

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: 28 May 2026



Dave Court announced as the 2026 recipient of The Guildhouse Fellowship

Guildhouse, the Art Gallery of South Australia (AGSA) and the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation are proud to announce **Dave Court** as the recipient of the **2026 Guildhouse Fellowship**, one of the most significant opportunities for mid-career visual artists in Australia.

Dave Court is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice spans painting, sculpture and installation, from large-scale public artworks to immersive cross-media environments. Characterised by bold, painterly gestures and abstraction, his work moves fluidly across the corporeal and the virtual, creating interactive, time-based and participatory experiences that invite audiences into dynamic, shared encounters.

Now in its seventh year, the enhanced Guildhouse Fellowship is delivered across 18-months, creating an extraordinary opportunity for an artist to extend their practice, grow industry recognition and expand professional horizons. The payment of superannuation has become a national benchmark for direct support for artists.



AGSA



Dave Court will receive a \$50,000 artist fee plus superannuation, funds for professional, legacy documentation and dedicated support from AGSA's curatorial team to present the outcomes of his Fellowship with audiences at the Art Gallery of South Australia.

For Dave Court, this moment marks more than recognition; it signals a turning point.

"I am extremely excited and grateful to receive this opportunity. It is an honour and a privilege to be supported at this kind of scale by Guildhouse and AGSA. I'm looking forward to diving deep into new work, to learning, making and discovering where this journey will lead."

"For an artist like myself, this will have a huge impact; it's a pivotal shift for my practice and career. Not only the financial support, but the access and endorsement that comes with this Fellowship is something I fully appreciate."

From an extremely competitive field of applicants, Court was selected by a panel comprising internationally renowned Australian contemporary artist Fiona Hall AO, Art Gallery of South Australia Director, Jason Smith and Guildhouse Chief Executive, Beth Neate.

Guildhouse Chief Executive Beth Neate says:

"The Guildhouse Fellowship provides artists with the time, resources and institutional partnership to pursue their most ambitious ideas. As a panel, we were highly impressed by Dave Court's sophisticated approach to the Fellowship and his willingness to pursue experimentation and risk-taking, underpinned by a deep engagement with theory. Dave Court's selection, among an extremely competitive field of South Australian artists, is acknowledgement both of the depth of artistic talent in our State and the vital importance of this opportunity for mid-career artists."

Art Gallery of South Australia Director Jason Smith says:

"We are delighted to support Dave Court as the 2026 Guildhouse Fellow. This Fellowship fosters artistic excellence and enables artists to undertake rigorous research and experimentation. We look forward to working with Dave as his ideas develop toward a presentation at AGSA."

Kerry de Lorme of the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation adds:

"The Foundation is immensely proud to support the Guildhouse Fellowship and the artists who have received this transformative opportunity. Enabling artists to build lasting careers and to create inspiring work that is enjoyed by South Australians sits at the heart of the Foundation's purpose. Dave Court's selection reflects both the strength of his practice to date and the potential for significant growth."

Over the coming Fellowship period (May 2026 – October 2027), Dave Court will work closely with Guildhouse and AGSA staff to research and develop new work, culminating in a presentation at the Art Gallery of South Australia in late 2027.



AGSA



MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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A selection of high-resolution images is available [here](#)

About The Guildhouse Fellowship:

The Fellowship includes:

- An artist fee of \$50,000 paid directly to the artist
- Payment of 12% superannuation
- Professional documentation
- A presentation at AGSA, planned in conjunction with the artist, AGSA and Guildhouse

The Guildhouse Fellowship is generously supported by the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation and is presented in partnership with the Art Gallery of South Australia (AGSA). The program is delivered by Guildhouse and presented by AGSA. [Learn more.](#)

About Guildhouse:

Guildhouse is South Australia's peak body for visual art, craft and design, equipping artists at every career stage to have thriving, ambitious and world-class careers. Founded in 1966, Guildhouse supports over 1,200 practising artists with career development, tailored services, residencies, professional networks, and paid opportunities, whilst advocating for best practice and leading sector development.

About the James and Diana Ramsay Foundation:

Established in 2008 by Diana Ramsay AO, the James and Diana Ramsay Foundation is a South Australian philanthropic organisation advancing the arts, health innovation and youth programs in South Australia. The Foundation is committed to supporting high quality arts programs that encourage a strong arts and cultural sector that is accessible to South Australians.

About Dave Court:

Process-driven, collaborative and experimental, Dave Court's practice extends beyond the studio into art direction, curation, fashion, retail and independent art spaces. At its core is an ongoing investigation into how social structures are shaped by evolving technologies, and a commitment to the radical potential of collective experience. A First-Class Honours graduate



AGSA



of the University of South Australia, Court has been supported by CreateSA, Creative Australia and Adelaide Festival, and has developed an international profile through exhibitions, residencies and presentations across India, South Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States. Dave Court is the founder of Washdog Studios and holds key leadership roles across the sector, contributing to the future of South Australia's creative industries through governance, advocacy and artist-led initiatives.

Previous recipients of the Guildhouse Fellowship:

All past recipients of The Guildhouse Fellowship are in active practice locally, nationally and internationally.

Troy-Anthony Baylis (2019)

Sera Waters (2020)

Liam Fleming (2021)

Tom Phillips (2022)

Kyoko Hashimoto (2023)

Michelle Nikou (2024)