



Can we fixate? Yes we can!

21 SEP – 16 NOV 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

RE-IMAGINED RAILYARD

MIDLAND JUNCTION ARTS CENTRE | EAST GALLERY

OPENING CELEBRATION

Sunday 7 October 11am – 3pm

VIEWING TIMES

7 October – 16 November | Wed – Fri 10am – 5pm

Artists are constantly inventing new realities and experimenting with versions of past histories. *Re-imagined Railyard* brings visual arts and social history together to evoke personal memories attached to the locally treasured Midland Railway Workshops.

For 90 years, the Midland Railway Workshops significantly contributed to the social and economic fabric of the Eastern Hills community. A range of highly skilled labourers and support services operated from the workshops from 1904 to the closure in 1994 and were intrinsic to the fabric of Midland.

The Pattern Shop at the Midland Railway Workshops was a hub of innovation. The function of this space was to manufacture and maintain railway property. In this warehouse, skilled workers created timber patterns for casting metal items. Today, the Pattern Shop is frozen in time, the curious and playful patterns remain categorised in a methodical fashion, and these historic tools have become windows into a manufacturing world of the past.

Artist Eva Fernandez has captured the aesthetic curiosity of the patterns in her large-scale photographs, whilst City of Swan volunteer Lisa Buck and local history librarian Jude Carr have created a timeline snapshot into the day to day operations of the past by embedding historical photographs into railway patterns. Artworks from the City of Swan collection will also be on display including work by Nigel Hewitt.

Past histories are grounded within a rapidly changing age of technologic advancement for human consumption as a way to appreciate this significant Midland industry. City of Swan Libraries and The Futures Lab demonstrate the power of 3D printing, exhibiting how shapes, moulds, tools, or anything one can imagine can be reproduced using this exciting technology.



Eva Fernandez, Photograph of the Midland Railway Workshops Pattern Shop

Re-Imagined Railyard is collaboratively curated by members of the Midland community: City of Swan history librarian Jude Carr, volunteer Lisa Buck, The Futures Lab and City of Swan Libraries and Mundaring Arts Centre curator Greg Sikich.

On display at Midland Junction Arts Centre from 7 October – 16 November, *Re-Imagined Railyard* is a contemporary snapshot into railway patterns, a multipurpose tool used by a range of skilled tradespeople at the Midland Railway Workshops.

Midland Junction Arts Centre

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