaching periods (public holidays and mid-semester break).

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## Does the School conduct information sessions during the year?

There are a number of opportunities for applicants to seek further information in considering the Honours program:

- Annually the University holds an Open Day during Semester Two, which provides an opportunity to meet with the Program Coordinator of the Honours program, and to ask questions to familiarise yourself with our program.
- A presentation will also be provided to prospective students during Semester Two. Please contact the School of Art in July for further details.
- And for more individual or specific information the School of Art Office will also direct prospective student enquires to the Program Coordinator of the Honours program.

## What are the pathways for this program?

The Honours program offers a direct pathway to postgraduate studies within the School.

### Postgraduate Coursework Programs:

- Master of Fine Art by Coursework – MC266

The Master of Fine Arts Coursework (MFA) program is a two-year postgraduate degree. For students completing their Honours degree in the RMIT School of Art, there is a direct pathway to the MFA Coursework program, with articulation and entry into the second year of the MFA Coursework program. This affords students the opportunity to complete two academic qualifications over a period of two years (completing an Honours degree in year 1, and an MFA Coursework degree in year 2).

### Post Graduate Research Programs:

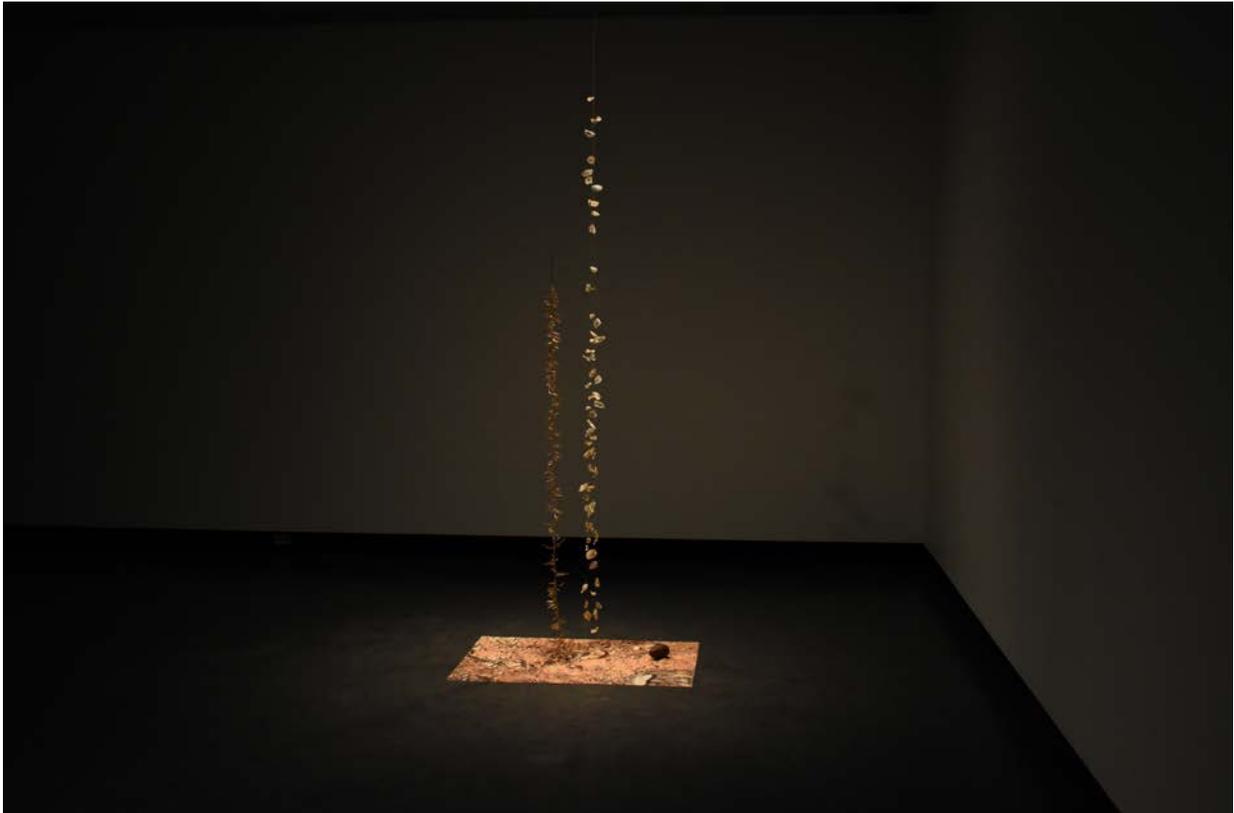
Eligibility to postgraduate research study is based on the level of academic achievement or the Honours Award Level that you gain as a result of undertaking the Honours program. The Honours program provides focused preparation for both of these postgraduate research programs. Generally, alumni having achieved a 1st Class Honours will be highly desirable research candidates at Australian and overseas universities.

- Master of Fine Arts by Research (MFA Research) – MR208
- Doctoral studies (PhD) – DR208

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## What are the fees for the Honours Program?

Students are offered a Commonwealth supported place (CSP). In addition you will also need to pay the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF). Financial assistance is available to eligible students.



Cara Johnson, *Creek (rupture)*, 2016.

## Are there scholarships, prizes and awards offered for Honours students?

The School of Art has a long tradition and focus on international engagement, and therefore the awards available to our students are specifically focused in assisting our graduates to build international experiences into their practice and emerging careers. The following awards are conferred on those graduands who demonstrate outstanding art practices and academic achievement:

### The School of Art Honours Travelling Grants

During semester two our Honours students can apply to The RMIT Foundation for one of two School of Art Honours Travelling Grants. The Honours Travelling Grants were established with the aim of supporting Honours graduates from the School to continue their research overseas following the completion of an Honours degree.

Zara Stanhope (Principal Curator at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki) assessed the 2016 awards.

NB: The selected students are also invited to present new work in a group exhibition in the School of Art Gallery in the year following the awarding of the scholarships.

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## **The School of Art Honours International Studio Residencies**

- The Leipzig International Art Program, Germany

A three-month artist residency, with accompanying individual exhibition at the Australian Embassy in Berlin, will be awarded through the renowned Spinnerei Arts Complex in Leipzig.

This award includes airfares. [liap.eu/index.php/de/](http://liap.eu/index.php/de/)

- The Seoul Residency, South Korea

A three-month artist residency, with accompanying individual exhibition at Sangmyung University Gallery. This award also provides an airfare.

- The Los Angeles Residency, United States

A three-month artist residency, with accompanying individual exhibition (tbc). This award also provides an airfare.

Hannah Matthews (Senior curator at MUMA) and Dr Quentin Sprague (independent curator and academic) assessed the 2016 awards.

NB: The selected students are also invited to present new work in a group exhibition in the School of Art Gallery in the year following the awarding of the scholarships.

## **Post study International Studio Residencies available to RMIT School of Art Honours Graduates**

School of Art Honours graduates may also apply through RMIT ART INTERSECT for a residency through SITUATE in the years following the completion of their Honours study, each and every year in perpetuity. The following three residencies are available:

- The Austrian Arts Residency Exchange
- The Canadian Indigenous Arts Residency Exchange
- The Taiwanese Arts Residency Exchange
- The Japanese Arts Residency Exchange

NB: each residency is often inclusive of an exhibition in the host country.

Contact: Andrew Tetzlaff, Coordinator.

## **RMIT Cultural Visions Film Grant**

During Semester 1 the University is also seeking applications for the RMIT Cultural Visions Film Grant, available for students working in the field of documentaries and short films.

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## Who can I contact for more information about this program?

The School of Art Reception in Building 24, Level 1, Room 3

### Contacts:

T: +61 3 9925 1988

E: [fineart@rmit.edu.au](mailto:fineart@rmit.edu.au)

W: [www.rmit.edu.au/art](http://www.rmit.edu.au/art)



Emma Caskey, *Talking About*, 2017.