

HELEN GEIER

The perception and experience of space is a pivotal theme in Helen Geier's work. Schematic expressions of colour and pattern set up a tension between perceived and constructed space, bringing into question traditional notions of linear perspective. The layered materials, patterns and geometric motifs of Helen's imagery are drawn from a diverse range of visual resources, including the landscape, religion, architecture and textiles. Helen adopts these elements to explore how diverse cultural perceptions are linked through cross-cultural symbols. For example, "the idea of a representative, emblematic body being projected onto the random patterns of the heavens or onto the features of a landscape is one that crosses ages and cultures." Helen also works according to the principles of classical balance and structure "...to reveal the power and the beauty of the still point or moment when the dynamic and shifting internal forces achieve equilibrium."

Helen Geier trained at Alexander Mackie College in Sydney and has post-graduate qualifications from St Martin's School of Art, London. Helen lectured at the Canberra School of Art for fourteen years but now concentrates on her studio practice full-time. Highly successful exhibitions in France, Singapore, New Zealand and India have added to her growing international profile. Helen Geier's work is represented in many collections including the National Gallery of Australia (Canberra), National Gallery of Victoria (Melbourne), Powerhouse Museum (Sydney), Canberra Museum and Gallery, Artbank, Australian National University (Canberra), National Library of Australia (Canberra) and Lasalle Institute of the Arts (Singapore).

BIOGRAPHY

- 1946 Born Sydney
- 1968 Diploma of Art (Education), National Art School, Sydney
- 1968-69 Teacher, Kingsgrove High School, Sydney
- 1969 Teachers' Certificate, Alexander Mackie Teacher's College, Sydney
- 1970-71 Teacher, Pretoria Boys School, London, UK
- 1971-72 Lecturer, Adult Education Classes, London, UK
- 1972-73 Teacher, Brooking School of Ballet, London, UK
- 1973 Certificate of Post Graduate Studies, St. Martin's School of Art, London, UK
- 1974-80 Lecturer, Prahran College of Advanced Education, Melbourne
- 1979 Lecturer, Gloucestershire School of Art & Design, UK
- 1981-94 Lecturer, Canberra School of Art (Senior Lecturer Foundation 1987-91)
- 1997 Residency (with Judy Holding & Wendy Teakel), Bundanon, NSW
- 1998 Master of Arts (by research), RMIT University
- 1999 Visiting Fellow, Canberra School of Art, ANU
- 2002 Artist-in-residence, Artist's Books & Editing workshop, Canberra School of Art, ANU/Trendsetting, Fyshwick, ACT
Joint artist residency, Church Gallery and Curtin University, Perth
- 2007 Artist-in-residence, "Meander: Shadows Screen and Scrolls", Watch this space Gallery, Alice Springs

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 "The fold", Wilson Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2009 "Meander II: A Reflective Path", Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW
- 2008 "Meander II: A Reflective Path", Araluen Galleries, Alice Springs
"Meander II: A Reflective Path", Catherine Asquith Gallery, Melbourne
"Strange Plants", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2007 "Meander", Catherine Asquith Gallery, Melbourne
- 2006 "Elements", Catherine Asquith Gallery, Melbourne
"Prime Numbers", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2005 "Distinguishing features", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Matter and memory", Michael Nagy Fine Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2002 "Reinventing the Screen", The Church Gallery, Perth
"Reinventing the Screen 2", Access Gallery, Curtin University, Perth
- 2001 "Different Fields of Vision", Karl Strobl Gallery, Vienna, Austria
"Shadow Screens", Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
"Thought Patterns", Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
"Different Fields of Vision", Goulburn Regional Gallery

- Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2000 "Different Fields of Vision", Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, India
"Different Fields of Vision", Lalit Kala Akademi, Chennai (Madras), India
"Different Fields of Vision", Biria Academy of Art and Culture, Calcutta, India
"Dissolving View", 30 year survey of paintings and works on paper, Canberra Museum and Gallery, ACT
- 1999 "Different Fields of Vision", 30 Year Survey of Graphic Works, Earl Lu Gallery, Lasalle - SIA, Singapore
- 1998 "Expanded Field", Oedipus Rex Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
"Vital Line", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 1997 "Perspective and Chance Connections", La Trobe Regional Gallery, Vic
"Two Worlds", Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
"Helen Geier: paintings and works on paper", Bega Valley Regional Art Gallery, NSW
- 1996 "Perspective and Chance Connections", The Substation, Singapore
- 1995 "Experiments and Games of Chance", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 1994 "Perspective..... the Very Soul of Painting", Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria
"Parallel Perceptions", William Heinemann Book launch with Rhyl McMaster, Fire Station Gallery, Sydney
"Recent Works", Anima Gallery, Adelaide
- 1993 "Perspectives", Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra
- 1992 "Space and Structure" Survey Exhibition, Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW
The Crawford Gallery, Sydney
- 1991 Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
- 1990 Robert Steele Gallery, Adelaide
- 1988 10 Year Survey, Canberra Contemporary Art Space
- 1987 Anima Gallery, Adelaide
- 1986 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
- 1985 Michael Milburn Gallery, Brisbane
Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
- 1984 Solander Gallery, Canberra
- 1982 Axiom Gallery, Melbourne
- 1981 Huntly Gallery, Canberra
- 1980 Axiom Gallery, Melbourne
- 1978 Powell Street, Melbourne
- 1977 Huntly Gallery, Canberra
- 1976 Rex Irwin Gallery, Sydney
- 1974 Bonython Gallery, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Melbourne Art Fair (Beaver Galleries)
- 2008 "Works on Paper, Selected Artists", Catherine Asquith Gallery, Melbourne
"The First Decade", Canberra Museum and Art Gallery, ACT
"Crossfire Print and Glass", Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, NSW
Melbourne Art Fair (Beaver Galleries)
- 2007 "Country Energy Landscape Painting Prize", Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW
"Blood ties", Chander & Geier, Coffs Harbour, NSW
"Festivite 2007", Catherine Asquith Gallery, Melbourne
- 2006 "National Works on Paper", Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Vic.
Melbourne Art Fair (Beaver Galleries)
"Tattersall's Club Landscape Art Prize", Brisbane
"Festivite 2006", Catherine Asquith Gallery, Melbourne
- 2005 Summer School Tutors, The Quay Gallery, UCOL, Wanganui, NZ
ANL Maritime Art Prize Collectors Exhibition, The Mission to Seafarers, Melbourne
"Blood Ties", Chander & Geier, Canberra Museum and Gallery
"Prints in Place", Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, NSW
"Contemporaries and Collectables", Michael Nagy Fine Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2004 "The CMAG Collection Studio One Prints", CMAG

- Canberra Art Prize
"Blood ties", Chander & Geier, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA
"The White Show", Church Gallery, WA
Melbourne Art Fair 2004, (Beaver Galleries)
- 2003 "Essential space", Beaver Galleries, Canberra (with Brenda Ridgewell)
"Catalyst: Beach Scene by Roy de Mestre", Goulburn Regional Gallery
"Recent Acquisitions", Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra
"The artist's studio", Cairns Regional Gallery, Cairns
Canberra Art Prize
- 2002 Melbourne Art Fair, Melbourne (Beaver Galleries)
"Karol-Bagh to Tascott", The British Council, New Delhi, India
"Borderless Terrain", The Habitat Centre Gallery, New Delhi, India
- 2001 "Summer", Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
"Karol-Bagh to Tascott", Geier & Chandler, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, ACT
- 2000 Swan Hill National Print & Drawing Acquisitive Awards, Swan Hill Regional Gallery, Vic
Print Collection Exhibition, Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery
Artfair 2000, Melbourne (Beaver Galleries)
- 1999 "Bundanon - continuing the vision", Swan Hill & Shepparton Regional Art Galleries, Vic
"Bundanon - continuing the vision", Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery, NSW
"Looking at the Landscape", Nolan Gallery, ACT
"Picture Disc exhibition", Illawarra TAFE, Goulburn
"We are Australian", George Adams Gallery, Melbourne (touring nationally 1999-2001)
30th Alice Prize, Alice Springs Art Foundation, NT
- 1998 National Works on Paper, Mornington Peninsula
Fifth Biennial of Graphic Art, Belgrade, Yugoslavia
Sixth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne, (Beaver Galleries)
"Decade of Contemporary Australian Printmaking", Metropolitan Museum of Seoul, South Korea
- 1997 "Women's Work", Parliament House, Canberra
13th Biennial Spring Festival of Drawing, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Vic
Contemporary Art Fair, ANU Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra (Beaver Galleries)
- 1996 Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Vic
Nolan Gallery, ACT
Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld
Oriental Hotel, Singapore
"Kedumba", Drawing Award, Leura, NSW
Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne, (Beaver Galleries)
- 1995 "Australia Felix, Benalla Easter Arts Festival, Vic
"Ratio", with Judy Holding and Wendy Teakel, Australian Embassy, Paris, France
"Point and Marge a Paris, 10 Annees", Galerie Patrice Rostain, Paris, France
Bathurst Purchase Prize exhibition, Bathurst Regional Gallery
Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW
"Ironsides", New England Regional Art Museum Art Auction, The Power House Museum, NSW
Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA
12th Biennial Spring Festival of Drawing, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Vic
Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Vic
"The Prime Painting Prize", Newcastle Regional Gallery, NSW
- 1994 "Ratio" Goulburn Regional Art Gallery NSW
"Salon des Refusés", S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Kedumba Drawing Award, 1994 Leura NSW
"Obsession", Chandler Coventry Drawing Collection, Campbelltown Art Gallery, NSW
Fourth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne
"Point & Marge a Pairs, 10 Annees". Fiap Jean Monnet, Paris, France
- 1993 The Dobell Prize exhibition, Art Gallery of NSW
Bathurst Purchase Prize Exhibition, NSW

- Muswellbrook Prize Exhibition, NSW
Alice Springs Art Prize Exhibition, NT
Richmond Purchase Prize Exhibition, Vic
"Ratio", Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria
Heinemann's Australian Poetry Cover Exhibition, Writers' Centre, Sydney
Contemporary Art Fair, ANU Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra
"ANU Collection", Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra
1992 "Between The Covers", Contemporary Art Space, Canberra
Artists from Canberra and Districts, Parliament House, Canberra
Mosman Art Prize Exhibition, Sydney
"Critics Choice", Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
Ansett Art Award Exhibition, Hamilton Art Gallery, Vic
"Drawing '92", Canberra School of Art Gallery
The Blake Prize, National Touring Exhibition
"CD Show" Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra
1991 Muswellbrook Art Prize Exhibition, Muswellbrook, NSW
1990 2nd Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne
1988 "New Generation", National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
Canberra School of Art, Staff Show
1987 "Age of Collage", Perspecta, Sydney
1986 "The Braidwood Show", Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW
"Time and Place", Canberra School of Art, Canberra
Faber Castell Prize for Drawing Exhibition, Rex Irwin Gallery, Sydney
1984 Canberra School of Art Staff Exhibition
1983 "Modern Exhibition", Lauraine Diggins Gallery, Melbourne
1972-82 Participated in over 20 group exhibitions

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2003 Art Spectrum Mixed Media Prize, Canberra Art Prize
2002 Creative Arts Fellowship, ArtsACT
Fleming Muntz Albury Art Prize
1999 Australia Day Inaugural Cultural Achievement Award, Tallaganda Shire, NSW
Australia-India Council, Cultural Relations Grant
Cultural Council of the ACT Government, Artist's Project Grant
1997 ACT Artist of the Year, *Canberra Times*
Commission for Clark Hummerstone Collection
Sidney Myer Foundation, "Perspective and Chance Connections" installation workshop grant, Latrobe Regional Art Gallery, VIC
1996 Cultural Council of the ACT Government, Artists Project Grant
1995 Cultural Council of the ACT Government, joint grant
ACT Artist of the Year, *Canberra Times*, Nomination
1993 Capital Arts Patrons Organisation Fellowship
Canberra Critics Circle Award 1993
Richmond Purchase Prize
1986 Matarra Festival of Newcastle, Peter Sparks Memorial Prize, NSW
National Art Award, *Canberra Times*, ACT
1982 National Art Award, *Canberra Times*, ACT

PUBLICATIONS

- 2009 "Works on paper, Catherine Asquith Gallery", Jeff Makin, *Herald Sun Extra*, 9 February
2008 "Works rich in ambiguity", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 12 September
2005 "Distinguishing Features", Sonia Barron, *Australian Art Collector*, issue 32
"Dynamic works of distinction", Sonia Barron, *The Canberra Times*, 13 April
"Show clever enough for two imaginations", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 18 December

- 2004 "The CMAG Collection studio One prints", Mark van Veen
2003 "The Artist's studio", Ron McBurnie, Cairns Regional Gallery
"Art Angels", Andrew Nicholls, *Imprint*, Winter
"Response to the WA Landscape", Sonia Barron, *The Canberra Times*
2002 "Reinventing the image", Lyn DiCiero, *The Artist's Chronicle*, no. 87, November issue
"Screen Magic", Josephine Alison, *The West Australian*
"In the picture", Neville Weston, *The West Australian*
"Unfolding a fabulous festival of works on paper", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*
2001 "Creative affinity unites artists", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, May 29
"Chance & Other Games", *Art in Australia*, December issue
"Captivated by the lustre and beauty", Sonia Barron, *The Canberra Times*, October 23
"Helen Geier: A discussion", Leigh Summers, *Art Insight*, no 56, December issue
2000 "Helen Geier - Expanded Field", Sasha Grishin, *Imprint Australia* vol 35, #1
"Dissolving View", Peter Haynes, painting survey catalogue
"Australian Contemporary Printmaking Scene", Sasha Grishin, *Grapheion*
"Australian Identities in Printmaking", The Australian Print Collection of Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery catalogue
1999 "Canberra Arts anthology 1999", National Library of Australia, ACT
"Helen Geier - Different Fields of Vision", Sasha Grishin, print survey catalogue
"Looking at the Landscape", Peter Haynes, Nolan Gallery catalogue
1998 "Australian artist Helen Geier at Oedipus Rex Gallery", T S McNamara, *Weekend Herald*, Auckland, NZ, 11-12 July
A Decade of Contemporary Australian Printmaking, Thirty Years of Korean Contemporary Prints, Ruth Hohnstone, catalogue for the Metropolitan Museum of Seoul, South Korea
Australian Printmaking in the 1990's - Artist Printmakers, Sasha Grishin, Craftsman House
1997 "Women's Work in the Parliament House Art Collection", Louise Dauth, catalogue essay
"Obsessions - the Coventry Collection at the Drill Hall, ANU", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, February
"Outstanding artist about to be named", Helen Musa / Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 11 October
Exhibition commentary, Peter Haynes, *Art & Australia*, vol 35, No. 2
1996 *Chance Connections - Cultural Space and Perspective*, catalogue, introduction by Dr. Anthony Milner, essay by Peter Haynes
"Helen Geier at the Substation Gallery", Rachel Farnay, *Asian Art News*, Sept/Oct issue
"Sublimely made holistic pictures", Susie Wong, *The Straits Times*, Singapore, 22 August
1995 "Looking for Contrast in Sense and Sensibility", Helen Musa, *Canberra Times*, 16 March
Art and Australia, Winter
"Provocative and rich in beauty", *The Canberra Times*, March 18
1994 *Perspective - the very soul of Painting...*, David Dolan, exhibition catalogue
1993 "Capital Art", Peter Haynes, *Art and Australia* Spring edition
Ratio, Peter Haynes, exhibition catalogue
Perspectives, Rhyll McMaster, exhibition catalogue
"\$28,000 in Fellowships to Four ACT Artists", Robert Macklin, *Canberra Times*
"Showing of Great Power and Confidence", Sonia Barron, *Canberra Times*
"Perspectives", *The Canberra Times*, May 26
1992 *Drawings '92*, Julie Ewington, exhibition catalogue
1990 *Australia Contemporary Collage*, A. McIntyre, Craftsman House
1989 *Art and Australia*, Peter Haynes, Spring issue
1986 *Art-Network*, Helen Geier / Rhyll McMaster, Winter/Spring issue

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra; National Library of Australia, Canberra; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra; Artbank, Sydney; Australian National University Collection, Canberra; Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology Collection; University of Canberra, ACT; ANU Canberra Institute of the Arts Collection; Griffith University Collection; Curtin University collection, WA; Warrnambool Art Gallery, Victoria; Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Victoria; Newcastle Art Gallery, NSW; Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Geelong Art Gallery, VIC; Richmond City Council Collection, Victoria; Latrobe Regional Art Gallery, VIC; New England Regional Gallery Collection; Holmes à Court Collection, WA; The Phillip Morris Collection; Bank of



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Melbourne; Clark Hummerstone Collection, Melbourne; Coventry Collection; St. Edmund's College Collection, ACT;
Canberra College of Advanced Education collection; The British Council Collection, India; Australian High Commission,
New Delhi, India; Hugh Young Collection, Singapore; Lasalle SIA Art Collection, Singapore; Norman Mitchell Collection,
USA