

# MEDIA RELEASE

## 2023 SA Wooden Boat Festival Celebrates Art and Culture with Exciting Art Trail 18 April 2023

The 2023 SA Wooden Boat Festival is set to take place on 29-30 April and promises to be a celebration of art, culture and maritime heritage.

This year, the Festival is excited to announce its Festival Art Trail, featuring a range of local businesses and galleries that have come together to showcase the talents of Fleurieu Peninsula's artists.

The Art Trail consists of nine galleries, exhibiting in various locations from Port Elliot to Goolwa, over the weekend with an exciting mix of tradition and contemporary all appropriately to the theme of rivers and boats.

The Art Trail will begin on 21 April, with the launch of the South Coast Regional Arts Centre (SCRAC) exhibition, "If I Had A Boat" at the Old Goolwa Police Station. This exciting exhibition features works by some of the region's most talented artists, exploring themes of maritime culture, history, and the sea. The exhibition launch will take place at the SCRAC, Goolwa on 21 April at 6pm and will run until 20 May 2023.

SCRAC will also showcase a corresponding exhibition "Remarkable Australians and Their Boats" by the Australian Maritime Museum Council. This exhibition is part of a national project featuring 12 of the most compelling maritime stories.

The Strand Gallery at Port Elliot is collaborating with the Armfield Slip & Boatshed to present a unique exhibition of maritime-inspired art. The exhibition "Alice and the Lotus". A story of a remarkable woman, the river and a special boat. Featuring paintings, drawings and sculptures by award-winning artists responding to the theme of the River and Boats.

Several other galleries along the Art Trail will have exhibitions running on the Festival weekend including; Artworx Gallery, Art @ Goolwa, Twin Pines Gallery, Stables & Studios, Goolwa, John Lacey's Studio & Green Tank Gallery, Mt. Compass and Goolwa Visual Arts Group at Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club.

The celebration of Art and Culture extends past Goolwa and into the broader Alexandrina Region, there are a number of Galleries promoting emerging and professional Artists – follow the Strathalbyn Art Trail and the wonderful Langhorne Creek region.

The Festival precinct at Alexandrina Cove, Hindmarsh Island includes a Ngarrandjeri Cultural Tent facilitated by Cedric Varcoe. Visitors can participate in Water Spirit Making Workshops and view his collection of "Better World Arts" available for sale at the festival merchandise tent.

Alexandrina Council, Mayor Keith Parkes, said "we are thrilled to be able to showcase the incredible talent of South Australian artists through our Festival Art Trail. This year's SA Wooden Boat Festival is all about celebrating the unique culture and heritage of South Australia, and river and boat themed art is a fantastic way to do that. We can't wait to see the incredible works of art that will be on display, and we encourage everyone to come out and enjoy the Festival!"



All artworks will be available for sale. For further information about the festival program, please visit the festival website [www.sawoodenboatfestival.com.au](http://www.sawoodenboatfestival.com.au)

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