

MEL DOUGLAS

Mel Douglas' engraved glass vessels and wall panels are beautifully resolved examples of simplicity, exhibiting a distinct clarity and balance between surface and form. The work suggests a controlled stillness and silence, a meditation on the elements of light, space and time. Mel's recent work draws inspiration from the changes that occur within the landscape with the fading light, the quiet shadows that appear at the last light of day, or the shimmer of dappled light across a body of water. The creation of her work is integral to the reading of each piece, the slow process of construction evident in the finished object. "I aim to concentrate the viewer's attention on the proportion and linear relationships of the work. Each line is a unique mark influenced by the object's physical shape and surface; it is a contour, a stroke, an outline. The repetitious and time-consuming method of mark making is not only a meditative process ... it describes a singular moment and a certain place." By contrast, Mel sees the vessel structure that dominates her work as a type of vortex of time and light, invoking notions of providing and consuming.

Mel Douglas has gained a significant reputation in Australia and internationally since graduating with 1st class honours from the ANU Institute of the Arts in 2000, and upon receiving a Thomas Foundation Pilchuck Student Scholarship to study in the USA. In 2002, Mel won the prestigious Ranamok Glass Prize, in 2007, the LinoTagliapietra Prize of Young Glass at the Glasmuseet Ebeltoft in Denmark and, in 2014, the Tom Malone Prize at the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Her work has been exhibited widely in Australia and overseas, and is in collections including the National Gallery of Australia, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Art Gallery of South Australia, Parliament House, National Art Glass Collection at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Corning Museum of Glass (USA), Cincinnati Art Museum (USA) and Glasmuseet Ebeltoft (Denmark).

BIOGRAPHY

- 1978 Born Burnie, Tas
- 1999 Installation team member for Dale Chihuly exhibition, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
"Micro-Macro Approach to Sculpture" workshop with Harumi Yukutake, Pilchuck Glass School, Pilchuck, Seattle, USA
- 2000 Bachelor of Arts (Visual) with Honours, Canberra School of Art, National Institute of the Arts, ANU, Canberra
- 2001-07 Project Officer, Travelling Exhibitions, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 2002 Residency, Bullseye Glass Company, Portland, USA
Graduate in Residence, National Institute for the Arts, ANU, Canberra
- 2003 Graduate in Residence, National Institute for the Arts, ANU, Canberra
Emerging Artist presenter, GAS Conference, Seattle, USA
"The Graven Image" workshop with Jiri Harcuba, Pilchuck Glass School, Pilchuck, Seattle, USA
- 2007 "Kiln working techniques" workshop with Kirstie Rea, Canberra School of Art, ANU
- 2008 "Kiln forming and more" workshop with Mel George and Jeremy Lepisto, Canberra Glassworks
- 2009 "Relief printing" workshop with Julian Laffen, Megalo Print Studio, Canberra
Complementary Studies lecturer, Glass Workshop, Canberra School of Art, ANU
- 2010 Residency, Northlands Creative Glass, Lybster, Scotland
- 2014 Residency, Tacoma Museum of Glass, Washington, USA
- 2015 Presenter, Glass Arts Society conference, San Jose, California, USA
Presenter, Ausglass conference, Adelaide
- 2016 Residency, Bullseye Glass, Portland, Oregon, USA
- 2019 Residency, Chrysler Museum of Glass, Norfolk, Virginia, USA
PhD, Glass Workshop, Canberra School of Art, National Institute of the Arts, ANU, Canberra

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 "Linear perspective", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2021 "Map + Measure", Traver Gallery, Seattle, Washington, USA
- 2019 Higher research degree exhibition, School of Art and Design, ANU, Canberra
- 2017 "liminal", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2013 "point.line.plane", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2011 "Half-light", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2010 "Eventide", Bullseye Gallery, Portland, USA
- 2008 "Between the lines", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2007 "Linearity", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2006 "Dense light", Narek Galleries, Tanja, NSW
- 2005 "Mel Douglas", Habatat Galleries, Chicago, USA
- 2002 "Mel Douglas - Recent Works", Link Gallery, Canberra Centre

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 Loewe Foundation Craft Prize exhibition, Seoul Museum of Craft Art, Seoul, South Korea
- 2021 "The study", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2019 Art Miami, Miami, Florida, USA (Heller Gallery)
SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Traver Gallery)
Salon Art and Design, New York, USA (Heller Gallery)
"one three seven", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"The Hot Shop – masters of glass", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2018 "SALUTE XIV", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
Hindmarsh Prize, Fitters Workshop, Canberra
Fuse Glass Prize, Jam Factory, Adelaide
- 2017 Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney (Sabbia Gallery)
- 2016 "SALUTE XII", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2015 SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Traver Gallery)
Beijing Design Week, Beijing, China
ANU Drawing Exhibition, ANU, Canberra
New contemporary art and design, Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY, USA
"Palette – masters of glass", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
Ausglass Members Exhibition, Worth Gallery, Adelaide
"Art, architecture and design in glass", Jam Factory Gallery, Adelaide (touring show)
"SALUTE XI", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2014 SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
Inaugural exhibition, NGA Contemporary, Canberra
Tom Malone Prize exhibition, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
"Summer feature", Traver Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA
- 2013 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Canberra Glass 2013", Beaver Galleries
"Chroma Culture", Bullseye Gallery, Potland, USA
SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Bullseye Gallery)
"Links", Tacoma Museum of Glass, Tacoma, USA
- 2012 "Asaka, Corr, Douglas and Loughlin", Lesley Kehoe Gallery, Melbourne
International Glass Prize, Belgium
"Word of Mouth", Canberra Museum and Art Gallery
"Alphabet", Craft ACT Craft and Design Centre
- 2011 SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
Ranamok Glass Prize, Canberra Glassworks and touring nationally
Art Santa Fe, USA (Bullseye Gallery)
"Geometry", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2010 Art Miami, USA (Bullseye Gallery)
"Mind and Matter", Object Gallery, Sydney
'Contemporary Glass Artists', Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2009 "Miniatures in Glass", Bilk Workshop, Queanbeyan, NSW
"ARTWORK", School of Art Gallery, ANU
Art Santa Fe, USA (Bullseye Gallery)
Art Miami, USA (Bullseye Gallery)
- 2008 SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
"Masterworks in glass", Narek Galleries, Tanja, NSW
"In essence, the legacy of Stephen Proctor", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2007 "Heart land", Canberra Glassworks
SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
- 2006 "Australian Glass 2006", Sandra Ainsley Gallery, Toronto, Canada
"Winter harvest", Kamberra Wines, Canberra
Collect, V & A Museum, London, UK (Narek Galleries)
SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
- 2005 "Seeds of light", ANU School of Art Gallery, Canberra
"Canberra Glass 2005", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Viewed through glass", Heller Gallery, New York, USA

- “The Cutting Edge”, cut & engraved glass, curated by Robert Bell, Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery, NSW
 “Geometry, rhythm and light”, Craft ACT, Canberra; Gaffer Gallery, Hong Kong
 “Collectors Choice”, Axia Modern Art, Sydney
 “New Directions in Australian Glass”, Australian Embassy, Washington, USA
 2004 “A moment”, Goulburn Art Gallery, NSW
 Collect, V & A Museum, London, UK (Narek Galleries)
 “Recent works”, Craft ACT Crucible, Canberra
 “Four:04”, Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
 SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
 “Geometry, rhythm and light”, Object Galleries, Sydney
 2003 SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
 Ranamok Glass Prize, touring exhibition
 “Selected work from the permanent collection”, Canberra Museum and Gallery
 “Hobart City art prize”, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery
 2002 “Liquidity”, Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
 “Graduates”, Kamberra Wine Centre, Canberra
 “Black, white and grey matter”, Craft ACT, Canberra
 “Terra Incognita”, Bullseye Connection Gallery, Portland, USA
 “Dialogue”, Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
 Ranamok Glass Prize, touring exhibition
 “Canberra Glass 2002”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
 “Recent graduates”, National Institute of the Arts, Australian National University, Canberra
 “Recent works”, Link Gallery, Canberra Theatre Centre
 2001 “Resonance within”, Chappell Gallery, New York, USA
 “Unchartered waters”, Ausglass student exhibition, Monash University, Melbourne
 “Canberra meets Venice”, Scaletta di Vetro Galleria, Milan, Italy
 “Ranamok Glass Prize 2001”, Volvo Gallery, Sydney, touring exhibition
 “Canberra Glass 2001”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
 “New Talent”, Axia Modern Art, Melbourne
 SOFA New York, (Chappell Gallery)
 2000 “Sassy Students”, Glass Artists Gallery, Sydney
 “Essentially Canberra”, Earl Lu Gallery, LaSalle SIA College of the Arts, Singapore
 “First thoughts”, Canberra School of Art Drawing Prize
 “RFC Glass Prize 2000”, Volvo Gallery, Sydney, touring exhibition
 “Canberra Glass 2000”, Beaver Galleries, Canberra
 “2000 ANU Canberra School of Art Graduating Student Exhibition”
 1999 “Ausglass Student Exhibition”, Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery, NSW
 “Essentially Canberra”, Chappell Gallery, Boston, USA
 SOFA New York, (Chappell Gallery)
 “Essentially Canberra”, Objects Galleries, Customs House, Sydney
 “New Directions, Emerging Glass Artists in Australia”, Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
 1998 “Canberra goes to Venice”, Straithnairn Gallery, Canberra
 “Venezia Aperto Vetro '98”, International New Glass, Venice, Italy
 1996 “Sight and sound”, Foundation exhibition, Canberra School of Art, Foyer Gallery, Canberra

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2022 Finalist, Loewe Foundation Craft Prize
 2019 Finalist, Moje Glass Prize, Thors Hammer, Canberra
 Inaugural acquisition for the Robert and Eugenie Bell Decorative Arts Fund, National Gallery of Australia
 2018 Finalist, Hindmarsh Prize, Fitters Workshop, Canberra
 Finalist, Fuse Glass Prize, Jam Factory, Adelaide
 2014 Tom Malone Prize, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
 Pilchuck Scholarship
 2012 Australia Council, New work grant
 Finalist, International Glass Prize, Belgium
 2011 People's choice award, Ranamok Glass Prize, Canberra
 Finalist, Tom Malone Prize

- 2007 Winner, LinoTagliapietra Prize, Young Glass 2007, Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Denmark
2006 Australia Council new work grant
2002 Winner, Ranamok Glass Prize, Sydney
Arts ACT quick response grant
Arts ACT grant
Pilchuck scholarship
2000 Emerging Artists Support Scheme Acquisition Award
Art Monthly Award
1999 The Thomas Foundation, Pilchuck Student Scholarship
1998 Chapel Windows, Canberra Hospital, Canberra

PUBLICATIONS

- 2014 "Art before science a top glass-act for artist Mel Douglas", Sally Prior, *The Canberra Times*, 3 May
2013 "Links: Australian Glass and the Pacific Northwest", Halper, Vicki et al., University of Washington Press
2011 "Looking at the landscape", Arne Sjostedt, *Canberra Times*, 18 May
2010 "3 Questions for Mel Douglas", *Glass Quarterly*, October
2008 "Mel Douglas - between the lines - studio glass", Sarah Vandeppeer, *Craft Arts International*, No. 73
"Glass acts continue", Diane Streak, *Capital Life*, 29 January
"Canberra stars of glass", Diane Streak, *Capital Life*, 2 February
"This study in glass is good - not great", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Canberra Times*, 7 February
2007 "The Third Ebeltoft Young Glass Prize", Dan Klein, *Neues Glas/New Glass*, 2/07
2006 "Shining with quiet beauty", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 28 May
New Glass Review - Juror Choice
Artichoke, No. 5
2005 *New Glass Review* No. 26
Australian Glass Today, Margot Osborne, Wakefield Press
2003 *New Glass Review* No. 24
"Between the Lines", Belinda Cotton, *Craft Arts International*, No. 59
"The limitless possibilities of glass", *Muse*, June
Ranamok Glass Prize review, Ann McMahon, *Canberra Times*, 10 June
"A feeling for the art of glass", *Capital*, Sept-Oct
"The Ranamok Glass Prize, 2002", Graziella Folchini Grassetto, *Craft Arts International*, No. 58
2002 "The Ranamok Glass Prize, 2001", Louise Doyle, *Craft Arts International*, No. 54
"New Glass - New Talent", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Craft Arts International*, No. 54
2001 *New Glass Review* No. 22
"The RFC Glass Prize, 2000", Glenn Cooke, *Craft Arts International*, No. 51
1999 "New Directions", Anna Grigson, *Craft Arts International*, No. 47

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Powerhouse Museum, Sydney; Parliament House, Canberra; Australian National University, Canberra; Wagga Wagga Art Gallery (National Art Glass Collection), NSW; Canberra Museum and Gallery; ACT Legislative Assembly, Canberra; Ranamok Glass Collection, Sydney; National Convention Centre, Canberra; KPMG, Canberra; Chrysler Museum of Glass, Norfolk, Virginia, USA; Corning Museum of Glass, NY, USA; Cincinnati Art Museum, USA; Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, California, USA; Tacoma Museum of Glass, Washington, USA; Tutsek-Stiftung Collection, München, Germany; Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Denmark