

ALEXANDER BOYNES

Alexander Boynes is a Canberra-based artist whose unique visual language draws on various disciplines including painting, photography, print media, light-based work and video installation. Much of his work has drawn upon an interest in capturing movement and dynamism in the body, achieved through the use of sharp linear patterns within figures and a palette of strong bright colour, with the image seeming to leap off its aluminium surface. Another characteristic of Alexander's work is the fluoro paint that he applies to the back of the panel creating a coloured aureole around the work, similar to that of a neon sign. He is a creative thinker who views the world through a strong and defined social conscience reflecting deeply on our country's shared past. His recent work explores the impact on, and loss of, the Australian landscape in the drive to extract fossil fuels that lie below the earth's surface. It also reflects on the ramifications of this industry for the traditional Indigenous owners of the land. As Alexander says, "This merging of landscape and industry speaks of our failure to invest in a renewable future, as coal, oil and gas extraction dominate the power industry. Meanwhile standing in a rapidly changing environment, the figure represents both the catalyst and the casualty of these actions." As art historian and critic Sasha Grishin AM stated in a review of his first Beaver Galleries' exhibition, "What Boynes has achieved is a visual language, one that is very contemporary in its look and that he is starting to own."

Alexander Boynes graduated with honours in gold and silversmithing from the School of Art at the Australian National University in 2004. The following year his work featured in 'Talente' at the Munich Art Fair. He held his first solo exhibition in 2009 in Canberra and has since exhibited widely in solo and group exhibitions around Australia. Also an experienced arts administrator and curator, he has brought many exhibitions to fruition for the Canberra Contemporary Art Space. His collaborative projects include 'Arnhembrand', an art, science and stories project promoting healthy country and communities in the Djelk Indigenous Protected Area of Arnhem Land, undertaken with Mandy Martin. In 2013, Alexander established PRAXIS, a multidisciplinary collective exploring links between visual art, performance and sound, with choreographer/dancer Laura Boynes and cellist/composer Tristen Parr. PRAXIS presented a full-length performance work, 'Dark Matter', at the State Theatre Centre of Western Australia in 2016. 'Luminous Relic', a major painting, sound and moving image work that Alexander created with Mandy Martin and Tristen Parr, was exhibited at Geelong Gallery and Orange Regional Gallery in 2017 and Canberra Museum and Gallery in 2019. Alexander's work is represented in many collections including those of Artbank, the University of Canberra, the ACT Legislative Assembly, the Macquarie Group and the Centre for Art + Environment in Nevada, USA.

BIOGRAPHY

2000-04 Bachelor of Visual Arts, Honours (Gold and Silversmithing), Australian National University, School of Art, Canberra

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 "As above, so below", MaySpace, Sydney
- "Last Light", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2016 "Body / Time / Light", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- "Water Stories (featuring PRAXIS), Contour 556 Festival, Fitters Workshop, Canberra
- 2014 "Lumen", Australian National Capital Artists (ANCA) Gallery, Canberra
- 2012 "The Weight of Shadows", ANU Photospace, Canberra
- 2010 "Black Light", Linton and Kay Galleries, Perth
- 2009 "After Dark", Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 "Sydney Contemporary Presents 2020" online exhibition (Beaver Galleries)
- 2019 "Slow hope" (with Mandy Martin), Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- "Hi-vis futures" (with Mandy Martin & Tristan Parr), Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra
- "Rewriting the score", Latrobe Regional Gallery, Vic
- 2018 Sydney Contemporary 2018, Carriageworks, Sydney (Beaver Galleries)
- 2017 "Light, Stone, Fire", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- "CAPO 34", Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra
- "Mandy Martin: Homeground", Penrith Regional Gallery, Orange Regional Gallery and Cowra Regional Gallery
- "Luminous Relic", Geelong Gallery, Vic and Orange Regional Gallery, NSW
- "Lucence – Act Three", Australian National University, School of Art, Canberra
- "Arnhembrand – Living on Healthy Country", Space Gallery, Sydney
- 2016 "Homeground", Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, NSW
- "Call + Response", Orange Regional Gallery, NSW
- 2015 "CAPO 32", Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra
- "The Warming", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2014 "Small Works 2014", Beaver Galleries, Canberra

- "Muscle Memory", Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney
"Sharing Light", Bailey's Corner, Canberra
"CAPO 31", Canberra Museum and Gallery
"Silhouette", Red Gallery, Melbourne
"I Heart Video Art", Australian National Capital Artists (ANCA) Gallery, Canberra
"Wanderlust", M16 Artspace, Canberra
"Deck Art", Tuggeranong Arts Centre, Canberra
2013 "CAPO30", Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra
"Desert Lake", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
"RED (Rise. Exist. Demise)", Nishi Gallery, Canberra
"Model Citizens", Art, Not Apart Festival, New Acton, Canberra
2012 "Smoke & Mirrors", ANCA, Canberra
2011 "XXX CCAS Members Show", Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra
"Crush", ANU School of Art, Canberra
"Lethbridge 10,000 Small Scale Art Award, Lethbridge Gallery, Brisbane
2008 "The Silver Light", Megalo Print Studio and Gallery, Canberra
2007 "Art + Humour Too", Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
2005 "Talente", Munich Art Fair, Germany
2004 "Green", Graduate Exhibition, ANU School of Art, Canberra
"13th Floor", ANU School of Art, Canberra

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2020 Finalist, Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW
2011 Campari Australia Pty Ltd, commission of 10 art works
2004 National Gallery of Australia, Product Development Award
New Design Award, Object Magazine

PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 "Hope for triumph over disaster", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 5 December
"Painting an environmental future", Amy Martin, *Canberra Times*, 16 November
2018 "Exhibition exploring a critical issue", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 28 August
2016 "Energetic, bold and audacious", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 26 June
2014 "Alexander Boynes grows up and gets serious", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 29 March
"Family chat spawned Alexander Boynes' ANCA artshow", *Canberra Times*, 29 March
2012 "The Weight of Shadows – Alexander Boynes", Annika Harding, *TheWriteArt*, 7 September
"Heavy Shades", Chloe Mandryk, *BMA magazine*, 6 September
2010 "Alexander Boynes – The Light Fantastic", Yolande Norris, *Useless Lines*, 15 September

COLLECTIONS

Artbank; ACT Legislative Assembly, Canberra; University of Canberra; Centre for Art + Environment, Nevada Museum of Art, USA; Macquarie Group Collection; Harris Hobbs Landscapes, Canberra; Philip Leeson Architects, Canberra