

## GRAHAM FRANSELLA

*Graham Fransella is a painter, printmaker and sculptor who works intuitively, allowing any perceived meaning to emerge after the work is completed. In his most recent work, Graham continues his exploration of the figure and the landscape; "The figurative pieces usually contain a single figure standing, presenting themselves to the viewer, communicating a sense of strength and timelessness... the landscape pieces come from actual experiences and places". Strong black strokes trace the outlines of figures, so stripped of detail they become symbolic, reminiscent of pictograms or graffiti. His prints and paintings are richly layered gestural works that explore the relationship between presence and absence. They work on many levels without being contrived; they are spontaneous, with any interpretation left entirely up to the viewer. His charismatic mark-making is the distillation of several decades of draughtsmanship and what at first appear to be simple lines and primitive figures are actually sophisticated, multi-layered abstractions. For Graham the creative process informs the conceptual content of his work; "In the activity of picture-making, randomness, spontaneity, chance, accident and mark making play out their role to arrive at a resolution." Above all, these distinctive, powerful and occasionally playful works use the "presence of human form and the absence of personal identity" to portray the human condition.*

*Graham Fransella has had over fifty solo shows across Australia as well as Europe. He has been exhibiting with Beaver Galleries since 1993, including seven solo exhibitions and representation at the Melbourne Art Fair. His work has been selected for the Archibald, Wynne, Sulman and Dobell Drawing Prizes at the Art Gallery of NSW and he has won the Trustees Watercolour Prize five times, most recently in 2011. Graham's work is represented in numerous public collections including the National Gallery of Australia, National Gallery of Victoria, Queensland Art Gallery, Parliament House and Artbank.*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1950 Born Harrow, England
- 1967-68 Foundation Year Studies, Isleworth Polytechnic, London, UK
- 1970-73 Printmaking Diploma (Distinction), Bradford School of Art, UK
- 1973 Set up Silkscreen Poster Workshop, Deptford, London, UK
- 1974-75 Lecturer in Silkscreen Printing, Bradford School of Art, UK
- 1975 Arrived in Australia
- 1976 Assisted Bea Maddock as Artist-in Residence at ANU, Canberra
- 1977 Conducted Print Workshop, Canberra
- 1977-81 Full-time Technician in Printmaking Dept, Vic College of the Arts 1980  
Conducted Photographic Print Workshop, Rockhampton, Qld
- 1981-85 Part-time Lecturer, Victoria College and Victorian College of the Arts
- 1985-98 Full-time Lecturer in Printmaking, Victorian College of the Arts
- 1988 Judge, Printmaking Department Art Awards, Victoria College  
Judge, Travelling Scholarship, Printmaking Department, RMIT
- 1993-94 Master of Fine Art, RMIT University
- 1994 Member, School Board, Victorian College of the Arts
- 1997 Board member, Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne
- 1999 Moved to studio in Melbourne
- 2000 Resigned lecturing position to concentrate full time on studio work
- 2001 Travelled in the Kimberley, WA
- 2002 Travelled to Arnhemland, NT
- 2004 Travelled to London, Paris and Spain
- 2006 Travelled to New York
- 2009 Travelled to Tuscany and London

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 "People and places", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2016 Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2014 'figure and landscape', Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
Heiser Gallery, Brisbane
- 2013 Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 2012 Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2011 Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2010 Australian Galleries, Melbourne  
Heiser Gallery, Brisbane
- 2009 Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney

2008	Beaver Galleries, Canberra Australian Galleries, Melbourne
2007	Heiser Gallery, Brisbane Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
2005	Port Jackson Press, Melbourne Greenaway Galleries, Adelaide Heiser Gallery, Brisbane Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2004	Grahame Galleries, Brisbane Axia Modern Art, Melbourne
2003	Beaver Galleries, Canberra Deakin University, Melbourne Australian Art Resources, Sydney
2002	Axia Modern Art, Melbourne
2001	Greenaway Galleries, Adelaide
2000	Beaver Galleries, Canberra Axia Modern Art, Melbourne
1999	Greenaway Galleries, Adelaide Axia Modern Art, Melbourne
1998	Beaver Galleries, Canberra Australian Galleries, Melbourne
1997	Greenaway Galleries, Adelaide
1996	Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, UK
1995	Beaver Galleries, Canberra Australian Galleries, Sydney Australian Galleries, Melbourne
1993	Beaver Galleries, Canberra Greenaway Galleries, Adelaide Australian Galleries, Melbourne Grahame Galleries, Brisbane
1992	Macquarie Galleries, Sydney Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, UK
1991	Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1990	Grahame Galleries, Brisbane Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1989	Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, UK Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1988	Anima Gallery, Adelaide Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1987	Gerstman Abdullah Fine Arts International, Cologne, Germany
1986	Gerstman Abdullah Fine Arts International, Melbourne Alba Fine Art, Kew, London, UK Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1985	Gerstman Abdullah Fine Arts International, Cologne, Germany
1984	Macquarie Galleries, Sydney Solander Gallery, Canberra Gerstman Abdullah Fine Arts International, Melbourne
1983	Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1982	Stuart Gerstman Galleries
1981	Stuart Gerstman Galleries
1978	Stuart Gerstman Galleries

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

2018	Australian Print Triennial Prize, Art Vault, Mildura, VIC
2017	"Sculpture: medium and small scale – Mixed Sculptors", Australian Galleries, Sydney
2016	"Small works 2016", Beaver Galleries, Canberra

- 2014 "Impressions", Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne  
"Life: Limited edition etchings, lithographs and linocuts", Australian Galleries, Melbourne  
Tattersall's Club Landscape Art Prize, Tattersall's Club, Brisbane  
"one of each", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2013 "Australia Day 2014 Celebratory Exhibition", Australian Galleries, Sydney and Melbourne  
Fleurieu Landscape prize, Fleurieu, SA  
"Works form the stockroom", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2012 "Australian Galleries at Gallows Gallery", Gallows Gallery, Perth  
"Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"Summer stock show", Australian Galleries, Melbourne  
Dobell Prize for Drawing, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2011 Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2009 Lorne Foreshore Sculpture show, Victoria  
"Stories of our making - contemporary prints from Australia", University West of England, Bristol, UK and Tweed River Regional Gallery, NSW  
"Australian Prints", Southern Graphics Conference, Chicago, Illinois, USA  
Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Dobell Drawing Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2008 Wynne Prize, Art Gallery NSW, Sydney  
Salon des Refuses Archibald - S. H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 2007 Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2006 Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Melbourne Art Fair (Beaver Galleries)
- 2005 Artist's Artists-Axia Modern Art, Melbourne  
Hibrida II - Gallery Bruno, Czech Republic and Bradford, UK
- 2004 Dobell Drawing Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
"Surface Tension - 21 Contemporary Australian Printmakers", The New York Society of Etching, New York, USA  
"Place Made, Work from the Australian Print Workshop", National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
"By Male Order", Wagga Wagga Regional Gallery, Wagga  
Melbourne Art Fair 2004, (Beaver Galleries)  
Fleurieu Peninsular Art Prize  
Shanghai Arts Fair
- 2003 Dobell Drawing Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Blake Prize, University of Sydney  
National Works on Paper, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, VIC  
Works on Paper Fair, Sydney
- 2001 "Figure and Landscape - Three artists, Graham Fransella, Idris Murphy & Guy Warren", Axia Modern Art, Melbourne  
Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
"Then and now", artists from Bradford Art School travelling show, UK  
"Melbourne printmakers", Queensland Art Gallery and Museum of Modern Art at Heide, VIC
- 2000 Dobell Drawing Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
"Works on paper", Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, UK  
London Art Fair, UK (Rebecca Hossack Gallery)  
"People in a Landscape" Contemporary Australian Prints, Philippines  
Contemporary Linocuts 1995-98 (touring exhibition)  
Melbourne Art Fair (Beaver Galleries)
- 1999 Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Slovenian Biennale, Slovenia  
Volvo Gallery, Sydney
- 1998 Sixth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne (Beaver Galleries)  
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Amsterdam Art Fair, Holland  
"Australian prints from the collection", Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
"Works on paper from the collection", National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

- 1997 London International Art Fair, UK  
Mornington Print Prize, Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, VIC  
Geelong Print Prize exhibition, VIC  
Contemporary Art Fair, ANU Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra (Beaver Galleries)  
Dobell Drawing Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
International Works on Paper Fair, Sydney
- 1996 Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne (Beaver Galleries)  
MS Macarthur Print Award, Sydney
- 1995 Mary McKillop Portrait Prize, Power House, Sydney
- 1994 Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
Dobell Drawing Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Osaka Triennale, Japan  
Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 1993 Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
Maastricht Print Biennale, Holland  
"Artist as Printmaker", Editions Gallery, Melbourne  
Margaret Stewart Endowment Acquisition Exhibition, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
Dobell Drawing Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
Amsterdam Art Fair, Holland
- 1992 "Watercolour" Macquarie Gallery, Sydney  
"Official Opening" Australian Print Workshop  
Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
Amsterdam Art Fair, Holland  
Mitchelton Print Exhibition, Melbourne
- 1991 "Opening", Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
"Prints from the Collection", Wollongong City Art Gallery, NSW  
Aberdere Collieries Exhibition, Ipswich Regional Gallery, Qld  
Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
Nuremberg International Art Fair, Germany
- 1989 Bath Contemporary Art Fair, Bath, UK  
Chicago International Art Fair, USA  
"Australian Prints", National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
"Recent Australian Print Acquisitions", National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
"Painters' Visions", Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
- 1988 "Works from Australia", Houston International Fair, USA  
"Woodcuts", Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
Los Angeles International Art Fair, USA  
Nuremberg International Art Fair, Germany
- 1987 Invitation Purchase Exhibition, University of NSW, Sydney  
"The Figure", Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane  
"Prints and Printmakers", Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney  
Los Angeles International Art Fair, USA  
"Painters' Visions", Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
- 1986 Melbourne Printmakers Travelling Show, NSW and VIC
- 1985 "The Beach", Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
"Retrospective '85", Gerstman Abdullah Fine Arts International, Melbourne  
"The Nude", Gerstman Abdullah Fine Arts International, Melbourne
- 1984 "Gallery Artists", Gerstman Abdullah Fine Arts International, Melbourne
- 1983 "Review/Preview", Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
Henry Worland Print Prize, Warrnambool Art Gallery, VIC
- 1981 Henry Worland Print Prize, Warrnambool Art Gallery, VIC
- 1980 Henry Worland Print Prize, Warrnambool Art Gallery, VIC
- 1978 5th British Print Biennale, Bradford, UK
- 1972 2nd British Print Biennale, Bradford, UK

**AWARDS/COMMISSIONS**

- 2018 Finalist, Australian Print Triennial Prize, The Art Vault, Mildura, VIC  
2013 Finalist, Fleurieu Landscape prize, Fleurieu, SA  
2012 Finalist, Trustees Watercolour Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
2011 Trustees Watercolour Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
2009 Trustees Watercolour Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
2007 Trustees Watercolour Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
2006 Trustees Watercolour Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
2000 Trustees Watercolour Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
1992 Australia Council Grant  
Mitchelton Print Prize  
Commissioned by Arthur Andersen and Co. to produce a suite of large scale etchings  
1985 Maitland Print Prize  
1972 Bradford School of Art Travelling Scholarship

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

- 2008 "Strength and humour in prints", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 13 May  
2007 "Printmaker: Graham Fransella", Sasha Grishin, *Australian Art Collector*, #42 October-December  
2005 "Striking and liquid lines", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, May  
2003 "The simple things", Ron Cerabona, *The Canberra Times*, May 15  
"Crowded, but with stunning images", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 26 May  
2002 *Graham Fransella - Figures and Landscapes*, Macmillan Art Publishing, Australia  
2000 "Life's transience", Sonia Barron, *Canberra Times*, 24 October  
1998 "Exploring the human form", Sonia Barron, *Canberra Times*, 10 November  
1995 "Strength in large assertive images", Sonia Barron, *The Canberra Times*, 3 March  
"Eyes on the prizes", Elwyn Lynn, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 April  
1993 "Sparse and uncluttered images", Sonia Barron, *The Canberra Times*, 22 May  
1991 "Female mysteries add to the picture", Elwyn Lynn, *Australian*, 19 Oct  
"Out of diversity, harmony", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 Oct  
1990 "Much more than hamburger art", Christopher Allen, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 June  
1988 *New Art Two*, Nevill Drury (ed), Craftsman House, Sydney  
1987 "Graham Fransella from Australia", *Kolner Stadt-Anzeiger*, 4 May  
1986 "Confidence versus caution", John McDonald, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 Jan  
"Photos bridge great division", Elwyn Lynn, *The Australian*, 24 Jan

**COLLECTIONS**

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Queensland Art Gallery; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; Parliament House Art, Canberra; Artbank, Sydney; Queensland University of Technology; University of Southern Queensland; Deakin University, Melbourne; Footscray College of TAFE, Melbourne; Box Hill College of TAFE, Melbourne; Warrnambool City Art Gallery, Victoria; Geelong Art Gallery, Victoria; Print Council of Australia; Ballarat City Art Gallery, Victoria; Waverley City Council, Sydney; Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne; Wollongong City Gallery, NSW; Arthur Andersen & Co, Melbourne; Glaxo Australia; OTC Australia; Bristol-Myers Squibb Australia; Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Melbourne; Crown Casino, Melbourne; Maunsells Australia P/L; McKinsey & Co; Ove Arup & Partners; Southcorp Holdings; Saatchi & Saatchi, London, UK.