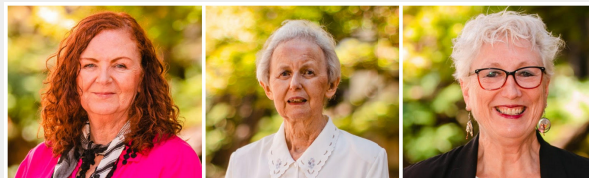


## Inclusive Museum International Award for Excellence

*The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum* offers an annual award for newly published research or thinking that has been recognized to be outstanding by members of **The Inclusive Museum Research Network**.

The winning article is selected from the ten highest-ranked articles emerging from the peer-review process. The author is invited to be a featured speaker at the next conference, where he or she is also acknowledged in a short presentation.

### Award Winners for Volume 16



Munday, Jennifer, Eileen Clark, and Alison Watts. 2023. "Collections from the Asylum: Past Lives, Present Tense." *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum* 16 (1): 53-73. doi:10.18848/1835-2014/CGP/V16I01/53-73

### Collections from the Asylum: Past Lives, Present Tense

Social history museums strive to present exhibitions that will connect to their local audience and provoke conversation as well as provide information. The aim of this article is to describe an exhibition about a decommissioned former mental hospital that is still significant for many in the local community. The exhibition consisted of various "collections" of objects and artworks assembled by the researchers in collaboration with museum staff, along with stories collected during our research into the asylum. Some "collections" included historical images and stories from the past alongside others of creative work and technology responding to the present. Community members were keenly interested in the exhibition, but the COVID-19 pandemic and consequent border closures in Australia meant that visitors needed to attend online presentations and virtual tours rather than see the exhibits in person. The use of digital presentations along with physical artefacts brought about a new way of thinking about presenting social history to future audiences.

*The article about our Collections exhibition demonstrates two ways we use to disseminate our research. The Collections exhibition itself was a way to show the general public stories and experiences we were finding out from our participants in the course of our research. It also allowed us to exhibit items that had not been made public previously. Because the research is ongoing, this was important in encouraging more people to come forward to speak to us.*

*Academic publication gives us an opportunity to talk about our research methods while discussing the value of each 'collection.' Writing the article also makes us reflect on the methodology and justify the processes we use in order to work together in an inter-disciplinary way. This is of growing importance in universities where staff are encouraged to work across and between disciplines to broaden their knowledge and expand their approaches to research. Publication in a high-profile journal like the International Journal of the Inclusive Museum also demonstrates our work to funding bodies and helped us to be successful in obtaining a research grant to continue our work. Dr Clark also included the article in her dissertation for a PhD awarded in 2023.*

*Being published in the International Journal of the Inclusive Museum is important to us as researchers. The audience who saw the exhibition and the audience who read the journal are parts of their respective communities to whom we want to tell the stories of members of society who, in history, have been segregated from society and stigmatised. We need to tell these stories to impress on readers that we must continue to move forward positively and inclusively to counteract the stigma still attached to mental illness today.*

—Alison Watts, Eileen Clark, and Jenni Munday

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### Past Award Winners

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[Heritage and Dementia: Two Complementary Worlds](#)

Julie Moorkens, H el ene Verreyke, Natalia Ortega Saez, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 15, Issue 2, pp.39-48

Volume 14

**Virtual Masterpieces: Innovation through Public Co-creation for Digital Museum Collections**

Christopher Morse, Carine Lallemand, Lars Wieneke, Vincent Koenig, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 15, Issue 1, pp.65–83

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Volume 11

**The Museum as Unreliable Narrator: What We Can Learn from Nick Carraway**

Jeanne Goswami, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 11, Issue 1, pp.1–11

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Volume 10

**Rethinking Representation: Shifting Relations between Museums and the Indigenous Peoples of Taiwan**

Shih-Yu Chen, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 10, Issue 3, pp.13–22

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Volume 9

**LA's Diamond in the Rough: The Museum of Jurassic Technology**

Andrew Howe, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 9, Issue 1, pp.1–6

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Volume 8

**Humanizing and Heroizing the Fetus: The Production of Reproduction at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry**

Kristin Otto, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 8, Issue 4, pp.33–42

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Volume 7

**Accessibility of Museums in Barbados**

Allison Callender, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 7, Issue 1, pp.17–27

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**Keeping Interactive Art Interactive**

Jennifer Eiserman and Gerald Hushlak, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 6, Issue 2, pp.183–196

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Mary Battle, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 5, Issue 1, pp.11–24

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Laura Kate Gibson and Hannah Turner, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 4, Issue 1, pp.1–14

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Volume 3

**Inclusivity, Objectivity, and The Ideal: The Museum as Utopian Space**

Donald Dunham, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 3, Issue 3, pp.39–48

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**New Media Interactivity in the Museum: Democratisation or Dumbing Down?**

Ingrid Templer, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 2, Issue 1, pp.165–178

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**Beyond the Rational Museum: Toward a Discourse of Inclusion**

Janice Baker, *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Volume 1, Issue 2, pp.23–30

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