

## 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

- 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

- 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

- 2004 "Collectors Choice", Axia Modern Art, Sydney  
"New Directions in Australian Glass", Australian Embassy, Washington, USA  
"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)
- 2003 "Geometry, rhythm and light", Object Galleries, Sydney  
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**

- 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, Lino Tagliapietra 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 Sjustedt, *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