

SANDRA BLACK

Sandra Black's carved and pierced porcelain forms are delicate and tranquil. Inspired by nature, Sandra combines abstract and organic shapes in fluid patterns to decorate her bowls and vessels. Evocative of lace, each porcelain form features a cut-out design, where negative space and areas of high relief create the decoration. Sandra continues to draw inspiration for her mark making from organic forms such as plants and trees whilst a new found fascination with industrial manufacturing plants has inspired the structural forms of her vessels. As Sandra explains, "This reminds me of our destructive impact as human beings on our environment... Life is fragile but also tenacious and I want my work to reflect this by the use of more extreme carving and piercing but also by using one of the strongest ceramic materials of porcelain." The natural colouration of ebony and white porcelain emit a cool glow as light is captured and transmitted through the pieces. This effect is integral to Sandra's aesthetic and is created from electric firing which produces a cool blue-grey look or a warmer white appearance. Sandra uses a surgical blade to carve out her designs before using a dremel and various tools to pierce the porcelain form. Instead of glazes, Sandra relies on the polished surfaces of the clay to show the carving and piercing to their best advantage.

Sandra Black lives and works in Fremantle, WA, and studied at the WA Institute of Technology (now Curtin University). She has been exhibiting in solo and invitational shows since 1976 across Australia, as well as overseas including USA, Germany, Canada, New Zealand, Netherlands, Switzerland and Japan. She has undertaken numerous residencies around the world, most recently in Jingdezhen (China) in 2018 and Maihar, Madhya Pradesh (India) in 2015. Her work is widely represented in regional, state, national and international collections including the National Gallery of Australia, Parliament House, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Gifu Prefecture Ceramic Museum, Japan and the Auckland Gallery and Museum.

BIOGRAPHY

- 1950 Born Bairnsdale, Vic
- 1968 Claremont Teachers' College, Perth
- 1969-70 Teachers' Certificate, Art Education, Nedlands Secondary Teachers' College, WA
- 1969-75 Associateship in Art Teaching, WA Institute of Technology (WAIT - now Curtin University)
- 1971-75 Secondary teacher, Education Department of WA
- 1975-79 Part-time lecturer, Ceramics, WAIT
- 1979 Part-time lecturer, Mount Lawley College of Advanced Education, WA (now Edith Cowan University)
- 1982 Visiting artist, Ceramic Workshop, Canberra School of Art
- 1983 Guest lecturer, Sydney College of the Arts
- 1984 Full-time lecturer, Bendigo College of Advanced Education, Victoria
- 1985 Workshops: Craft Council of Northern Territory, Alice Springs; Darwin Crafts Council; Darwin Institute of Technology
Guest lecturer, School of Art, University of Tasmania, Hobart
- 1987-93 Part-time lecturer, Faculty of Art, Edith Cowan University, WA
- 1987-88 Member, Visual Arts & Crafts Panel, WA Department for the Arts
- 1988 Workshop and lecture tour of New Zealand
- 1989-90 Part-time lecturer, Ceramics, Curtin University, WA
- 1990 Vice President, Crafts Council of WA
- 1991 Guest lecturer, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT)
Workshop and lecture tour of USA including: San Diego State University; Rancho Santiago College, Santa Ana; Boise State University; Utah State University; Washington State University
- 1992 Demonstrations in conjunction with "Design Visions" exhibition, Art Gallery of WA
- 1994 Curator, "The Bowled and the Beautiful", The Door Exhibition Space, Fremantle WA
Founding member of Ceramic Arts Association of WA
- 1994-96 Part-time lecturer, Central Metropolitan College of TAFE, St Brigid's and Carine Campuses, WA
- 1996-00 Part-time lecturer, Carine TAFE
- 1997 Workshop, NSW Ceramic Study Group, Macquarie University, Sydney
Workshop and lecture tour of Canada including: University of Manitoba, Winnipeg & International Ceramics Conference, Calgary
- 1998-00 Adjunct Researcher, School of Art, Curtin University
- 2003-06 Panel member, ArtsWA, Department for Culture and the Arts
- 2008 Artist in residence, Red Deer College, Alberta
Artist in residence, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada
- 2010 Artist in residence, Jingdezhen Pottery Workshop, China
- 2010-14 Ceramics lecturer, Rockingham Challenger Institute of Technology
- 2012 Artist in residence, Gallery 523, Haian, China
- 2011 Certificate 4 in Training and Assessment, Australian College of Training

- 2014 Artist in residence, Jingdezhen, China
2015 Artist in residence, Art Ichol, Maihar, Madhya Pradesh, India
2016 Artist in residence, The Pottery Workshop, Jingdezhen, China
2017 Artist in residence, Penrhos College, Perth
2018 Artist in residence, The Pottery Workshop, Jingdezhen, China

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 "Reflective Space", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2018 Earlywork Gallery, Freemantle, WA
2015 "Fragility", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2009 Beaver Galleries, Canberra (with Sony Manning)
2005 Skepsi Gallery, Melbourne
2004 Masterworks, Auckland, New Zealand
2003 Perth Galleries, Subiaco, WA
2001 Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2000 Object Galleries, Sydney
1999 Fusions Gallery, Brisbane
1998 Perth Galleries, Subiaco, WA
Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
1996 Mowbray Gallery, Port Douglas, Qld
1994 Ceramic Art Gallery, Sydney
Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
Artworks Gallery, Nungurner, Vic
1992 Galerie L, Hamburg, Germany
1991 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
Gallery 8 La Jolla, San Diego, California, USA
Boise State University, Boise, Idaho, USA
1990 Narek Galleries, Canberra
1989 Focus Exhibition, Art Gallery of WA
1988 Fremantle Arts Centre, WA
Masterworks, Auckland, New Zealand
1986 The Potters Gallery, Brisbane
1985 Jam Factory Gallery, Adelaide
1984 Victor Mace Fine Art, Brisbane
1983 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
1982 Canberra School of Art Gallery
Cooks Hill Gallery, Newcastle NSW
1981 Fremantle Arts Centre, WA
Jam Factory Gallery, Adelaide
1980 Mt Lawley College of Advanced Education, WA
1979 Gallery 180, Melbourne
1978 Fremantle Arts Centre, WA
1977 Eric Carr Gallery, Perth
1976 Collectors Gallery, Perth

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 Group Teapot Show – Gallery Sanskrit,i Kolkata, India
2014 "Here and Now14", Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, University of Western Australia
2013 "Skepsi @ Montsalvat, Melbourne
2011 "Mark Making", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
2011-13 "Love Lace", Powerhouse Museum, Sydney
2000 "Ceramics the Australian context", Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, NSW
1999 "Australian Craft to Japan", Osaka, Japan
"Contemporary Australian Porcelain, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Friends at the Edge", Gallery East, North Fremantle, WA

- 1998 "Global Ceramics I", Babel Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
"Southern Light", SOFA 98, Chicago, USA - Beaver Galleries
- 1997 Sidney Myer Fund International Ceramics Award, Shepparton Art Gallery, Vic
"In Context", Manly Art Gallery, Sydney
Summer Series 97 Tutors Exhibition, Red Deer College, Alberta, Canada
Metchosin International Summer School exhibition, Lester Pearson College, British Columbia, Canada
- 1996 "International Clay Cup Invitational", Daniel Arvizu Gallery, Santa Ana, California, USA
"Vessel: contemporary Australian ceramics", Canberra School of Art
Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne
Tresors: Fourth International Fine Art Fair, Singapore - Ceramic Art Gallery
City of Perth Craft Awards, CraftWest Gallery, Perth
- 1995 "Eveolution: Women artists from the collection", Newcastle Regional Gallery, NSW
"The Bowl", Savode Gallery, Brisbane
- 1994 "Aurora", Crafts Council of WA, Perth
"The Bowled and the Beautiful", The Door Exhibition Space, WA
Fletcher Challenge Ceramic Award, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1993 "Fresh Clay Australia", Meat Market Craft Centre, Melbourne
"Porcelain", Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
- 1992 Galerie Beim, Roten Turm, Wurzburg, Sommerhaven, Germany
Jahresmess Kunsthandwerk Museum, Hamburg, Germany
- 1991 "The Western Australian Exhibition", Gallery Sanyo, Tokyo, Japan
- 1990 "Colour the Nineties", Canterbury Potters Association, Christchurch, NZ
"Women's Work", New Collectables Gallery, Fremantle WA
- 1989 2nd Triennale de la Porcelain, Nyon, Switzerland
Perth International Crafts Triennial, Art Gallery of WA
- 1988 "Classics at the Craft Centre", Crafts Council of Australia, Sydney
1st International Ceramics Symposium Exhibition, National Gallery of Victoria
- 1987-92 Fletcher Challenge Ceramic Award, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1987 "Challenges", Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Perth
- 1986 1st National Ceramic Award, Canberra School of Art
"Crossovers", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1985 "Ceramics Survey: porcelain", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
Craft Purchase Exhibition, Queen Victoria Museum and Gallery, Tas
- 1984 "Australian Decorative Arts: the past ten years", Melville Hall, Australian National University, Canberra
- 1983-9 National Crafts Acquisition Award Exhibition, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin
- 1983 "Australian Craft '83", UK regional galleries; Hong Kong
- 1982 "Craftworks by 12 WA Craftspersons", Art Gallery of WA
"Contemporary Australian Ceramics", touring exhibition: New Zealand; Canada; USA
- 1981 "Focus on clay III", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1980 "A Dozen Different Ways", Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences, Sydney
- 1978 "Somethings Clay", Undercroft Gallery, University of WA
- 1977 "Crafts '77", Undercroft Gallery, University of WA

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2012 Artsflight Department of Culture and the Arts, WA
City of Perth Commemorative Commission for Council House 50 years celebration
- 2009 Arts Development Grant, ArtsWA and New Works Established Grant, Australia Council
- 2007 Kusnic Award Winner, Annual Selective Exhibition, Ceramic Arts Association of WA
- 2004 Merit Award, Annual Selective Exhibition, Ceramic Arts Association of WA
- 2002 Co-recipient with Anne Ffren of Australia Council's New Work Grant, ArtsWA and Culture Export Program, International Foundation for Arts and Culture and Art on the Move funding
- 2000 Lithgow Pottery Fair Open Prize, Lithgow, NSW
19th National Craft Acquisition Award, Museum and Art Gallery of NT
- 1999 Townsville City Council Award, Townsville, Qld
- 1997-98 Professional Development Grants, Australia Council and ArtsWA for overseas research and study (Canada and USA)
- 1995 National Craft Acquisition Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the NT
- 1994 Commission, Presbyterian Ladies' College Perth, Communion Service

- 1991 Ipec Award, Townsville Pacific Festival, Queensland
1989 Merit Award, Fletcher Challenge Award, Auckland, NZ
1988 Fletcher Challenge Award, Auckland, NZ
Australia Council Professional Development Fellowship
1987 Tresilian Ceramic Award, Perth
1986 Creative Development Grant, WA Department for the Arts
1982 Australia Council Crafts Board Professional Development Grant
1978 Canning Art Award for Ceramics, WA

PUBLICATIONS

- 2009 "A subtle display of delicate work", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 23 October
1998 *Ceramics Technical*, No 6
Southern Light: contemporary Australian porcelain, Beaver Galleries
1997 *International Ceramics Award*, Sidney Myer Fund, Shepparton Art Gallery
Ceramics: Art & Perception, Issue 30
1996 *Pottery in Australia*, Vol 35 No 3
Vessel, Peter Haynes, Canberra School of Art Gallery
Ceramic Technology for Potters and Sculptors, Yvonne Hutchinson Cuff, AC Black
1995 *Craft Arts International*, No 35
Contemporary Ceramic Art in Australia & New Zealand, Janet Mansfield, Craftsman House
Contemporary Porcelain, Peter Lane, Craftsman House
1994 *Pottery in Australia*, Vol 33 No 4
Aurora, CraftWest
1992 *The Crafts Movement in Australia: A History*, Grace Cochrane, NSW University Press
Artfile: catalogue of Australian Artists and Designers, Craft Arts International
Ceramic Form, Peter Lane, Collins
1990 *Pottery in Australia*, Vol 29 No 3
Ceramics: Art and Perception, No 2
1989 *Pottery in Australia*, Vol 28 No 1
Ceramics Monthly, January
Artist in Focus, No 6, Art Gallery of Western Australia
Catalogue, 2nd Triennale de la Porcelaine Nyon, Switzerland
1988 *Craft Arts International*, No 11
Craftwest, October
New Zealand Potter (Fletcher Challenge issue), Vol 30 No 2
A Collectors Guide to Modern Australian Ceramics, Janet Mansfield, Craftsman House
1987 *Fremantle Arts Review*, Vol 2 Nos 1, 5, 9
Craftwest, Nos 3/87 and 4/87
1986 *Craftwest*, No 5/86
1985 *Pottery in Australia*, Vol 24 No 1
1984 *Pottery in Australia*, Vol 23 No 1
1983 *Pottery in Australia*, Vol 22 No 2
Classic Decorating, Autumn/Winter
1980 *Craft Australia*, No 2
Craftwest, No 2/80
1979 *Craftwest*, September/October
1978 *Craftwest*, June/July

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra; Artbank, Sydney; Powerhouse Museum, Sydney; High Court of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of South Australia; National Gallery of Victoria; Art Gallery of Western Australia; Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Museum and Art Gallery of Tasmania, Hobart; Queensland Art Gallery; Edith Cowan University, WA; University of Melbourne, Vic; University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Qld; Curtin University; WA Institute of Technology; Victorian State Craft Collection, Melbourne; Ballarat Art Gallery, Vic; Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic; Bunbury Regional Art Gallery, WA; Gippsland Art Gallery, Vic; Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld; Lismore Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Manly Art Gallery, NSW; Mornington Peninsula Regional Art Gallery, Vic; Newcastle Art Gallery, NSW; Queen

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Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tas; Shepparton Art Gallery, Vic; ; Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Townsville, Qld; Shepparton Art Gallery, Victoria; Fremantle Art Gallery, WA; Devonport Art Gallery, Tas; Castlemaine Art Gallery & Historical Museum, Vic; City of Toowoomba Ceramics Collections, Qld; South Queensland College of Art; Brisbane College of TAFE, Qld; Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney; Holmes a Court Collection, Perth; Australian Embassy Collection, New Guinea; Auckland Gallery and Museum, NZ; Australia Japan Foundation, Tokyo; Gifu Prefecture Ceramic Museum, Tajimi City, Japan; Rancho Santiago College, Santa Ana, California, USA; Toki Ceramic Research Institute, Japan; The Auckland Institute and Museum, NZ; Australian Embassy, Tokyo, Japan; Queensland University of Technology, Red Deer College, Alberta, Canada.