

## SANDRA BLACK

*Sandra Black is known for her perfectly balanced thrown and cast porcelain vessels. Inspired by nature, Sandra combines abstract and organic shapes in fluid patterns to decorate her bowls and vessels. 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. When viewing her work (both thrown and slip cast) the audience can appreciate Sandra's attention to the interior space of the vessel. She has spent many years aiming to perfect that inner space. For Sandra, the careful finishing and balance of the exterior can only come after this has been achieved. As well as this, there is a beautiful balance between the decorative elements and themes she chooses to explore. She uses a range of techniques to create this imagery from piercing and carving to laser decals and glazes. The natural world of Western Australia continues to be a source of inspiration as Sandra plays with organic imagery both natural and abstracted. As art reviewer Kerry-Anne Cousins noted about her work, "Black's restraint in choosing simple forms and not glazing the pots but leaving the design to speak for itself, results in works that are attractive with a harmonious interweaving of pattern and form."*

*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, including a 2018 residency in Jingdezhen (China) and a 2015 residency in Maihar, Madhya Pradesh (India). 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 (Canada), Gifu Prefecture Ceramic Museum (Japan), and the Auckland Gallery and Museum (New Zealand).*

### 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**

- 2022 "Solace", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
2020 Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Townsville, QLD  
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, 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

- 1998 "Friends at the Edge", Gallery East, North Fremantle, WA
- "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 Craftpersons", 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 Frren 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**

- 2022 "Elegant porcelain demonstrates technical skill", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 20 August
- "Solace comes in 'wistful and cool' pottery", Meredith Hinchliffe, *City News*, 14 August
- 2019 "Works of serene beauty show off skills", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 7 June
- "Black takes full control of porcelain", Meredith Hinchliffe, *City News*, 5 June
- 2015 "Ceramics pilgrimage pays off", Kerry-Anne Cousins, 22 August
- 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 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 Catholic University, Melbourne; Australian Embassy Collection, New Guinea; Auckland Gallery and Museum, NZ; Australia Japan Foundation, Tokyo, Japan; 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.