



Top Five Inner West Art Galleries

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▶ The Five



Sydney's fast-growing art scene has exploded in recent years with various independent galleries and art spaces dedicated to promoting Australian artists on the national and international level. This week we discover the top five independent art galleries in Sydney's inner west.

1. Artsite

For the majority of the past twenty years, Artsite in Camperdown was only open by appointment and just cherished by a select few, but the cat is now out of the bag. Established by printmaker and painter Madeleine Tuckfield-Carrano, the gallery has now become a burgeoning hub for artists in Sydney's inner west.

Since its public opening in 2010, it has been producing high caliber exhibitions of Sydney's most creative artists. Alongside recognized artists like landscape painter John Caldwell, local sculptors like Julie Ashcroft and young photographer Hamish Campbell among others, have also had their works gracing this space.

Artsite's angular showroom offers an atmosphere of drama and discovery. The high ceilings and partitioning of the exhibition space impart freedom between the works yet there is also a sense of conscious aesthetic fluidity.

My visit coincided with the gallery preparing its installations for this year's Sydney Fringe Festival in which Artsite coordinates an exhibition called The Great Unknown. This initiative calls local artists to submit their work and was designed to support local contemporary art practice.

With a strong curatorial eye to their exhibitions, Tuckfield-Carrano mentions that setting up was quite an arduous process to ensure the artworks did not "fight".

"This is the advantage of this space, because when it's finished, you'll get into a position where you'll be able to see one work without the other work dominating, or you'll be looking at that one and that one won't drag your eye."

Artsite, 165 Salisbury Road, Camperdown, NSW 2050

<http://www.artsite.com.au/>