

## JOHN PRATT

*A consummate printmaker, painter and drawer, John Pratt is primarily concerned with exploring how physical surroundings evoke various states of being - both of the mind and body. In his images, the boundaries between the figure and its environment are dissolved, each serving as a visual metaphor for the existence of the other. John's latest body of work reveals a fascination with physicality and originated from studies made at his local public swimming pool and beaches. "I have always been curious about the capacity of everyday situations to contain the figure in various guises and resonate broader states of being. The various movements of floating, submergence, frolicking, swimming, flailing and diving... evoke other conditions of release, vulnerability and uncertainty." John is masterful in exploiting the scope for strength and vitality offered by his chosen medium and he creates highly expressive and original works.*

*John Pratt is an established Canberra printmaker, known for his work with children and youth groups. He is a lecturer in the Printmedia and Drawing workshop at the Canberra School of Art at the Australian National University, and has frequently exhibited interstate and in Europe. John has also recently been coordinating "Painting with Parkinsons", an art therapy program for people with Parkinsons Disease. John Pratt's work is represented in many public collections, including the National Gallery of Australia; Australian National University, Canberra School of Art Collection; State Library of NSW; Queensland Art Gallery; Print Council of Australia; KPMG; University of WA; Sydney College of the Arts; Fremantle Art Centre, WA; Central Queensland University and Latrobe University Art Gallery, Vic.*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1970-72 Bachelor of Arts, Sydney University
- 1973 Extensive travel in Asia
- 1975-78 Dip. Ed. (Primary Method) followed by teaching (full time)
- 1981-87 Diploma of Visual Arts, Canberra School of Art
- 1982 Co-founded "The Free Milk Workshop" at North Ainslie Primary School (a print workshop funded by the Australia Council)
  - Part - time art teaching at Campbell Primary School
  - Organised "Primary Industry", an exhibition funded by Community Arts, Dept of Capital Territory
- 1983-86 Part - time lecturer at Canberra School of Art
- 1983 Set design and graphic design with Jigsaw Theatre Company
  - Organised and led workshop at the Australian National Gallery in conjunction with the exhibition "Art Zoo"
- 1984 Taught at the Arts Council Summer School
  - Curated "Early Marks", an exhibition of children's artwork at the Canberra Contemporary Artspace Gallery 3
- 1985 Travelled in Europe from June - December
- 1986 Set design and graphic design with Canberra Youth Theatre
  - Workshop leader in in-service program for teachers focusing on printmaking
- 1987-96 Lecturer, Foundation Workshop, Canberra School of Art
- 1988 Assistant Co-ordinator of joint exhibition of artwork by Australian and Japanese children held at Link Gallery
- 1989-90 Teaching position in Special Education, Dickson College, Yarralumla
  - Behaviour Management Centre, Quamby Remand Centre
- 1992 Inservice course for the Riverina Art Teachers Association
- 1993 Attended Art Educators Conference Print Workshop
  - Taught at the Winter School of the Arts
  - Led Studio One Print Workshop
- 1994 Lecturer, Printmaking workshop, Canberra School of Art
  - Lecturer, Graphic Investigation Workshop, Canberra School of Art
  - Workshop leader, Art for Young People, CCE, ANU
- 1995-97 Lecturer, Printmaking, Graphic Investigation and Foundation Workshops, Canberra School of Art
  - Lecturer, Design Studies and Visual Arts, Canberra Institute of Technology
  - Workshop Leader, Printmaking and New Technology, workshop for Art Teachers
- 1998- Lecturer, Printmedia and Drawing Workshop, ANU School of Art (formerly Canberra School of Art)
  - Workshop leader, "Picasso's Vollard Suite", Studio One and National Gallery of Australia
  - Workshop leader, Summer Scholarship Program, National Gallery of Australia
  - Workshop leader, The Relief Print, Munjawa Aboriginal Co-Operative, Queanbeyan, NSW
  - Residency at Printmaking Department, Goulburn TAFE, NSW
- 1999 Workshop Leader, Summer Scholarship Program, National Gallery of Australia

- 2000 Coordinator and Curator, Student Drawing Award, ANU School of Art  
2001 Acting Head of Workshop, Printmedia and Drawing, ANU School of Art  
Coordinator and Curator, Student Drawing Award, ANU School of Art  
"Making a Mark", on behalf of DADA, Street Theatre Gallery  
2003 Curator, "Not Still Life", Street Theatre Gallery  
Tutor, Summer Scholarship Program, National Gallery of Australia  
2004 Tutor, Summer scholarship Program, National Gallery of Australia  
2008 Lecturer/Head of Workshop, Printmedia and Drawing Workshop, School of Art, Australian National University  
Curator, 'Floriade' PWP exhibition, ACT Legislative Assembly  
2009-10 Coordinator, Painting with Parkinsons program (Art Therapy Program for People with Parkinsons Disease)  
2010 Curator, "Walking a Line", Tuggeranong Arts Centre, ACT  
Head of Workshop and Lecturer, Printmedia and Drawing, ANU School of Art

#### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 "Breakwater", Marianne Newman Gallery, Sydney  
2009 "Pool", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
2005 "Brace", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
2000 "Stemmed", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"Drawings", Schloss Haldenstein, Switzerland  
1996 "Terrain", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
1995 "Xylem Drawings", Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra  
1992 "Recent Drawings", Graphix Gallery, Canberra  
1990 "The Climbing Series", Alliance Francais, Canberra  
1988 "Suspended Figures", Giles Street Gallery, Canberra  
1987 "Recent Works", Giles Street Gallery, Canberra  
1985 "Drawings and Collages", Canberra Contemporary Artspace, Gallery 3

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 "Drawn in the moment", Left Hand Gallery, Braidwood, NSW  
Hazelhurst works on paper award, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gympie, NSW  
2010 Joseph Banks - A Regional Response, Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW  
"Half Light", Canberra Museum and Gallery  
"Loupe", Megalo Arts Access Gallery, Canberra  
Fremantle Print award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
"Survey", Left Hand Gallery, Braidwood, NSW  
"String Books", Left Hand Gallery, Braidwood, NSW  
2009 Burnie Print Prize, Burnie Regional Gallery, Tas  
Sanbao International Print Exhibition, Shanxi College of Fine Art, China  
2008 "Barometer", Canberra Glassworks  
"Vivid", projection event, National Library of Australia, Canberra  
2007 Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
Hazelhurst Works on Paper Award, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, NSW  
Calleen Art Prize, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
Phoenix Art Prize, ANU School of Art Gallery, Canberra  
"Caring for Land", Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra  
Festival of Contemporary Art, projections National Library of Australia & Civic, Canberra  
"Domain", projection event, Canberra CBD  
2006 Swan Hill Print Award, Swan Hill Regional Gallery, Vic  
"Travel Notes", Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
"Domain", projection event, Canberra CBD  
2005 "The Sleep of Reason 2", Albury Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
"Hazelhurst Works on Paper", Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, NSW  
CPM Print Award, Murwillumbah Regional Gallery, NSW  
"Dwell", projection event, High Court of Australia, Canberra  
2004 "Sacred Ground", Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture  
"Beam 2", City Walk, Civic Precinct, Canberra

- 2003 "Beam 3", Front Facade, ANU School of Art, Canberra  
Calleen Art Prize, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
National Works on Paper, Mornington Peninsular Regional Art Gallery, Vic  
"The Sleep of Reason", Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra, NSW  
"Discrepant", projection event, Civic Precinct, Canberra  
"Beam 1", projection event, City Walk, Canberra
- 2002 "The Sleep of Reason", Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra  
Muswellbrook Open Art Award, Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
Albury Art Prize, Albury Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
"Following the Sun", projection event, Civic Centre, Canberra  
Whyalla Works on Paper Award, City of Whyalla Art Gallery, SA
- 2001 Hazlehurst Works on Paper Award, Sutherland Regional Art Gallery, Sydney  
Fishers Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Regional Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1999 "Weerewa", Canberra Museum and Gallery
- 1998 "Pacific Representations", University of Canberra  
"Canberra with a view", Studio One Gallery, Canberra  
Jacaranda Drawing Award, Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW  
"A Flourishing Ecology", Print Council of Australia, Side Space Gallery, Hobart
- 1997 "Monga", Photospace, CITA  
"Kite", Stanthorpe Regional Gallery, Qld
- 1996 "A matter of making", Canberra School of Art Gallery  
"Canberra Drawing Biennale", Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra  
"Fragile Objects", National Library of Australia, Canberra  
Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA
- 1995 "Lake Isle", Goulbourn Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
"Lake Isle", Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
"Lake Isle", Tweed River Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
"Lake Isle", Albury Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
"Kite", Robb Street Gallery Bairnsdale, Vic
- 1994 Jacaranda Print Award, Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW
- 1993 "Mongrel", Gorman House, Canberra  
"Cloudbusting", Canberra School of Art Gallery
- 1992 "Treed" & "Between the covers", Canberra Contemporary Artspace  
"Drawings", Canberra School of Art Gallery  
"Compact Art", Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra
- 1991 "Social Images", Gorman House Canberra
- 1990 "Canbrart", ANU Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra  
"Sun Smoke and Steel", Studio One Touring Print Exhibition
- 1989 Staff exhibition Canberra School of Art Gallery  
"10-1Project", Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra  
"500", Robb Street Gallery, Bairnsdale Vic
- 1985 "The Grand Parade", joint exhibition with Franki Sparke
- 1982 "Primary Industry", joint workshop exhibition
- 1981 "Graduate Printmakers", Contemporary Art Society, Adelaide  
"Prints in Schools", Print Council of Australia  
"Australian Student Printmakers", Gryphon Gallery, Melbourne  
"Graduate Printmakers Show", Link Gallery, Canberra Theatre Centre, Canberra
- 1980 "Canberra Printmakers", Stadia Graphics, Sydney

#### AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2006 Print Council of Australia Member Print Commission
- 2004 Cutting Edge Grant, ARTSact and Megalo Access Arts
- 2003 Quick Response Grant, ARTSact
- 2002 Canberra Critics Circle Visual Arts Award
- 1998 "Jacaranda Drawing Award", Grafton Regional Gallery  
Botanical drawings commissioned by the Department of Parks and Conservation, Canberra

- 1997 Botanical drawings commissioned by the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra  
Illustrations commissioned by the Department of Parks and Conservation Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve and Canberra Nature Park
- 1996 Botanical drawings commissioned by the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra  
"Fremantle Print Award", Fremantle Arts Centre  
Print Council of Australia Member Print Commission
- 1994 Botanical drawings commissioned by the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra  
"Jacaranda Drawing Award", Grafton Regional Gallery  
Print Council of Australia Member print Commission
- 1993 Department of Environment Artist in Schools Grant
- 1992 Canberra Critics Circle Visual Arts Award

#### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2009 "Capturing the power of the prints", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 20 August
- 2005 "Inhabiting uninhabited space", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 23 March
- 2004 "Artists share their perceptions", Sonia Barron, *The Canberra Times*, 12 June
- 2003 "A Pile of Hair", collaborative work with Julian Davies, Finlay Press
- 2002 "Trancendence and Gritty Realities", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 13 May
- 2000 "First Thoughts, drawing as a working process", Catalogue essay, student drawing award EABS  
"New sophistication and profound pathos in printmaker's work", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 31 July
- 1998 "Relief Printmaking", Ann Westley, A&C Black Publishing
- 1996 "Diverse works that blur boundaries", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 16 November  
"First Canberra Drawing Biennale", Catalogue Essay, Sasha Grishin  
"Australian Printmakers in the 1990's", Sasha Grishin, Craftsman House  
"Artist is not seduced", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 26 June
- 1995 "Lake Isle", Catalogue essay, Jennifer Lamb, Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW
- 1993 "Cloudbusting", Catalogue essay, Gordon Bull, CSA Gallery, Canberra
- 1992 "Drawing '92", Catalogue essay, CSA Gallery, Canberra

#### COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Canberra Museum & Gallery; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Print Council of Australia; Australian National University, Canberra; Canberra School of Art Collection; University of Canberra; University of Western Australia, Perth; Sydney College of the Arts; Central Queensland University; Latrobe University Art Gallery, Vic; Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane; State Library of NSW; Ipswich Regional Art Gallery Qld; Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, Perth; Campbelltown Regional Gallery NSW; Fremantle Art Centre, WA; Albury Regional Gallery, NSW; Canson Australia Pty Ltd; KPMG