



Margaret Olley Art Centre

The Margaret Olley Art Centre (MOAC) celebrates the career, life and legacy of its namesake, Margaret Olley – Australia's most celebrated painter of still life and interiors.

Central to MOAC is the re-creation of Olley's famous home studio. The re-creation features original architectural elements from Olley's home studio at 48 Duxford Street, Paddington, Sydney. The interiors are filled with over 20,000 items Olley collected as subject matter for her paintings.

These combined elements offer a rich and dynamic context for Olley's enduring artistic career.

Current exhibition

Margaret Olley: Inspired

Exhibition continues until 19 July 2020

Margaret Olley was inspired by her extraordinary home studio for nearly fifty years. It was an ecosystem of art and life. She painted its interiors in changing light, as well as still life subjects selected from the collections of objects that filled each and every room.

During her lifetime, Olley and her home studio also inspired other artists – they painted and photographed her portrait, as well as her home studio.

This remarkable space, in the form of the re-creation at the Margaret Olley Art Centre, continues to inspire artists who undertake residencies in the Gallery's Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence Studio.

This exhibition, drawn entirely from the Tweed Regional Gallery collection, includes interior and still life paintings by Olley, portraits of the artist and responses to her home studio by contemporary artists.

Margaret Olley (1923–2011)

Wildflowers and pears (detail) c.1973

oil on board, 65 × 76cm

Purchased through the bequest of Phoebe McNamara and the Tweed Regional Gallery Donations Fund, 2019. Tweed Regional Gallery collection. © Margaret Olley Art Trust