

## JUDY HORACEK

*Judy Horacek is a Melbourne-based artist, cartoonist, illustrator and author who is renowned for her witty and humorous interpretations of social and political issues. Judy's classic cartoon screenprints highlight the absurdities in contemporary life, using humour to playfully invite the viewer to engage with popular ideas and debates in the arenas of feminism, environmentalism and self-identity. In recent years, Judy has been drawn to the possibilities of watercolour, often in combination with handcut rubber stamps printed with fluid watercolour which she then paints back into. As she says, "I love the quality of randomness that stamping in this way brings, the way it sidesteps my inner critic by presenting me with something I am not completely able to plan." The relatively small scale of her work allows Judy to take us on a journey through her chosen theme, revealing glimpses into her extensive imagination.*

*Judy Horacek graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Honours, majoring in Fine Arts and English Literature from Melbourne University in 1985. In 2005, Judy continued her studies with a Bachelor of Arts (Visual), majoring in Printmedia and Drawing from the Australian National University. Since 1995, Judy has worked as a cartoonist for several newspapers including the Canberra Times, The Australian and The Age, where she is published regularly. Nine collections of her cartoons have been published, the most recent of which is 'Random Life'. Judy has also illustrated and authored several children's picture books including 'Yellow is my favourite colour', and 'The Story of Growl'. Inspired by one of Judy's etchings, she and Mem Fox created the instant children's classic 'Where is the Green Sheep?' and they have now collaborated on five books together. Judy has participated in over forty solo and group exhibitions throughout Australia.*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1961 Born Mooropna, Vic
- 1985 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Fine Arts and English, Melbourne University
- 1986 Graduate Diploma of Museum Studies, Victoria College
- 1995-97 Cartoonist, *The Age*
- 1997-01 Cartoonist, *The Australian Magazine*
- 1999-01 Cartoonist, *The Australian's Review of Books*
- 2002-05 Cartoonist, *The Australian* and *Canberra Times*
- 2006 Artist residency, Schloss Haldenstein, Graubunden, Switzerland
- 2005 Bachelor of Arts (Visual) in printmedia and drawing, Australian National University
- 2012 Cartoonist, *Sheilas*, Victorian Women's Trust
- 2012 – Cartoonist, *The Age*

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 "Joys: Spontaneous and Contrived", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2021 "Birds Eye View – the World of Judy Horacek", Albury Library Museum, Albury
- 2020 "Finding the funny: the art of Judy Horacek", Artspace Mackay, Qld
- 2019 "Instances", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2017 "Odds & Ends & Other Places", No Vacancy Gallery, Federation Square, Melbourne
- 2015 "Far and Near", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2009 "Fairy tales (Colours)", Artist's Books, Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra  
"Everydayfairytales", Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra  
"Fairytales", Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra
- 2007 "Skizzen", Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra
- 2002 "I am woman hear me draw", National Museum of Australia, Canberra
- 2001 "Not waving but singing", Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra
- 1999 "Laughter, the Universe and everything", travelling, National Gallery of Victoria, Monash Gallery of Art and regional galleries in Victoria and South Australia (1999 - 2001)  
"Reasons to be cheerful II", Steps Gallery, Melbourne
- 1998 "Reasons to be cheerful I", Australian Girls' Own Gallery, Canberra
- 1997 "Woman with Altitude", Australian Girls' Own Gallery, Canberra
- 1995 "Premenstrual in a postmodern age", Australian Girls' Own Gallery, Canberra
- 1994 Fringe Festival Exhibition, Brunswick Mechanics Institute, Melbourne  
"Unrequited love", Steps Gallery, Melbourne
- 1992 "What heaven is really like", Australian Girls' Own Gallery, Canberra  
"Life on the edge", Australian Girls' Own Gallery, Canberra

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 "Small works 2023", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2020 "Behind the Lines", Old Parliament House, Canberra

- 2019 Megalo members show, Megalo Gallery, Canberra  
"The journey of violets", Printmaker Gallery, Melbourne  
"Splendacious", Rona Green curated print portfolio, Neospace, Melbourne
- 2010 "Christmas Collection", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2008 Annual cartooning exhibition, National Museum of Australia, ACT
- 2005 "Flock", Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra  
"Graduate Exhibition", ANU School of Art, Canberra
- 2000 "Triptych", Helen Maxwell Gallery, ACT
- 1999 "Bringing the House down", Old Parliament House, Canberra
- 1998 "Collision", Australian Girls' Own Gallery, Canberra  
"Dog's breakfast", ANCA Gallery, Canberra  
"Bringing the House down", Old Parliament House, Canberra
- 1997 "Living with art", Spiral Arm Gallery, Canberra
- 1996 "Hysterical women II", Women's Electoral Lobby, Perth  
"Winter light", Australian Girls' Own Gallery, Canberra
- 1995 "Women with Attitude", National Museum of Australia, Canberra
- 1994 "Women and gardens", Women's Gallery, Fitzroy, Vic  
"HaHa Gallery Inaugural Exhibition", Gasworks, Albert Park, Vic
- 1993-96 "Black and white and green", travelling, Perc Tucker Gallery, Townsville, Qld and regional centres
- 1993 "Brunswick Women Artists", Mechanics Institute, Brunswick, Vic  
"Hysterical women", Women's Electoral Lobby, Perth
- 1992 "No vacancy", Collins Street Shopfront, Melbourne  
"Brunswick Women Artists", Mechanics Institute, Brunswick, Vic
- 1991 "Brunswick Women Artists", Brunswick Mechanics Institute, Melbourne  
"Adobe - a discourse on the built environment", Mechanics Institute, Brunswick, Vic  
"Out of line - 10 feminist cartoonists", Friends of the Earth Gallery, Fitzroy, Vic  
"Making do", National Gallery of Victoria
- 1990 "ArtzwickArtzwork I", Brunswick Mechanics Institute, Melbourne  
"Curbin' the urban", Princes Hill School Park centre, North Carlton, Vic
- 1989 National Cartoonists' Exhibition, Spoleto Fringe Festival, Roar 2 Studios, Melbourne
- 1988 National Cartoonists' Exhibition, Spoleto Fringe Festival, Fitzroy, Vic  
"White on black", Northcote Town Hall, Melbourne
- 1987 "Ms Ink", Comedy Festival, State Library of Victoria

#### **AWARDS / COMMISSIONS**

- 2012 Finalist, Walkley Award for Best Cartoon
- 2008 Notable book, "The story of Growl", Children's Book Council of Australia
- 2007 Fellowship, ACT Creative Arts, ArtsACT
- 2006 Fellowship, State Library of Victoria, VIC
- 2005 Best Book for Language Development for Young Children award, Speech Pathology Australia  
Picture Book of the Year, "Where is the Green Sheep?", Children's Book Council of Australia
- 2002 Edna Award for Humour, NSW Women's Electoral Lobby  
Finalist, Walkey Award for Best Cartoon
- 1996 Fellowship, Varuna Writers Centre, NSW
- 1995 Hysterical Women Award, WEL WA Women's Cartooning Exhibition
- 1993 Hysterical Women Award, WEL WA Women's Cartooning Exhibition
- 1988 Fringe Festival Cartooning Award, National Cartooning Exhibition, Fitzroy, Vic

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- 2022 "Whimsy tinged with melancholy", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 2 April
- 2019 "Judy Horacek's 'Instances' at Beaver Galleries is a whimsical show", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 9 May
- 2017 "Lunch with Judy Horacek", Kylie Northover, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 10 October
- 2015 "Art with attitude", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 13 November

#### **COLLECTIONS**

National Library of Australia, Canberra; National Museum of Australia, Canberra; Old Parliament House Collection, Canberra; State Library of Victoria; State Library of Queensland; State Library of New South Wales; Brunswick City Council, Vic