

CHRISTINE JAMES

Christine James weaves the public language of science and her own relationship with the environment into the language of painting. She engages with nature in a very personal and immediate sense, taking time to absorb the language and "feel" of the landscape before committing it to paper or canvas. In particular, she has spent over a decade researching and painting the country around Weereewa/Lake George and her most recent paintings seek to honour the intricate ecosystem of the lake's western catchment. This land invokes a dichotomy of associations for Christine; on one hand it is a primaevial place, untouched by the settler plough, but, on the other, it is a familial location inhabited by her maternal ancestors. Christine believes that to walk this country is to encounter a place that resonates with a living biodiversity of resilient beauty. Her works draw together a post-colonial perspective about the land and a passion for conservation.

Christine James earned a Graduate Diploma in painting from the Australian National University Institute of The Arts in 1994, after which she travelled to France, Germany, England, USA and extensively in India. She has shown in over a dozen solo and group exhibitions since 1996, including her solo exhibition 'Cooloola' at the Canberra Museum and Gallery in 2004. Her work is represented in public collections including Artbank, United Nations Centre for Human Settlement (Zimbabwe), ANU Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies and Parliament House.

BIOGRAPHY

- 1953 Born Casino, NSW
- 1986 Diploma of Visual Arts - Painting, Queensland College of Art, Brisbane
- 1992 Bachelor of Arts (Visual) - Graphic Investigation Workshop, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University
- 1994 Post-Graduate Diploma in Painting and Art Theory, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University
- 1997 Artist in Residency, Noosa Regional Gallery, NSW

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 "Remnant Landscapes East of Lake George" Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2005 "Cooloola", Noosa Regional Gallery, Qld
- 2004 "Cooloola", Canberra Museum and Gallery
- 2003 "Into The Blue", Judith Pugh Gallery, Mount Macedon, Vic
- 2002 "Jervis Bay", Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney
- 2001 "Jervis Bay - Sites", Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra
- 1999 "Noosa River", Noosa Regional Gallery, Qld
- 1998 "Some Insecta, Noosa Regional Gallery, Qld
- 1996 "India, Recent Paintings", Canberra Contemporary Art Space
- 1992 "Survey/Surveyed/Surveillance", Graduate Show, Canberra School of Art
- 1986 Casey Galleries, Woolhara, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 "Baseline - Remnant Grassland of Weereewa/Lake George", Albury Art Gallery, NSW
- 2008 "Lake Gathering", ANCA Galleries, Canberra
"Art Room 5", Henley Beach, SA
"Baseline - Remnant Grassland of Weereewa/Lake George", CraftACT, Canberra
- 2007 "Scottsdale Field Studies", ANU School of Art Foyer Gallery, Canberra
- 2006 "Beaver Galleries Artists", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Footprints on the lake", Weereewa - Festival of Lake George, Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW
National Maritime Art Prize, Mission to Seafarers, Melbourne
"Footprints On the Lake" Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW
"Lake Gnotuk, A Layered History", Victorian and SA tour Warrnambool Art Gallery, Vic, Riddoch Art Gallery, Mount Gambier, SA and Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Vic
- 2005 "CAPO Art Auction", National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
National Maritime Art Prize, Mission to Seafarers, Melbourne
"Lake Gnotuk, A Layered History", Victorian tour, Geelong Gallery and Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Vic
- 2004 "Bathing with Mary", Cooloola Shire Public Gallery, Qld
"Bathing with Mary", Hervey Bay Regional Gallery, Qld
"Contour", Megalo Print Studio, National Print Symposium, Canberra
- 2002 "Women Behaving Beautifully", Judith Pugh Gallery, Mt. Macedon, Vic

- 2001 "The Secret Life of Plants", Academy of Science, Canberra
"Art and Land: Contemporary Australian Visions", Australian Tour
"Jervis Bay Field Studies", Photospace Gallery, ANU, Canberra
- 2000 "Art and Land: Contemporary Australian Visions", SE Asian Tour
"The John Leslie Art Award", Gippsland Regional Gallery, Vic
- 1999 "Suddenly the Lake", Canberra Museum and Gallery
"The 30th Alice Prize", Araluen Centre, Alice Springs, NT
- 1998 "Printing History", Canberra Museum and Gallery
"Nature", Caloolah Shire Public Library, Qld
- 1997 "Mapping the Comfort Zone: The Dream and the Real", Adelaide Festival Centre
- 1992 "Carapace 1" - The Spiral Arm Gallery, Leichardt Street, Kingston, with Anna Eggert, Barb Smith, Henry Price, Janet Garcia
"Revolution in the White Palace" - Graduate Show, Canberra School of Art Gallery
- 1990 Institut d'Arts Visuels, Orleans, France - Graphic Investigation Workshop Exposition
- 1989 Canberra School of Art, Library Foyer - Artist - Book Exhibition - "Some Insecta"
- 1988 Studio One Workshop Exhibition, Woden Library Foyer
- 1985 Brisbane City Hall Gallery, Brisbane, Qld. Graduate Show - Painting Department, Queensland College of Art
Queensland College of Art, Administration Foyer - Open Day Exhibition

AWARDS

- 2007 The Canberra Times' Art Critics Circle Award
ArtsACT Artists Development Grant, Canberra
- 2003 Artists' Mentor and Resident Artist. Bathing with Mary Project. Cooloolah Shire Public Gallery in collaboration with Noosa Regional Gallery and Hervey Bay Regional Gallery, Qld
ArtsACT Artists Development Grant, Canberra
- 2002 Megalo Access Arts Artist Residency, Canberra
- 2001 CAPO Visual Artists' Grant, Cooloolah/Noosa River Project
- 1999 Visiting Scholar, Faculty of Environment and Design, University of Canberra
- 1997/8 Noosa Regional Gallery Artists Residency, Noosa River Project
- 1996 Megalo Access Inc. Artists Residency, Canberra
- 1992 ANU Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies (CRES) Environmental Art Award

PUBLICATIONS

- 2008 "Artistic tribute to a splendid lake", A. Sjostedt, *The Canberra Times*, p9
"Lake's Festival of mystery", Helen Musa, *The Canberra Times*
"Lake Gathering", P. Kelly (catalogue essay, part of the Weereewa Festival)
"Bush texture as metaphor", Sharon Peoples, *The Canberra Times Weekend Review*, p13, Aug 16
"Baseline: Remnant grassland of Weereewa/Lake George", G. McCracken, artsACT
"Baselines: surveying the landscape of Weereewa", Mary Appleby, The Austral Bugle, Southern Tablelands Grassy Ecosystems Conservation Management Network, Department of Environment and Climate Change, NSW.
- 2006 "Footprints on the Lake", J. Lamb, Goulburn Regional Gallery Catalogue
"Lost in Landscape", R. Beeby, *The Canberra Times: Times 2* pp3-5. May 8
- 2005 Clabburn, A. "Lake Gnotuk: A Layered History" Geelong Gallery Catalogue
- 2004 "The Secrets of Lakes", Philippa Kelly, Art Monthly, August
- 2003 "The Pajong and Wallabalooa", Ann Nakano Jackson, Aboriginal History, ANU
"The Kamberri", cover, Ann Nakano Jackson, Aboriginal History, ANU
- 2001 "Reflections of the Noosa River", Lisa Chandler, Artlink Vol.21, No. 1
"Federation", Julie Copeland, ABC Radio National, Arts Talk
- 1993 *National Graduate*, Winter 1993, "Lake George: Paintings and Prose from a Fragmented Past", Alison Munro
The Australian National University Annual Report, 1992, cover image: "Survey/Surveyed/Surveillance" (detail)
Photograph by Peter Millett
- 1992 "Anarchy makes for fresh change", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, September
"Carapace 1 & 2", Catalogue Essay
- 1990 "Sites Unseen 1 & 2", Catalogue Essay, Canberra Contemporary Art Space

REPRESENTED



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Parliament House, Canberra; Artbank; Australian National University School of Art Artist's Book Collection, Canberra; Megalo Access Arts Inc, Canberra; Department of Transport and Regional Services, Canberra; Australian National University Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies (CRES); United Nations Centre for Human Settlement, Harare, Zimbabwe