

LUCY CULLITON

Lucy Culliton's paintings are inspired by her country life on a property in the Monaro district of NSW. Her garden, home, and large array of animals – mostly rescued – often form the subject matter for her vibrant and beautiful paintings. Lucy likes to 'know' her subjects; "If I'm painting red sauce, I want it to look like red sauce. If I'm painting a flower, I want people to see that it's a peony, not a rose. It has to look right." There is an honesty and directness in her work that people easily respond to. Her animal subjects stare back at you, as if defying you to imagine that they represent something more than they appear to be – just a sheep, goat, horse, etc. Likewise, the ordinary objects that form a backdrop to our lives – toys, bottles, cut flowers, cakes, cacti – are all just that, but carefully and joyfully observed. There is a generosity of spirit in her work that reflects her personality. Lucy radiates warmth and this clearly comes through in her paintings. Art historian and critic Sasha Grishin AM says Lucy is 'a gutsy figurative expressionist painter with a strong romantic disposition' and art critic, John McDonald describes her as "...that rare phenomenon: a natural painter. She proceeds from instinct, choosing her subject matter spontaneously, never letting go of a motif until she has exhausted every option." An astute observer of the familiar and seemingly insignificant, Lucy offers the viewer an incisive but caring and often quirky view of the world around her.

Lucy studied fine art at the National Art School, graduating in 1996. She has had an extensive exhibiting career with many group and solo exhibitions and, in particular, she was the subject of a major survey show in the Mosman Art Gallery in 2014. In 2016 her work was included in the 'Popular Pet Show' curated by Dr Sarah Engledow at the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra. Winner of the Portia Geach Memorial Award in 2006, Lucy is also a regular finalist in the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes at the Art Gallery of NSW. In 2016, she was announced as a finalist in all three prizes and, in 2017, in both the Wynne and Archibald Prizes. Her work is represented in the collections of the National Gallery of Australia, Art Gallery of NSW and Parliament House, Canberra.

BIOGRAPHY

- 1966 Born, Sydney
1996 Diploma of Painting, National Art School, Sydney

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 "Bibbenluke Spring", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2019 "Bibbenluke botanicals", King Street Gallery, Sydney
2018 "Caution wet paint", New England Regional Art Museum, Armidale, NSW
2017 "Bibbenluke menagerie", Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane
"The residents of Bibbenluke Lodge" King Street Gallery, Sydney
2016 "Our animals", Beaver Galleries, Canberra (with Anna Culliton)
2014 "Eye of the Beholder: The Art of Lucy Culliton", Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
2014 "Weeds of the Monaro & Others", The Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2012 "Bibbenluke Flowers", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2011 "Home", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2009 "Bibbenluke", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2008 "Stuff", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2007 "The Show (domestic science)", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2005 "Tuscon paintings, The Palm House", Botanic Gardens, Sydney
2004 "Cactus", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2002 "Hartley Landscapes", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2000 "Food Paintings", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
1999 "Farm Paintings", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
1998 Level Gallery, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 Archibald Prize & Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2019 "Inside/outside", King Street Gallery, Sydney
2018 Melbourne Art Fair (Jan Murphy Gallery)
"Mosman Art Prize", Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
"The Art of Friendship", Gallery Lane Cove, Sydney
2017 Sydney Contemporary 2017, Carriageworks, Sydney (Beaver Galleries)
Archibald Prize & Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
"Artist Profile: Australasian Painters 2007 – 2017", Orange Regional Gallery, NSW
2016 "Popular Pet Show" National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
"Spring 1883", Windsor Hotel, Melbourne (Jan Murphy Gallery)

- Archibald Prize & Sulman Prize & Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2013 "Three Australian Landscapes", The Hughes Gallery, Sydney
- 2013 "Life's a Beach", The Hughes Gallery, Sydney
- 2013 "Paper Trail", The Hughes Gallery, Sydney
- 2012 "Fresh from the Studio '12", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney.
- 2011 Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2010 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2009 Wynne Prize, Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2009 "Three Australian Landscapes", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
- 2008 "On the Heysen Trail", SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
Salon des Refuses, SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 2007 "Cuisine and Country", touring exhibition, Orange Regional Gallery
Archibald Prize, Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2006 Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 2005 Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 2004 Kedumba Drawing Prize, Blue Mountains, NSW
- 2003 Archibald Prize, Dobell Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2002 Australian Women Artists 1920-2000, Vanessa Wood Fine Art, Mosman
Gallery Artists, Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
"Drawn Together", Bathurst Regional Gallery, NSW
- 2001 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Regional Art Gallery, Sydney
Redlands Art Prize, Mosman Regional Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2000 Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
"Australian Landscape", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
"Thinking Aloud...A drawing show", Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
- 1999 Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Group Show, Ray Hughes Gallery, Sydney
- 1998 Gallery Fund Raiser, Herringbone Gallery, Sydney
Dog Show, First Gallery, Sydney
Crickart, Bat and Ball Hotel, Sydney
Body of work, First Gallery, Sydney
Alcart, Bat and Ball Hotel, Sydney
Crickart (travelling), The Don Bradman Museum, Bowral
- 1997 Diptych, Level Gallery, Sydney
Crickart, Bat and Ball Hotel, Sydney
Lucy Culliton, Lorna Gear, Level Gallery, Sydney
Alcart, Bat and Ball Hotel, Sydney
Triptych, Level Gallery, Sydney
It's A Guitar Shaped Word II

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2021 Finalist, Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
Finalist, Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2018 Finalist, Shirley Hannan National Portrait Award
- 2017 Finalist, Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
Finalist, Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2016 Finalist, Archibald Prize, Sulman Prize, Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2011 Finalist, Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2010 Finalist, Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2009 Finalist, Wynne Prize, Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2008 Finalist, Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2007 Finalist, Archibald Prize, Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2006 Dubbo Lexis Mortima Prize
Winner, Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney

- 2005 Finalist, Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
2004 First prize, Kedumba Drawing Prize (Acquisitive)
2000 First prize, Mosman Art Prize (Acquisitive)
1999 Conrad Jupiters Art Prize, Gold Coast Centre (Acquisitive)
Highly Commended, Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney Judging
2006 Nowa Nowa Nudes Art Show
2001 Rydal Show

PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 "Well-crafted, honest, gutsy works", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 19 March
2019 "The celebrated artist who paints to feed her animals", Caroline Baum, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 August
2018 "A Painted Landscape: Across Australia from bush to coast", Amber Creswell Bell, Thames & Hudson p54 - 59
2017 "Bibbenluke menagerie", Ashley Crawford, *Australian Art Collector*, issue 82
2016 "Sisters celebrate animals that surround them" Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 23 November
"The Popular Pet Book", Sarah Engledow, National Portrait Gallery
2014 "Lucy Culliton", Owen Craven, *Artist Profile*, cover feature, issue 27
"Lucy Culliton", John McDonald, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 25 October
2012 "A blooming career", Nikki Barrowclough, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 April
2007 Sebastian Smee, *The Australian*, 24 May
John McDonald, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 21 April
2006 Elizabeth Fortescue, *Daily Telegraph*, 2 October
Rosalie Higson, *The Australian*, 29 September
Jaime Pandaram, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 29 September
2006 *Belle Magazine*
2004 Matt Buchanan, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 October
2000 Betsy Brennan, *Vogue Living*, Dec/Jan Issue
Benjamin Wilde, *Sun Herald*, 31 December
Courtney Kidd, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 December
Elizabeth Fortescue, *Daily Telegraph Sydney Live*, 1 December
John Newton, *Sydney Morning Herald*, Short Black, 28 November
Sebastian Smee, *Sydney Morning Herald*, Christmas Gift Guide, 25 November
Mosman Daily, 3 August
1999 Bruce James, *Sydney Morning Herald*, Spectrum, 6 November
Sydney Morning Herald, 15 October
Sydney Morning Herald, 2 September
Marie Claire Lifestyle, August-September issue

COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Queensland University Art Museum, Brisbane; Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra; Macquarie Bank, Sydney; Gold Coast Arts Centre, Qld; Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney; Artbank, Sydney; Australian Wildlife Conservancy, NT; Griffith University, Brisbane; Parliament of NSW, Sydney