

## Bailey hosts first Aspiring Artist, Clay Hawker

8 March 2021

Crystalbrook Bailey welcomes first Aspiring Artist, Cairns photographer Clay Hawker in March 2021.

An advocate for the arts, Bailey launched the call out for all Aspiring Artists last year before having to put a hold on exhibitions due to COVID-19. The initiative is a comprehensive arts programme giving eager, up and coming artists the opportunity to showcase their talents and have their work featured on display and for sale within the hotel gallery, with all proceeds going directly to the artist.

Local photographer Clay Hawker will be the first Aspiring Artist to exhibit his artwork at Bailey. Hawker's installation titled 'Slow Down in North Queensland' will be on display until Friday 30 April in the Bailey atrium of an evening.

The exhibition will feature 40 photographs projected on a 60 square metre wall in the hotel atrium of an evening. The collection captures the essence of Far North Queensland, from lush World Heritage Rainforest to cascading waterfalls and diverse wildlife. Get to know the beautiful imagery that Clay has captured during his life journey with deep respect towards nature.

Bailey will host an exhibition opening and artist talk with Clay Hawker on Friday 12 March. The event will take place in the lobby from 6:30-7:30pm. Open to all, from hotel guests, locals and the Cairns arts and cultural community.

Clay Hawker said, "The northern regions of Queensland are full of stunning waterfalls, beautiful beaches, invaluable wildlife and more. What better place to unwind and savour nature? May this imagery inspire you to slow down while enjoying the great outdoors, and to encourage others to appreciate and preserve our natural assets for years to come."

Lisa Brown, General Manager Bailey, a Crystalbrook Collection Hotel and Residences said, "Our goal at Bailey is to make art accessible, inclusive and empowering. We're giving aspiring, undiscovered artists the opportunity to share their artistic talents and have their work seen by thousands of people."

## **Key dates**

9 March: Exhibition opens

12 March: Exhibition launch night and in conversation Artist Talk with Clay Hawker at 6:30pm in the lobby at Bailey. Free to attend with drinks available for purchase.

30 April: Exhibition closes

## **Bailey and the arts**

Situated in the heart of Cairns' cultural precinct, Bailey is nestled alongside Cairns Performing Arts Centre and The Cairns Art Gallery. Bailey has a strong passion for the arts, design, entertainment, and sustainability with an ever-evolving, ever-changing array of professional art on display throughout the hotel.

Find out more or enquire now [crystalbrookcollection.com/bailey/aspiring-artist](https://crystalbrookcollection.com/bailey/aspiring-artist).

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**For further information, images or to arrange media interviews contact:**

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### **About Bailey, a Crystalbrook Collection Hotel**

Cairns' new five-star hotel, Bailey, a Crystalbrook Collection Hotel and Residence, is modern, innovative and has a true appreciation for all the arts. Bailey chooses the path less travelled. The type of character you'll find at the local farmer's market rather than a supermarket or exploring the latest exhibition at the museum rather than at a rock concert.

Staying with Bailey, you'll find artwork from across Australia displayed in and around the hotel, as well as art events for all guests to enjoy. With 255 spacious rooms filled with design details that will appeal to your inner artist, you'll be sure to leave enchanted and enriched.

Learn more: [crystalbrookcollection.com/bailey](https://crystalbrookcollection.com/bailey)

### **About Crystalbrook**

Crystalbrook is one of Australia's leading sustainable and innovative independent hospitality companies. Each hotel in the portfolio carries an authentic expression of its location, a passion for responsible luxury, considered design and a twinkle of fun for a uniquely enriching experience.

Crystalbrook's portfolio includes:

- Riley, a Crystalbrook Collection Resort, Cairns, Queensland
- Little Albion, a Crystalbrook Collection Boutique Hotel, Sydney, New South Wales
- Byron at Byron, a Crystalbrook Collection Resort, Byron Bay, New South Wales
- Bailey, a Crystalbrook Collection Hotel and Residence, Cairns, Queensland
- Flynn, a Crystalbrook Collection Hotel, Cairns, Queensland
- Kingsley, a Crystalbrook Collection Hotel, Newcastle, New South Wales – opening Q2 2021

The Group also owns and operates a collection of ten restaurants, three spas, Crystalbrook Superyacht Marina in Port Douglas along with Crystalbrook Station and its subsidiary pastoral businesses.

Learn more: [crystalbrookcollection.com](https://crystalbrookcollection.com)

### **Responsible Luxury**

Responsible Luxury and sustainability is at the forefront of the way Crystalbrook thinks and operates. At a glance:

- Operating a single use plastic free environment. No plastic straws, water bottles or single use bathroom amenity bottles (in the past two years the Group has saved over three million plastic bottles from entering landfill)
- Farming their own beef
- Sourcing at least 80% of produce from within a three hour drive of each hotel
- Use of technology, such as in-room iPads and mobile check-in to create paperless environments and experiences
- Use of recycled and upcycled materials. Examples include keycards made from recycled wood, coathangers made from recycled paper and toothbrushes made from sweetcorn

### **Crystalbrook Collection and Ghassan Aboud Group**

Crystalbrook Collection is part of Ghassan Aboud Group promoted by international entrepreneur and philanthropist Ghassan Aboud. The group is a multi-business conglomerate engaged in automobiles, real estate, hospitality, FMCG, food, retail, bespoke catering, media and logistics. In business for more than two decades, the group operates from its global headquarters in the United Arab Emirates with offices in Australia, Belgium, Jordan and Turkey.