

NEVILLE FRENCH

Neville French draws inspiration from the landscape to develop porcelain forms which feature subtly coloured matt glazes of an unusual surface quality and luminosity. The shapes and soft tones echo the hill country of rural Victoria, and allude to the meditative aspects of this environment. His forms are wheel thrown, altered and slowly scraped to develop a soft line and solidity. As Neville describes: "I seek to distil an essence of purity and evoke notions of quietude and transcendence through the expressive use of coloured glaze and its relationship to form, tactility, weight and light."

Neville French graduated with a Master of Arts degree from RMIT University, Melbourne in 2000, and has been teacher and coordinator of Ceramics at the Arts Academy, University of Ballarat, Victoria since 1982. He has held solo exhibitions in Melbourne and New York and been part of more than twenty group exhibitions worldwide. His work is represented in various public collections including the National Gallery of Australia, National Gallery of Victoria, Art Gallery of South Australia, Queensland Art Gallery, Artbank and the City of Inagawa (Japan).

BIOGRAPHY

- 1955 Born Maryborough, Vic
- 1976 Diploma of Art in Ceramics, Ballarat CAE
- 1980 Diploma of Education, Hawthorn Institute of Education, Melbourne
- 1983 Certificate of Stoneware Glazes, Brisbane CAE
- 1982-99 Lecturer and Co-ordinator (Ceramics), University of Ballarat, SMB Campus
- 2000 Master of Fine Arts (Ceramics) RMIT University, Melbourne
- 2001-02 External assessor, RMIT University, Melbourne

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 "Tilt" (with Belinda Fox), Manly Art Gallery & Museum, Sydney
- 2015 (with Cathy Franzi), Kerry Lowe Gallery, Sydney
- 2013 "Hua Ping" (collaborative ceramics with Belinda Fox), The Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2012 "Give and take - a collaboration" (with Belinda Fox), Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2011 "Slip" collaboration with Belinda Fox, Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
- 2010 Mossgreen Gallery, Melbourne
- 2009 Galerie Rosenhauer, Goettingen, Germany
- 2007 Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
- 2004 Galerie Hors-Saison, Melbourne
- 2000 Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne
- 1999 Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York City, USA
- 1997 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1995 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Manningham Victorian Ceramic Art Award, Manningham Gallery, Melbourne
"Making: The Quiet Voices", Wayside Pavilion, Hobart, in conjunction with The Australian Ceramics Triennale.
- 2018 "Fieldwork", School of Clay and Art, Melbourne
- 2017 Victorian Craft Award, Craft Victoria, Melbourne
"Ceramics Collection 17", Manly Art Gallery & Museum, Sydney
"90 x 90: 90 artworks from 90 years of collecting", Whitehorse Arts Centre, Melbourne
- 2016 Gold Coast International Ceramic Art award, Gold Coast Art Gallery, Qld
"Contemporary Porcelain", Kerrie Lowe Gallery, Sydney
"Highlights from the Victoria Ceramics Collection", Whitehorse Artspace, Melbourne
- 2015 Hobart Art Prize, Tasmanian Art Gallery, Hobart
Victorian Craft Award, Craft Victoria, Melbourne
Manningham Victorian Ceramic Art Award, Vic
"BeLoning: Embodied commentaries inspired by place", ANU School of Art, Canberra
"Contemporary Clay", Olsen Irwin Gallery, Sydney
"Welcome to table", Pomegranate Hall, Castlemaine, Vic
"Earth, Fire and Water: 50 years of shaping the elements", Castlemaine Art Gallery, Vic
- 2014 "Terroir", Jamfactory at Seppeltsfield, Barossa Valley, SA
"Australia/Korea Invitational Exhibition", Hanyang University Gallery, Seoul, South Korea
"The Course of Objects; The Fine Lines of Inquiry", Manly Art Gallery, Sydney

- 2013 "Important Exhibition of Australian Ceramics", Mossgreen Gallery, Melbourne
"Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
Manningham Victorian Ceramic Art Award, Vic
- 2012 Colin and Cecily Rigg Contemporary Design Award, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
"Scope", Arts Academy Post Office Gallery, University of Ballarat, Vic
Alcosco VITRIFY Ceramic Award, Jamfactory Craft & Design Centre, Adelaide
- 2011 "A Day at the Beach", Galerie Handwerk Munchen, Germany
"Slip", with Belinda Fox, Arthouse Gallery, Sydney
Manningham Victorian Ceramics award, Vic
Woollahra small sculpture prize, Woollahra Council Chambers
"Scope", Arts Academy Post Office Gallery, University of Ballarat, Vic
- 2010 National Ceramics Award, Clunes, Vic
27th Gold Coast International Ceramic Art award, Gold Coast Arts Centre, Qld
City of Hobart Art Prize, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
"Colour Texture Form", Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld
"Scope", Arts Academy Post Office Gallery, University of Ballarat, Vic
- 2009 "Tablewares: Contemporary International Ceramics", Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney
"Scope", Arts Academy Post Office Gallery, University of Ballarat, Vic
"Here, Now", Mossgreen Gallery, Melbourne
- 2008 "Vessel/Sculpture", German and International Ceramics Since 1946, Grassi Museum of Applied Arts, Leipzig, Germany
26th Gold Coast International Ceramic Art award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld
"Gifts of Rod Fyffe", Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic
- 2007 "Celebration", Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney
- 2006 "Australische impressionen", Galerie Rosenhauer, Goettingen, Germany
"Innovations", Bellie Casten Gallery, Melbourne
"Tained Love: Contemporary Developments in Landscape", Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic
"Encrusted: Australian Woodfired Ceramics", Skepsi Gallery, Melbourne
- 2005 Porcelain (with Patsy Hely and Prue Venables) Beaver Galleries, Canberra
City of Hobart Art Prize, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
"Light Matters", Skepsi Gallery, Melbourne
COLLECT, Australian Contemporary, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
- 2004 "Heresy: The Secret Language of Materials", Craft Victoria Gallery, Melbourne
"Bowl'd and Beautiful", Ceramic Art Gallery, Sydney
"Elemental", Fala Gallery, Arizona, USA
"Masters 2", Skepsi Gallery, Melbourne
- 2003 "Going Forward", Sybaris Gallery, Michigan, USA
- 2002 "Less is More, Less is a Bore", Brisbane City Art Gallery
- 2001 International Ceramics 2, Sybaris Gallery, Michigan, USA
- 2000 Australian Ceramics, Gallerie Marianne Heller, Heidelberg, Germany
19th National Craft Acquisition Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
City of Hobart Art Prize, Carnegie Gallery, Hobart
- 1999 "Wouter Dam, Neville French, Steven Heineman", Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York, USA
"Contemporary Australian Porcelain", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 1998 "Contemplating the Bowl", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
SOFA (Sculpture, Objects, Functional Art) Exposition, Chicago, USA (Sybaris Gallery, Michigan)
"Contemporary International Ceramics", Sybaris Gallery, Michigan, USA
SOFA New York City, USA (Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York)
"Ceramic Art", Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
- 1997 "Bowled Over", Savode Gallery, Brisbane
"Teawares", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1996 "Stillness", Craft ACT Gallery, Canberra
"Vessel", Canberra School of Art Gallery, ANU
"Australian Woodware Survey", Strathnairn Homestead Gallery, Canberra
16th National Craft Acquisition Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
"The Bowled and the Beautiful", Moore's Building, Fremantle, WA
"180th Ceramic Exhibition", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2017 Finalist, Victorian Craft Award, Craft Victoria, Melbourne
2015 Finalist, Hobart Art Prize, Tasmanian Art Gallery, Hobart
Finalist, Victorian Craft Award, Craft Victoria, Melbourne
Finalist, Manningham Victorian Ceramic Art Award, Vic
2013 Acquisition award, Manningham Victorian Ceramic Art Award
2012 Finalist, Colin and Cecily Rigg Contemporary Design Award, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Finalist, Alcosco VITRIFY Ceramic Award, Jamfactory Craft & Design Centre, Adelaide
2011 Finalist, Manningham Victorian Ceramics award, Vic
Finalist, Woollahra small sculpture prize, Woollahra Council Chambers
Finalist, Alcosco VITRIFY Ceramic Award, Jamfactory Craft & Design Centre, Adelaide
2010 Winner, National Ceramics Award, Clunes, Vic
2008 Project Grant, Australia Council
Finalist, Gold Coast International Ceramic Art Award
2005 International Touring and Export Grant - Arts Victoria
2004 Craft-in-Site Grant, Craft Victoria
2001 Project Grant - New Work VACF Australia Council
2000 National Craft Acquisition Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
1999 Public Art Work, Ballarat Police and Law Courts, Vic
1997 Project Grant, VACF Australia Council
1977 Australia Council Grant to work with John Gilbert, Ballarat, Vic

PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 "Neville French talks about his recent collaboration with Belinda Fox", *The Australian Ceramics Journal*, July issue
2014 "Neville French: Mungo Light Vessels", *Craft Arts International*, No 90
2012 "Empathy adds to Ambience", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *The Canberra Times*, 28 March
"Cicely and Colin Rigg Contemporary Design Award", Bonnie Cassidy, *Art Review*
"Belinda Fox/Neville French in collaboration", Brett Ballard, *Ceramics Art and Perception*, Issue 88, June
2011 *In my studio*, Neville French, *The Journal of Australian Ceramics*, issue 49/2
"The Narrative of Place", Altair Roelants, *The Journal of Australian Ceramics*, vol 50/3
2010 *Ceramics today*, Jeffrey B Snyder, Schiffer Publishing, US
2009 *Neville French in Göttingen*, Peter Schmitt, *Keramik Magazine*, October, Germany
Land, sky, colour, light: Neville French master of glaze, Peter Schmitt, *New Ceramics*, October Germany
2008 *Vessel/Sculpture: German and International Ceramics since 1946*, Olaf Thormann, *Arnoldesche Art Publishing*, Germany
"International eyes on artists", Chloe Pollard, *Ballarat Courier*, 08/28/08
2006 *Place and Identity: Melbourne - Hong Kong*, Neville French, *RMIT University*, Melbourne
Australische Keramik in Göttingen, Peter Schmitt, *Keramik Magazine*, Germany
Luminous as the Moon: An inspiration, Neville French, *The Journal of Australian Ceramics*, issue 46/3
2005 *Australian Contemporary*, Stephen Bowers, *Ceramics, Art & Perception*, No. 58
"Unique ceramic art lands German invitation", Alissa Kelly, *Ballarat Courier*, 16/09/05
2003 *Contemporary Studio Porcelain*, Peter Lane, A & C Black, UK
2000 *The Porcelain Bowl Redefined*, Kevin White, *Craft Arts International*, No.47
1999 *Simple Slam; A Ceramic Aesthetic*, Helen Stevens, *Ceramics Art and Perception*, No. 38
"The subtle charms of fired clay", Rebecca Lancashire, *The Age*, 16/12/99
"From handmade to high style", William L. Hamilton, *New York Times*, 25/2/99
"New stone age", Helen Greenwood, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 08/05/99
1998 *Wheel-thrown Ceramics*, Don Davis, Lark Books, USA
"Potter's pieces to go on show in New York", Claire Hunter, *Ballarat Courier*
1997 *Ceramics: Art & Perception*, No. 27
Monument: Architecture & Design, No. 19
1996 *Pottery in Australia*, Autumn issue
"Inviting contemplation", Elizabeth Findlay, *Canberra Times*, 07/12/96
1994 *Ceramics: Art & Perception*, No. 17

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (collaborative work with Belinda Fox); Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Artbank; Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane; University of Ballarat, Vic; Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Vic; Banyule City Collection, Melbourne; Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic; Castlemaine Art Gallery & Historical Museum, Vic;

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Devonport Art Gallery, Tasmania; Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Qld; Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Townsville, Qld; Shepparton Art Gallery, Vic; Sydney Casino, NSW; Grassi Museum, Leipzig, Germany; City of Inagawa, Japan; Hanyang University Museum Gallery, Seoul, Korea.