



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Tin Sheds Gallery

2025-26 Open Call Information Pack

University of Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning.

About the gallery

Tin Sheds Gallery (TSG) is a contemporary exhibition space located within the Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning at the University of Sydney. Tin Sheds officially opened in 1969 as an autonomous art space within the University grounds, facilitated by artists, academics, and students. The Tin Sheds spurred a pivotal historical movement in Australian art, nurturing cross disciplinary experimentation and politically orientated practices for several decades. The Sydney School was a strong support base for Tin Sheds, and in 1989 it officially joined the School delivering art workshop classes. In 2004, the Tin Sheds moved its entire operation into the School with purpose-built workshops and a gallery.

Our mission

Our mission is to foster and advance public debates about the role of architecture, art, design and urbanism in contemporary society through the production of innovative and experimental exhibitions, publications and related activities. The gallery provides a public platform for projects that inspire the imagination and ignite critical dialogue - addressing the diverse forces that shape the built environment.

The Tin Sheds Gallery remains both a physical and intellectual space that contributes to the broad discourse of national and international architecture, art, design, and urbanism. We are dedicated to the exploration of new ideas, the hosting of collective and critical debates, the nurturing of spatial experimentation and innovation, and intelligent and accessible promotion of scholarly research in the field.

2025-26 Open Call

Eligibility

TSG accepts proposals from:

- Local, national and international curators, architects, designers, artists and researchers
- SSADP staff and students

Selection criteria

- Clear rationale and description of concepts and contents within the exhibition
- Compatibility of exhibition with the Tin Sheds mission
- Innovation in your field of practice and research
- Originality of the exhibition to invoke critical dialogue and audience engagement
- Clear draft of an exhibition budget
- Clear draft timeline of production/delivery – including milestone activities
- Potentials for any exhibition related events, such as gallery talks, symposiums and workshops
- Engagement with teaching and research programs at the University of Sydney is encouraged

Program allocation

- The 2025-26 program may include up to 10 exhibitions
- We may schedule your exhibition to run parallel with another exhibition
- Periods: March-April / May-June / July-August / September-October / October-November

Tin Sheds Exhibition Budget

- For a single exhibition across both rooms Tin Sheds will provide \$10000 (excl GST)
- For shared exhibitions Tin Sheds will provide: Space A \$6000 / Space B \$4000
- The budget is all inclusive including fees, material and production costs
- For information on in-house resources provided, please see below

Deadline

Due date is by midnight Monday July 1st, 2024. Once started, you will have the option of editing your online application. Follow the instructions to save your application and copy the url.

Process

All proposals will be reviewed by the Tin Sheds Advisory Group and a shortlist will be selected for interviews approx mid-July, 2024. Final decisions on all applications will be communicated by approx late July – early August, 2024.

Proposal feedback

Due to limited gallery resources we unfortunately do not provide feedback on your proposal.

Tin Sheds Advisory Group - [about-the-gallery](#)

In House Resources

Management

The Gallery Manager oversees the gallery space, the installation, maintenance and deinstallation of each exhibition. They work with you in the lead up to your exhibition, monitoring your scheduling, production, budgeting and provide advice on general exhibition design and technical requirements.

Marketing / Events

The External Engagement Officer is responsible for the promotion of all material relating to an exhibition and associated events. They will work with you to manage, schedule and distribute marketing collateral for your exhibition. They also provide logistical support for all associated exhibition events. Opening nights are managed and catered by the gallery, serving food, beer and wine.

Installation

Install and de-install is undertaken by Tin Sheds technicians with guidance from the Gallery Manager. Install periods are typically 7 days long commencing from Wednesday through to the following Thursday – opening night. Deinstall is typically 2 days long on Monday/Tuesday following the close of the exhibition.

Gallery Hours / Invigilation

University staff invigilate all exhibitions. The gallery is open to the public between Tuesday and Friday, 10am-4pm (excluding public holidays).

Exhibition Furniture / AV equipment

An inventory of furniture and AV equipment will be made available to you if your proposal is selected. The gallery has some plinths, vitrines and tables that may be used for display purposes. TSG can assist in the production of exhibition furniture and other exhibition needs. Production costs and schedules for these will be negotiated in the preliminary stages of your exhibition planning. TSG has a wide range of audio/visual equipment that can be loaned for proposed exhibitions, including data projectors, flat screen monitors, media players, computers etc.

Printing/catalogue/room sheets

Gallery signage for your exhibition is covered as an expense by Tin Sheds - scales, quantity and placement are relative to the general exhibition design and annual budget. TSG covers expenses for the printing of leaflets / room sheets - up to 200 folded A4 leaflets / room sheets. Any larger associated exhibition catalogue / publication is the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor.

Gallery Specifications

Floorplan

Download the gallery floorplan zip folder via the application page.

Lighting

The gallery is well-lit by natural light, LED Erco lights and tracking system. For archival works and ambient light exhibition design, we can readily adjust the lighting as needed via; dimming, directionality, coloured lenses for sensitive works, and block out blinds. Overall lighting design is done in collaboration between the Exhibitor and Manager.

Delivery & Access

- A loading zone is located directly outside the gallery on City Rd, 8am–3pm only.
- For the delivery of large items, direct entrance from the Gallery's door situated on City Rd can be utilized within loading zone times.
- Exhibitors are responsible for arranging transport of all work to and from TSG.

Security

The University provides 24-hour security within the campus, however there is no dedicated security guard for the Gallery only a gallery invigilator.

Insurance/liability

The University's Public Liability insurance policy covers the University's legal liability to pay compensation in respect of, personal injury to non-staff, and damage to a third party's property. This policy also covers the legal liability of any person acting on instruction from or on behalf of the University. e.g. staff, students, volunteer workers.

Artworks exhibited at TSG are covered by The University of Sydney's insurance policy. To fulfil the requirements of The University's insurance policy, the value of all works included in an exhibition need to be provided to TSG. Upon approval of your application, you will be asked to supply a list, stating the artist, date, title, value and medium of each work in your exhibition.

Storage

There are no storage facilities at TSG. Artworks and all associated exhibition items can only be stationed at the gallery during install / de-install periods. Immediate removal / embarkation of items upon completion of an exhibition is mandatory.

Environment/climate

At present we do not have a climate-controlled environment. There is air conditioning throughout the gallery that allows us to cool the temperature as needed. For sensitive paper and archival works, we have portable dehumidifiers to reduce moisture in the air for seasons where humidity and dampness may increase. At present we do not have the resources to undertake or provide climate data charts for the gallery.

Tin Sheds Gallery

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