

ALEXANDER BOYNES

Alexander Boynes is a Canberra-based multidisciplinary artist and curator whose practice encompasses painting, photography, print media, light-based work and video installation. 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 work, in recent years, deals with the social and environmental effects of climate change. His powerful yet softly rendered aluminum panels depict scenes ranging from the aftermath of the devastating 2019-2020 bush fires to landscapes now dominated by the power stations of the fossil fuel industry. Alexander's work compels us to confront these issues, imploring us to act urgently. He writes, "As caretakers of the land, it is our responsibility to once again harness such practices and restore nature's balance. Though living in the Anthropocene and coping with the effects of climate change might seem like an impossible task, we must nurture hope. There is still time." 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. His collaborative projects include 'Arnhembrand', an art, science and stories project promoting healthy country and communities in Arnhem Land, undertaken with Mandy Martin. In 2016, he collaborated with choreographer/dancer Laura Boynes and cellist/composer Tristen Parr to present a full-length performance work, 'Dark Matter', at the State Theatre Centre of Western Australia. 'Luminous Relic', a major painting, sound and moving image work that he 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. Then, in 2021-22, their large scale collaborative painting, video and sound work, 'Step Change', was exhibited as part of the Fremantle Biennale and at the Belconnen Arts Centre. 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

- 2022 "Still time", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 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

- 2023 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2022 "Earth canvas", National Museum of Australia, Canberra
"Step change", Belconnen Arts Centre, Canberra
"Degrees of concern", ANU School of Art & Design, Canberra
- 2021 "Step change", Fremantle Biennale, WA
- 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

- 2022 "Disturbing work with some hope", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 12 November
"Alexander Boynes' Still Time at Beaver Galleries is disturbing", Sasha Grishin, www.canberratimes.com.au, 7 November
- 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; Commonwealth Club, Canberra