

## CHRIS DENTON

*Chris Denton's prints are intricate, minutely observed and exquisitely executed. He is inspired by the musings of Einstein, Aristotle and Descartes on the concept of space, particularly empty space, and its relationship to the material object. He explores these ideas and philosophies by creating meticulous drawings of objects such as fruit, flowers, shells and cups either in precise arrangements or as single objects in space. As Chris explains, "my works are intended to achieve a mood or atmosphere that conveys some qualities of a tangible reality (though not necessarily 'realism'). Beneath this lies an abiding interest in numbers, mathematics, the natural order and the philosophy of science as a belief system for our understanding of the world". A master of the intaglio method of drypoint, many of Chris's prints achieve further development with each plate often reworked to provide a number of states. As art critic and historian Professor Sasha Grishin noted "Denton is not an artist whose work is punctuated by radical stylistic shifts or major changes in subject matter, but over the years there is a slowly gathering intensity and purity of vision."*

*Chris Denton has exhibited widely and received numerous awards both nationally and internationally since his first show in the UK in 1969. His work has been shown across Australia and around the world, including galleries in Japan, China, France, Spain, Poland and the United States. In 2019 he was awarded the Gold Point prize winner for drypoint in the XIV Graphic Art Biennial in Serbia. Chris' work is held in many important collections such as the National Gallery of Australia, National Library of Australia, Parliament House, Australian National University as well as many Australian regional galleries. Chris has also received international recognition through exhibitions at the International Centre for Graphic Arts (Cracow, Poland), the Association Musee d'Art Contemporain (Chemalieres, France), Hawaii State Foundation for Culture and the Arts, Gilkey Center for Graphic Arts (Portland, USA) and the Tama Art University (Tokyo, Japan) amongst others.*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1950 Born Birmingham, UK
- 1979 Moved to Australia
- 1988-94 Contract printer, Studio One Printmaking Workshop, Canberra
- 1991-93 Technical assistant, Studio One Printmaking Workshop, Canberra  
Board Member, Studio One Printmaking Workshop, Canberra
- 1992-93 Chairman, Studio One Printmaking Workshop, Canberra
- 1993 Tutor in printmaking, World Education Fellowship summer school, Frensham College, Mittagong, NSW
- 1993-97 Digital graphic artist, The Australian Design Group, Canberra
- 1994 Artist-in-residence, Rigalto Studios and Printmaking Workshop, Perugia, Italy  
Jury member, 14th Mini Print International, Cadaqués, Spain
- 1997-98 Contract printer, Studio One Printmaking Workshop, Canberra
- 1998 Artist-in-residence, Canberra Grammar School, ACT
- 2000 Visiting artist, National Art School, Sydney
- 2000-01 Visiting artist, Hornsby TAFE, NSW
- 2001 Sessional lecturer in printmaking, National Art School, Sydney
- 2003-04 Printer, Edition and Artist Book Studio, Canberra School of Art, ANU
- 1991-2006 Printer to Jörg Schmeisser, former Head of Printmaking, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 "mists", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2017 "white, red, black", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2013 "the Dahlia Suite", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"Still Life", Bega Valley Regional Gallery, NSW
- 2012 "the Philosopher's Cup", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"the Philosopher's Box", Port Jackson Press Gallery, Melbourne
- 2010 Ivy Hill Gallery, Wapengo, NSW
- 2009 "Material Void", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2006 "from the Void", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2003 "Beyond the Fence", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 1999 "From the Secret Garden", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 1996 "Every wall tells a story", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 1995 "Pictures of numbers", Editions Southbank Galleries, Melbourne
- 1994 "Ceremony", Taller Galleria Fort, Cadaqués, Spain
- 1994 "Ceremony", Jan Jones Contemporary Art, Bowral, NSW
- 1992 Chairman's Lounge, Australian Airlines, Canberra
- 1989 "burnt landscape series", Dorette's Bistro, Canberra

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2019 Small works 2019, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2017 "Precipice", Spiral Gallery, Bega, NSW  
"Winning Works – Mini Print International of Cadaques", Barcelona, Spain
- 2016 "Notions", Port Jackson Press, Melbourne  
"Contemporary Paper", Port Jackson Press, Melbourne  
"Winning Works – Mini Print International of Cadaques", Barcelona, Spain
- 2014 "Small works 2014", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"Winning Works – Mini Print International of Cadaques", Barcelona, Spain  
International Small Engraving Exhibition, Cremona, Italy  
Internationale Biennale of Small Graphics and ExLibris, Ostrów Wielkopolskiego, Poland  
International Engraving Biennial of Douro, Alijo, Portugal
- 2013 "Graphic Arts from the World – Australia and New Zealand", International Centre for Graphic Arts, Cracow, Poland  
International Engraving Biennial of Douro, Alijo, Portugal
- 2012 The Bega Art Prize, Bega Valley Regional Gallery, NSW
- 2011 Alexandria International Biennale for Miniature Graphics, Egypt  
International Graphic Art Biennale Dry Point, Uzice, Serbia
- 2010 Ural Print Triennial, Ufa, Russia
- 2009 The First Alexandria International Biennale for Miniature Graphics, Egypt
- 2008 International Biennial of Miniature Art, Gornji Milanovic, Serbia and Montenegro  
Footprint Biennial International Print Competition, Norwalk, California, USA  
7th Lessedra World Art Print Annual Mini Print, Sofia, Bulgaria  
Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition, Christchurch, NZ
- 2007 Internationale Biennale of Small Graphics and ExLibris, Ostrów Wielkopolskiego, Poland  
"Nature Mort", James Makin Gallery, Melbourne  
"Inky and Scratchy", Solander Gallery, Wellington, NZ  
International Graphic Art Biennale Dry Point, Uzice, Serbia  
International Small Engraving Exhibition, Cremona, Italy  
International Engraving Biennial of Douro, Alijo, Portugal
- 2006 British International Miniature Print Exhibition, Dumfries, UK
- 2005 International Mini-Print Triennial, Tokyo, Japan  
Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition, Hawaii, USA  
International Mini-Print Biennial, Cluj, Romania  
"Small Graphic Forms", Lodz, Poland  
International Biennial of Drawing and Graphic Arts, Győr, Hungary  
International Contemporary Print Biennale Trois Rivières, Québec, Canada  
Internationale Biennale of Small Graphics and ExLibris, Ostrów Wielkopolskiego, Poland  
International Biennial of Miniature Art, Nikšić, Serbia & Montenegro  
International Biennial of Miniature Art, Gornji Milanovic, Serbia & Montenegro  
International Print Biennale, Varna, Bulgaria
- 2004 "National Works on Paper", Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Vic  
Shell Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
"Studio One - the Collection", Canberra Museum and Gallery  
Graphium Mini Print International, Timisoara, Romania  
Contemporary Miniature Art Retrospective, Montélimar, France  
"Triennial - 100 Cities", Ostrzeszow, Poland
- 2003 Egyptian International Print Triennale, Giza, Egypt  
International Print and Drawing Exhibition, Bangkok, Thailand  
International Biennial of Miniature Art, Gornji Milanovic, Serbia & Montenegro  
Intergraphia World Award Winners Gallery, Niepolomice, Poland  
International Small Engraving Salon, Maramues, Romania  
International Miniature Exhibition, Timisoara, Romania  
International Graphic Triennale, Bitola, Macedonia
- 2002 Intergraphia World Award Winners Gallery, Torun, Poland
- 2001 International Works on Paper Fair, Sydney  
International Biennial of Drawing and Graphic Arts, Győr, Hungary

- “New Wave”, Port Jackson Press, Melbourne  
“Imagining the Body”, Camberwell College of Art, UK  
“Triennial - Continents”, Walbrych, Poland
- 2000  
Intergraphia World Award Winners Gallery, Katowice, Poland  
International Print Triennial, Cracow, Poland  
British International Miniature Print Exhibition, Bristol, UK  
International Art Triennial, Majdanek, Poland  
International Print Exhibition, Amadora, Portugal  
Artfair 2000, Melbourne (Beaver Galleries, Canberra)  
Cheju International Prints Art Festival, South Korea  
International Exhibition of Mini-Graphic and Painting, Pisa, Italy
- 1999  
“Small Graphic Forms”, Lodz, Poland  
International Biennial of Drawing and Graphic Arts, Győr, Hungary  
International Mini-Print Biennial, Cluj, Romania  
German International Exhibition of Graphic Art, Frechen, Germany  
Norwegian International Print Triennale, Fredrikstad, Norway
- 1998  
Shell Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
“National Works on Paper”, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Vic  
Asia Print Adventure '98, Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, Sapporo, Japan  
International Culture Exchange Exhibition, Bungeishunjiyu Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
International Miniprint Triennial, Lahti, Finland  
Agart World Print Festival, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Biennial of Graphic Art Beograd '98, Belgrade, Yugoslavia  
International Miniature Print Exhibit '98, Barcelona, Spain  
Sixth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne (Beaver Galleries, Canberra)
- 1997  
Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition, Hawaii, USA  
International Print Exhibition, Portland Art Museum, USA  
Mini Print International, Cadaqués, Spain  
Annual Exhibition of International Contemporary Prints, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
International Art Triennial, Majdanek, Poland  
British International Miniature Print Exhibition, Bristol, UK  
International Miniature Print Competition, Connecticut, USA  
International Culture Exchange Exhibition, Omori Bell Gallery, Tokyo; Kotsuukaikan Art Hall, Tokyo, Japan  
International Mini-Print Biennial, Cluj, Romania  
Contemporary Art Fair, ANU Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra (Beaver Galleries)  
International Print Triennial, Cracow, Poland  
Intergraphia World Award Winners Gallery, Katowice, Poland
- 1996  
International Miniature Art Biennial, Québec, Canada  
Annual Exhibition of International Contemporary Prints, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne (Beaver Galleries, Canberra)  
Kochi International Triennial Exhibition of Prints, Japan  
International Book Symposium, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1995  
Third Bharat Bhavan International Biennial of Prints, Bhopal, India  
“Partners in Print”, Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne  
“Consumenta '95”, Nuremberg, Germany  
International Mini-Print Triennial, Tokyo, Japan  
“Contemporary Prints of Japan and the World”, Yokohama, Japan  
Kanagawa International Prints Festival, Yokohama, Japan  
“Heaven by a String”, Robb Street Gallery, Bairnsdale, Vic  
Mini Print International, Cadaqués, Spain
- 1994  
International Gallery of Contemporary Printmaking, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA  
“The print, the press, the artist and the printer”, the Drill Hall Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra  
3rd International Triennial of Small Format Prints, Chamalières, France  
British International Miniature Print Exhibition, Bristol, UK (awarded prize)  
Intergraphia '94 World Award Winners Gallery, Katowice, Poland  
International Print Triennial, Cracow, Poland  
British International Miniature Print Exhibition, Bristol, UK

- 1993 Mini Print International, Cadaqués, Spain  
Canberra Contemporary Art Fair, the Drill Hall Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra  
18th Annual Fremantle Print Award, WA  
International Biennial Print and Drawing Exhibition, Taipei, Republic of China  
City of Richmond Acquisitive Art Award, Melbourne  
Kochi International Triennial Exhibition of Prints, Japan  
International Book Symposium, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1992 Raft Press Book Project, National Library of Australia, Canberra  
Prints Acquisitive Drawing, Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, Vic  
City of Richmond Acquisitive Art Award, Melbourne  
Mini Print International, Cadaqués, Spain
- 1991 International Miniature Print Biennial, New York, USA  
International Biennial Print and Drawing Exhibition, Taipei, Republic of China  
Mini Print International, Cadaqués, Spain
- 1988 Prints Acquisitive Drawing, Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, Vic  
1987 Spring Festival of Drawing, Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, Vic  
1986 Prints Acquisitive, Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, Vic  
1985 Spring Festival of Drawing, Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, Vic

**AWARDS / COMMISSIONS**

- 2019 Gold Point prize winner, XIV Graphic Art Biennial, Dry point, Uzice, Serbia  
2012 Printmedia award, Bega Art Prize, NSW  
2008 Jurors' Prize, 1st Footprint Biennial International Print Competition, Norwalk, USA  
2007 Special Award, Internationale Biennale of Small Graphics and ExLibris, Ostrów Wielkopolskiego, Poland  
Second Prize, Ural Print Triennial, Ufa, Russia
- 2006 Highly commended, British International Miniature Print Exhibition, Dumfries, UK  
Commission, Ventracor, Sydney
- 2005 Award Nominee, Internationale Biennale of Small Graphics and ExLibris, Ostrów Wielkopolskiego, Poland  
2003 Finalist, International Small Engraving Salon, Maramures, Romania  
First prize (graphics) International Biennial of Miniature Art, Gornji Milanovic, Serbia & Montenegro
- 2001 Honourable Mention (drawing), International Biennial of Drawing and Graphic Arts, Győr, Hungary  
2000 Semifinalist, International Exhibition of Mini-Graphic and Painting, Pisa, Italy  
1999 First Prize (Print), Tyree-Tycan Open Art Prize, Bowral, NSW  
1998 General Grant, Capital Arts Patrons Organisation, Canberra  
1997 Commission, McClintock's Window, Australia Council/National Science and Technology Centre, Canberra  
Purchase Award, International Print Exhibition, Portland Art Museum, USA  
Purchase Award, Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition, Hawaii, USA
- 1996 Grand Prize, Biennale Internationale d'Art Miniature, Québec, Canada  
1995 Canberra, Hobart, Sydney, Melbourne Exchange Portfolio, Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne  
General Grant, ACT Cultural Council, Canberra  
General Grant, Capital Arts Patrons Organisation, Canberra
- 1994 Commission, Limited Edition Corporate Greeting Cards, Editions Southbank Galleries, Melbourne  
Prize, British International Miniature Print Exhibition, Bristol, UK
- 1993 Prize, Bowral Art Gallery Miniature Exhibition, NSW  
Prize, 13th Mini Print International, Cadaqués, Spain
- 1992 Subscriber Print Commission, Print Council of Australia, Melbourne  
1988 10:1 Print Project, Studio One Printmaking Workshop, Canberra  
100 x 100 Bicentennial Print Portfolio, Print Council of Australia, Melbourne

**PUBLICATIONS**

- 2022 "Delicate prints with otherworldly beauty at Beaver Galleries", Sasha Grishin, [www.canberratimes.com.au](http://www.canberratimes.com.au), 27 October  
2017 "Dahlias' beauty revealed in purity of vision", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 23 October  
2013 "Science meets art when a printmaker focuses on flowers", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 26 October  
2012 "Exploring space and time", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 4 June  
2009 "Beautiful lines create intriguing hidden forms", Charly Smith, *The Canberra Times*, 15 June  
2006 "Fresh battlefields of desire", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 5 June  
2003 "Strong exhibition by serious artist", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 5 August

- 2001 "Galeria de Profile - Christopher Denton (Australia)", *Cetatea Culturala*, IV 3(31)
- 2000 *Directory of Print 2000* (CD ROM), International Print Triennial Society, Neurosoft Kraków, Poland
- 1999 "Innocence and Experience", Francesca Rendle-Short (ed), *Canberra Arts Anthology 1999*, National Library of Australia, Canberra
- "Denton's science of art", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 3 September
- 1997 *Directory of Print '97* (CD ROM), International Print Triennial Society, Neurosoft Kraków, Poland
- 1996 "Chris Denton: Grand Prix", R Bernier, *Parcours l'informateur des arts*, June supplement, Canada
- "Heaven by a string", M Geissler, *Craft Arts International*, No. 36
- Australian Printmaking in the 1990s: artist printmakers 1990-1995*, Sasha Grishin, Craftsman House
- "Finding romance in shuttered windows", Sonia Barron, *The Canberra Times*, 27 April
- 1994 *The print, the press, the artist and the printer*, Sasha Grishin, ANU Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra

## COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; National Library of Australia, Canberra; Artbank, Sydney; Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra; Canberra Museum and Art Gallery; Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart; Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne; Print Council of Australia, Vic; Australian National University, Canberra; Queensland University of Technology, Qld; Australian Catholic University; Canberra Institute of the Arts; City of Richmond, Vic; Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld; Griffith University, Qld; Latrobe Valley Arts Centre, Vic; Mildura Regional Art Gallery, Vic; Gippsland Art Gallery, Vic; Naracoorte Regional Art Gallery, SA; Charles Darwin University, NT; Warrnambool Regional Art Gallery, Vic; Naracoorte Art Gallery, SA; City of Richmond, Melbourne; ANA Hotels; Canson Pty Ltd; Commonwealth Club, ACT; National Australia Bank; Barker Gosling Legal Group; Caloundra State High School, Qld; Canberra Grammar School; Geelong Grammar School, Vic; MacRobertson Girls High School, Vic; International Miniature Print Biennial, Québec, Canada; Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt; Association Musée d'Art Contemporain, Chamalières, France; Municipal Museum of Art, Győr, Hungary; Rigalio Studios and Print workshop, Perugia, Italy; Tama Art University, Tokyo, Japan; Central Academy of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Norwegian International Print Triennale, Fredrikstad, Norway; National Museum, Cracow, Poland; City Art Gallery, Lodz, Poland; State Museum, Majdanek, Poland; Engraving Museum of Douro, Alijo, Portugal; Florean Museum, Maramures, Romania; Timisoara Faculty of Arts, Romania; Union of Fine Artists, Cluj, Romania; Bashkortosan State Art Museum, Ufa, Russia; The Cultural Centre, Gomiji Milanovac, Serbia; The City Gallery, Uzice, Serbia; Taller Galeria Fort, Cadaqués, Spain; Silpakorn University, Bangkok, Thailand; Off-Centre Gallery, Bristol, England; University of Hull, Yorkshire, England; Hawaii State Foundation for Culture and the Arts, USA; Gilkey Center for Graphic Arts, Portland, USA.