UQ ART MUSEUM MISSION STATEMENT

The UQ Art Museum’s mission is to:
Provoke wonder and enquiry
Stimulate assessment of personal values and knowledge
Embrace and inspire innovation and excellence
Encourage respect and understanding of other perspectives and cultures
Foster a critical appraisal of how knowledge, histories and values are constructed

In order to achieve this mission, the Art Museum uses:
Works of art
Exhibitions
Publications
The UQ Art Collection
Educational strategies
The Art Museum building and its systems
Appropriate spaces in campus buildings
Public space
Online engagement and resources
Collaborative partnerships with the University’s faculties, schools and institutes

The Art Museum’s areas of special focus are:
Exhibitions: thesis-driven temporary exhibitions programmed with significance, diversity, and educational value at their core
Collections: Australian art, with particular attention to Queensland, Indigenous and artists’ self-portrait works (In unusual and particularly relevant cases, non-Australian works may be acquired.)
Education: foster interdisciplinary enquiry, debate and collaboration; challenge participants in the Art Museum’s ‘sibling’ disciplines¹ with relevant visual discourse; mentor students in museum practice and art-historical research; and build educational pathways for sectors in schools and the community
Research: engage with, research and document contemporary artistic practice, and focus scholarship on Australian art history and museum practice

¹ art history, museum studies, media studies, cultural studies, architecture, philosophy, Australian history, creative arts, creative writing, theatre, film studies, etc., according to each project’s disciplinary affinity.
Therefore gathering, stewarding, and conversing about works of art is central to executing the mission.

**Ethics and sustainability:**
The Art Museum and its activities should exist within an ethical and sustainable environment of the highest standard.

**The principal hierarchy of audiences toward which this mission is directed is:**
UQ community
University executive and leadership (in their roles as institutional leaders)
Professional colleagues, artists and peers
Significant individuals and entities in our society
Upper high-school students and teachers
Staff and students of other Brisbane Universities
Brisbane and Queensland communities
Local, national and international communities reached via media and the internet

**Campus museums:**
The Art Museum will collaborate, where appropriate, with the UQ Anthropology Museum and the RD Milns Antiquities Museum.

**Engagement:**
All of the above conditions and directions enable the Art Museum to function as one of the University’s principal sites of external engagement. This role is an important integral dimension of the Art Museum’s purpose.