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## **MEDIA RELEASE** For immediate distribution

### **'Powerful together, Uniquely different' exhibition celebrates women and women artists for International Women's Day 2020.**

To coincide with International Women's Day on Sunday 8 March, Gippsland Women's Health and Gippsland Art Gallery have collaborated in hosting an exhibition celebrating the diversity and unity of women in our community.

The aim for this exhibition is to support female artists by increasing their visibility. The exhibition theme highlights and celebrates women's achievements, strengths and differences through a powerful display of artwork that emphasises the importance of advancing gender equality. Many pieces highlight the gender based issues of violence and discrimination women have faced through the centuries and continue to face today.

The exhibition includes established and emerging Gippsland female artists with diverse artistic styles from right across Gippsland. The artists are Kate Shone and Cat Blamey, Casey Miller, Claire Marston, Emma Hearnese and Jaquie Swan. The exhibition will open at the Gippsland Art Gallery on Friday 22 February and run until Sunday 12 April.

Please join us for an **International Women's Day celebration at Gippsland Art Gallery's *First Friday*** event, for a discussion with the artists and Gippsland Women's Health, **March 6 at 2.00pm – 3.00pm.**

"International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. It also marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality. We hope this exhibition will empower the viewer to understand the importance of advancing equality, while celebrating women's unique differences and valuable contribution and achievements in our community." Fiona Owen, Chief Executive Officer, Gippsland Women's Health.

Gippsland Art Gallery Curator, Erin Mathews said "Gippsland Art Gallery is proud to host this exhibition to celebrate International Women's Day and to support the artistic practice of these Gippsland artists. The five artists participating in this exhibition have created outstanding artworks that speak directly to their experiences as women, and to those of the wider female community."

The 2020 International Women's Day theme and hashtag #EachForEqual is focussing on 'an equal world is an enabled world.' Each for equal is aimed at galvanizing continuous collective action which is actively reinforced and amplified all year as we all work for more equitable society.

Gippsland Art Gallery is located at Port of Sale, 70 Foster Street, Sale. Open 7 days a week. The exhibition is located on level 2.

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