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91yo takes top prize in Sculpture by the Sea

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A 91-year-old artist from Wollongong has won the major \$60,000 prize at this year's Sculpture by the Sea festival in Sydney.

May Barrie's Time and Tide Granite Monolith II, a large rock boulder, has beaten 113 other sculptures which are scattered along the Bondi to Tamarama coastal walk for the 13th sculpture by the sea.

An estimated 500,000 people will turn out over the next two weeks to see women made of bark, windmills, plant people and a giant straw sticking out of the ocean.

May Barrie says she is happy with the win even though the prize, which sees the work acquired for public viewing, was substantially less than the asking price for a private sale.

"I know that I'm a good sculptor but I'm glad to find other people think so too, so that was good," she said.

The Balnaves Foundation, which sponsors, the major prize is now calling on local councils to nominate potential sites for a permanent collection of winners over the next decade.

Councils have until the end of November to submit an expression of interest.

Sculpture by the Sea has become a national event, with a sister exhibition held in Perth.



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Video: [91yo wins Sculpture by the Sea \(ABC News\)](#)

Map: [Tamarama 2026](#)

Related Link: [Gallery of Sculpture by the Sea exhibition](#)
