

ELISABETH KRUGER

Elisabeth Kruger has refined her aesthetic over a career spanning four decades and her detailed works rely on an extensive set of technical and artistic skills. She is a master of oil paints, building layers through the application of thin glazes of paint to create deep visuals with subtle textures. Elisabeth has been greatly influenced by her very early background in textile art and quilting, with the activation of the intellect through both visual and tactile stimuli. Early in her career, she was awarded the prestigious Moët & Chandon Fellowship and then an Arts Council residency at Besozzo, Italy. These reinforced and developed her fascination with the European aesthetic linked to their manipulation of landscape and the shaping of structures to achieve defined visual form. She has a personal passion for gardens, a theme that has recurred throughout her career, as a symbol of change and renewal. With this in mind, the audience must consider that, though her subject matter deals exclusively with nature, the human element is always present.

Elisabeth Kruger was born in Noumea, New Caledonia and lives and works in Canberra. She graduated with a Bachelor of Visual Arts (majoring in Printmaking) at the ANU School of Art in 1985. In 1989 she was awarded the prestigious Moët & Chandon Fellowship and following this was granted an Arts Council residency at Besozzo, Italy. In 2010, a major survey exhibition of her work (from 1988-2010), curated by Jenny McFarlane was held at the Drill Hall Gallery in Canberra. Since her first solo exhibition at the Craft Association of the ACT in 1978, she has exhibited extensively in Australia and internationally. Her work appears in many major public and corporate collections including the National Gallery of Australia, National Gallery of Victoria, Cruthers Collection of Women's Art at University of WA, Artbank, ACT Legislative Assembly, ANZ Bank and Moët & Chandon (Epernay, France).

BIOGRAPHY

- 1955 Born, New Caledonia
- 1985 Bachelor of Visual Arts (majoring in Printmaking), Canberra School of Art
- 1989 Moët & Chandon Fellowship, Epernay, France
- 1990 Arts Council residency, Besozzo, Italy

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 "There", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2019 "Scents", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2017 "The Sea Paintings", Nancy Sever Gallery, Canberra
- 2013 Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney
- 2010 "On Beauty", Drill Hall Gallery, ANU, Canberra
- 2008 "fifteen", Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney
- 2005 Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney
- 2004 Karen Woodbury Gallery, Melbourne
Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney
- 2002 "Nine New Paintings", Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney
- 2001 "Pink", Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney
- 1999 "Asleep in the Garden", Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney
- 1995 Deutscher Fine Art Melbourne
- 1992 Deutscher Fine Art, Melbourne
- 1990 Hautvillers, Champagne, France
- 1989 "Prints and Quilts", Wollongong City Gallery, NSW
- 1988 "What wond'rous life", Giles Street Gallery, Canberra
- 1979 "Quilts", Crafts Council of Australia Gallery, Sydney
- 1978 "Quilts and Quilted Clothing", Craft Association of the ACT, Canberra

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 "Floribunda", Newcastle Art Gallery, NSW
- 2018 Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney (Martin Browne Contemporary)
Melbourne Art Fair, Southbank Arts Precinct, Melbourne (Martin Browne Contemporary)
"Fantasy - Winter Group Exhibition", Martin Browne Contemporary, Sydney
- 2015 "Christmas Show", Olsen Irwin, Sydney
- 2014 Olsen Irwin, Sydney
"In Bloom", Gippsland Art Gallery, Vic
- 2013 "A Canberra Odyssey", Canberra Museum and Gallery
- 2011 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2010 "Slow Burn", S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 2009 "Botanica", Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney

- 2008 Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne (Karen Woodbury Gallery)
Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney
- 2007 "Snap Freeze", TarraWarra Museum of Art, Vic
- 2006 "a rose is a rose is a rose", Latrobe Regional Gallery, Vic
- 2004 "CLOUDED OVER: Representations of Clouds in Art", Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, University of Western Australia, Perth
- 2000 Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne (Beaver Galleries)
- 1999 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1999 Salon des Refusés, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1998 The Australian Drawing Biennale, Drill Hall Gallery, ANU, Canberra
- 1997 "Mulch and Metaphors", Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Vic
- 1997 "Portia Geach", S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- Salon des Refusés, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1996-97 "Threads", Wesfarmers Collection, University of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1995 "Strate'gens", Canberra School of Art Gallery
"A Changing Landscape", Nolan Gallery, Canberra
"In the Company of Women", Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts
- 1991 "Contemporary Landscapes", Deakin University Gallery, Melbourne
- 1990 Adelaide Biennale of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Recent Acquisitions, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
"L'été Australien", Musée Fabre, Montpellier, France
SMH Australian Heritage Art Awards, Blaxland Gallery, Sydney
- 1989 Moët & Chandon Touring Exhibitions, State and National Galleries
Canberra Contemporary Artspace
- 1988 "Made in Canberra", Canberra Contemporary Artspace
- 1987 "Twelve Canberra Printmakers", Giles Street Gallery, Canberra
"Salon Coda", Bitumen River Gallery, Canberra

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2018 University of Canberra Hospital Specialist Centre
- 2017 Canberra Critics' Circle Award
- 1995 International Cultural Exchange, Shirakawa, Japan
- 1993 Raheen, Historic Victorian mansion
- 1990 VAB, Australia Council, Overseas Studio, Italy
- 1989 Moët & Chandon Australian Art Fellowship
- 1980 Crafts Council of Australia, Craftsman in Residence, Sturt Workshops, Mittagong, NSW

PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 "Meditations on life's transience", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 1 April
- 2019 "The inner musicality of flowers", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 20 November
- 2011 "Elisabeth Kruger: On Beauty", Helen Maxwell, *Artlink*, vol 30 #4
- 2010 "Symbolic Narratives", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 13 October
- 1999 "Life Within Life," Vivian Wong, *brink Artwrite*, volume 17
"Conjuring a different reality", Sasha Grishin, *The Canberra Times*, 5 April
"Drawing on old skills", Giles Auty, *The Weekend Australian*, 3 April
"Award changes, but keeps its fizz", Benjamin Genocchio, *The Australian*, 26 March
- 1998 *The Australian Drawing Biennale*, catalogue, Australian National University, Canberra
- 1995 *A Changing Landscape*, The Nolan Gallery, Canberra
In the Company of Women, 100 Years of Australian Women's Art From the Cruthers' Collection, PICA, Perth
- 1992 "Renaissance women swaps pins for paint", Rebecca Lancashire, *The Age*, 22 April
"Creative risks reap rewards", Christopher Heathcote, *The Age*, 22 April
- 1991 *In a Different Light: Australian Artists Working in Italy*, University of Queensland Press, Brisbane
- 1989 *Moët & Chandon Touring Exhibition*, catalogue, Moët & Chandon Australian Art Foundation
"Canberra Report", Sylvia Kleinert, *Art and Australia*, Autumn Issue 1989, vol 26 #3
"Orr, Hearman and Kruger," Christopher Heathcote, *Art Monthly*, June/July

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra; Artbank; National Gallery of Victoria,

beavergalleries

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Melbourne; Powerhouse Museum, Sydney; ACT Legislative Assembly, Canberra; Australian National University, Canberra; Cruthers Collection of Women's Art at The University of Western Australia, Perth; Deakin University, Melbourne; Macquarie University, Sydney; University of Canberra; University of Tasmania, Hobart; Newcastle Region Art Gallery, NSW; Royal Automobile Club of Victoria Art Collection, Melbourne; Wesfarmers Collection, Perth; ANZ Bank Collection, Melbourne; Moët & Chandon, Epernay, France