



MOAC Curator and Collections Manager Ingrid Hedgcock retrieves the blue-banded jug from the collection storeroom.

UNLOCKING MARGARET'S HOUSE

STILL LIFE CHALLENGE: BLUE-BANDED JUG

Welcome to the second still life challenge that gives special access to the objects that inspired Margaret Olley. On the first Sunday of each month, we will 'unlock' Margaret's House and bring to you a composition from her collection of objects.

Margaret Olley filled her home studio with objects that she collected as subject matter for painting. With her once ever-changing home studio now a static re-creation, we love to explore opportunities to enliven this space and return it to its role as subject matter; as inspiration for artists.

On the first Sunday of each month, we will continue to bring to you a composition from her collection of objects, and invite you to make a work in response as part of our Gallery At Home program. Whether it is through painting, drawing, 3D, mixed media or photography – we want to see how you respond to the challenge. Don't forget to share your creations on social media with the hashtag **#unlockingmargarethouse**.



Margaret Olley
Hawkesbury wildflowers with lemons 1971
oil on board
101.5 x 83.5cm
Ludowici Family collection
© Margaret Olley Art Trust

Our second challenge is inspired by the painting *Hawkesbury wildflowers with lemons*, 1971. In this painting we don't see Olley's signature poppies, tiger lilies or cornflowers of rich and vibrant colour, instead we see the blue-banded jug holding an arrangement of wildflowers. With an irresistible texture they reach up and outwards to create a canopy over the objects below.

Over the last few years, the Gallery has welcomed a fantastic line-up of contemporary artists to explore the re-creation and respond to it from the perspective of their own practice. Some have chosen to respond to objects that Olley painted, some to objects that are otherwise hidden, some to Olley's depiction of objects under different light, and some to the interiors themselves. With each still life challenge, we invite you to add to this narrative of contemporary responses.



The re-creation of Margaret Olley's home studio is the ultimate portrait of the artist, filled with objects she collected over many decades that tell stories of her art and life. This blue-banded jug once belonged to Australian painter David Strachan (1919 - 1970) and, some years after his death, his estate gifted the jug to Olley.



For this still life challenge we have coupled the blue-banded jug with other objects from Margaret Olley's home studio collection, and some fresh lemons. Using Olley's painting and our re-creation as your starting point, you can paint, draw, collage or print as you like. Whatever you choose - we can't wait to see what you do!

