

## NEVILLE FRENCH

*Neville French draws inspiration from the landscape to develop porcelain forms which feature subtly coloured matt glazes of an unusual surface quality and luminosity. The shapes and soft tones echo the hill country of rural Victoria, and allude to the meditative aspects of this environment. His forms are wheel thrown, altered and slowly scraped to develop a soft line and solidity. As Neville describes: "I seek to distil an essence of purity and evoke notions of quietude and transcendence through the expressive use of coloured glaze and its relationship to form, tactility, weight and light."*

*Neville French graduated with a Master of Arts degree from RMIT University, Melbourne in 2000, and has been teacher and coordinator of Ceramics at the Arts Academy, University of Ballarat, Victoria since 1982. He has held solo exhibitions in Melbourne and New York and been part of more than twenty group exhibitions worldwide. His work is represented in various public collections including the National Gallery of Victoria, Art Gallery of South Australia, Queensland Art Gallery, Artbank and the City of Inagawa (Japan).*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1955 Born Maryborough, Vic
- 1976 Diploma of Art in Ceramics, Ballarat CAE
- 1980 Diploma of Education, Hawthorn Institute of Education, Melbourne
- 1983 Certificate of Stoneware Glazes, Brisbane CAE
- 1982-99 Lecturer and Co-ordinator (Ceramics), University of Ballarat, SMB Campus
- 2000 Master of Fine Arts(Ceramics) RMIT University, Melbourne
- 2001-02 External assessor, RMIT University, Melbourne

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 "Give and take - a collaboration" (with Belinda Fox), Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2011 "Slip" collaboration with Belinda Fox, Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
- 2010 Mossgreen Gallery, Melbourne
- 2009 Galerie Rosenhauer, Goettingen, Germany
- 2007 Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
- 2004 Galerie Hors-Saison, Melbourne
- 2000 Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne
- 1999 Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York City, USA
- 1997 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1995 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 Colin and Cecily Rigg Contemporary Design Award, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- "Scope", Arts Academy Post Office Gallery, University of Ballarat, Vic
- Alcosco VITRIFY Ceramic Award, Jamfactory Craft & Design Centre, Adelaide
- 2011 "A Day at the Beach", Galerie Handwerk Munchen, Germany
- "Slip", with Belinda Fox, Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
- Manningham Victorian Ceramics award, Vic
- Woollahra small sculpture prize, Woollahra Council Chambers
- "Scope", Arts Academy Post Office Gallery, University of Ballarat, Vic
- 2010 National Ceramics Award, Clunes, Vic
- 27th Gold Coast International Ceramic Art award, Gold Coast Arts Centre, Qld
- City of Hobart Art Prize, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
- "Colour Texture Form", Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld
- "Scope", Arts Academy Post Office Gallery, University of Ballarat, Vic
- 2009 "Tablewares: Contemporary International Ceramics", Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney
- "Scope", Arts Academy Post Office Gallery, University of Ballarat, Vic
- "Here, Now", Mossgreen Gallery, Melbourne
- 2008 "Vessel/Sculpture", German and International Ceramics Since 1946, Grassi Museum of Applied Arts, Leipzig, Germany
- 26th Gold Coast International Ceramic Art award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld

- 2007 "Gifts of Rod Fyffe", Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic
- 2007 "Celebration", Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney
- 2006 "Australische impressionen", Galerie Rosenhauer, Goettingen, Germany
- "Innovations", Bellie Casten Gallery, Melbourne
- "Tained Love: Contemporary Developments in Landscape", Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic
- "Encrusted: Australian Woodfired Ceramics", Skepsi Gallery, Melbourne
- 2005 Porcelain (with Patsy Hely and Prue Venables) Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- City of Hobart Art Prize, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
- "Light Matters", Skepsi Gallery, Melbourne
- COLLECT, Australian Contemporary, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
- 2004 "Heresy: The Secret Language of Materials", Craft Victoria Gallery, Melbourne
- "Bowl'd and Beautiful", Ceramic Art Gallery, Sydney
- "Elemental", Fala Gallery, Arizona, USA
- "Masters 2", Skepsi Gallery, Melbourne
- 2003 "Going Forward", Sybaris Gallery, Michigan, USA
- 2002 "Less is More, Less is a Bore", Brisbane City Art Gallery
- 2001 International Ceramics 2, Sybaris Gallery, Michigan, USA
- 2000 Australian Ceramics, Gallerie Marianne Heller, Heidelberg, Germany
- 19th National Craft Acquisition Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
- City of Hobart Art Prize, Carnegie Gallery, Hobart
- 1999 "Wouter Dam, Neville French, Steven Heineman", Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York, USA
- "Contemporary Australian Porcelain", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 1998 "Contemplating the Bowl", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- SOFA (Sculpture, Objects, Functional Art) Exposition, Chicago, USA (Sybaris Gallery, Michigan)
- "Contemporary International Ceramics", Sybaris Gallery, Michigan, USA
- SOFA New York City, USA (Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York)
- "Ceramic Art", Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
- 1997 "Bowled Over", Savode Gallery, Brisbane
- "Teawares", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1996 "Stillness", Craft ACT Gallery, Canberra
- "Vessel", Canberra School of Art Gallery, ANU
- "Australian Woodware Survey", Strathnairn Homestead Gallery, Canberra
- 16th National Craft Acquisition Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
- "The Bowled and the Beautiful", Moore's Building, Fremantle, WA
- "180th Ceramic Exhibition", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne

#### AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2012 Finalist, Colin and Cecily Rigg Contemporary Design Award, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- Finalist, Alcosco VITRIFY Ceramic Award, Jamfactory Craft & Design Centre, Adelaide
- 2011 Finalist, Manningham Victorian Ceramics award, Vic
- Finalist, Woollahra small sculpture prize, Woollahra Council Chambers
- Finalist, Alcosco VITRIFY Ceramic Award, Jamfactory Craft & Design Centre, Adelaide
- 2010 Winner, National Ceramics Award, Clunes, Vic
- 2008 Project Grant, Australia Council
- Finalist, Gold Coast International Ceramic Art Award
- 2005 International Touring and Export Grant - Arts Victoria
- 2004 Craft-in-Site Grant, Craft Victoria
- 2001 Project Grant - New Work VACF Australia Council
- 2000 National Craft Acquisition Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
- 1999 Public Art Work, Ballarat Police and Law Courts, Vic
- 1997 Project Grant, VACF Australia Council
- 1977 Australia Council Grant to work with John Gilbert, Ballarat, Vic

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2011 *In my studio*, Neville French, The Journal of Australian Ceramics, issue 49/2  
"The Narrative of Place", Altair Roelants, *The Journal of Australian Ceramics*, vol 50/3
- 2010 *Ceramics today*, Jeffrey B Snyder, Schiffer Publishing, US
- 2009 *Neville French in Göttingen*, Peter Schmitt, Keramik Magazine, October, Germany  
*Land, sky, colour, light: Neville French master of glaze*, Peter Schmitt, New Ceramics, October Germany
- 2008 *Vessel/Sculpture: German and International Ceramics since 1946*, Olaf Thormann, Arnoldesche Art Publishing, Germany  
"International eyes on artists", Chloe Pollard, *Ballarat Courier*, 08/28/08
- 2006 *Place and Identity: Melbourne - Hong Kong*, Neville French, RMIT University, Melbourne  
*Australische Keramik in Göttingen*, Peter Schmitt, Keramik Magazine, Germany  
*Luminous as the Moon: An inspiration*, Neville French, The Journal of Australian Ceramics, issue 46/3
- 2005 *Australian Contemporary*, Stephen Bowers, Ceramics, Art & Perception, No. 58  
"Unique ceramic art lands German invitation", Alissa Kelly, *Ballarat Courier*, 16/09/05
- 2003 *Contemporary Studio Porcelain*, Peter Lane, A & C Black, UK
- 2000 *The Porcelain Bowl Redefined*, Kevin White, Craft Arts International, No.47
- 1999 *Simple Slam; A Ceramic Aesthetic*, Helen Stevens, Ceramics Art and Perception, No. 38  
"The subtle charms of fired clay", Rebecca Lancashire, *The Age*, 16/12/99  
"From handmade to high style", William L. Hamilton, *New York Times*, 25/2/99  
"New stone age", Helen Greenwood, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 08/05/99
- 1998 *Wheel-thrown Ceramics*, Don Davis, Lark Books, USA  
"Potter's pieces to go on show in New York", Claire Hunter, *Ballarat Courier*
- 1997 *Ceramics: Art & Perception*, No. 27  
*Monument: Architecture & Design*, No. 19
- 1996 *Pottery in Australia*, Autumn issue  
"Inviting contemplation", Elizabeth Findlay, *Canberra Times*, 07/12/96
- 1994 *Ceramics: Art & Perception*, No. 17

## COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (collaborative work with Belinda Fox); Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Artbank; Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane; University of Ballarat, Vic; Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Vic; Banyule City Collection, Melbourne; Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic; Castlemaine Art Gallery & Historical Museum, Vic; Devonport Art Gallery, Tasmania; Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld; Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Townsville, Qld; Shepparton Art Gallery, Vic; Sydney Casino, NSW; Grassi Museum, Leipzig, Germany; City of Inagawa, Japan.