

## JENNY ORCHARD

*Expressing the connected nature of all life and matter is at the core of Jenny Orchard's art practice. The paintings, collages and ceramics in her recent work form part of a narrative about a fictitious and parallel world in a state of change. Her work references the places in which she has lived and lives as well as her fascination with European tradition, African and Aboriginal mythologies, Australian contemporary culture and the environment. Jenny's ceramic 'creatures' and vases are formed using earthenware clay and an array of vibrantly coloured glazes, each one possessing a unique personality and exhibiting a complete defiance of convention. This intermix of elements combined with the decorative tradition of clay expresses her interest in the interconnectedness of life, culture and form. The gathered, painted and re-arranged images that form her works on paper are imbued with a quality of surprise and tempt the viewer's imagination and poetic responses. As Jenny explains, "Each image or ceramic forms a story on its own, but the narrative running through all of them is that of accelerated change, chance encounters and the suggestion of parallel realities." They rejuvenate within us a child-like wonder of life on the planet, and conversely invite us to contemplate the darker notions of our meddling with it.*

*Born in Turkey, Jenny grew up in Zimbabwe and emigrated to Australia in 1976. She studied at the College of Fine Arts in Sydney, receiving her Bachelor of Arts in 1980. Jenny has exhibited widely in Australia and has participated in shows in Japan, Germany, Italy and the USA. She has won major prizes such as the prestigious Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award in 2017 and, earlier this year, the Wollongong Art Gallery held a major exhibition of her work over the last decade. Her work has been extensively acquired and is represented, amongst others, in the collections of the National Gallery of Australia, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney, Queensland Art Gallery, Art Gallery of South Australia and the National Gallery of Victoria.*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1977-79 Bachelor of Arts, College of Fine Art, University of NSW, Sydney
- 1982-98 Various teaching positions at University of NSW; University of Sydney; National Art School, Sydney; Randwick CAE, Sydney
- 2004 Artist in residence, Sydney College of the Arts
- 2006 Masters degree, College of Fine Art, University of NSW, Sydney
- 2018 Artist in residence, Australian National University, Canberra

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 "Bush of ghosts", Despard Gallery, Hobart
- 2020 "Conversations with Weeds", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2019-20 "Creatures of Consequence", Wollongong Art Gallery, NSW
- 2016 "Living in the clouds", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2015 "Life in the Suburbs", Frances Keevil Gallery, Sydney
- 2014 "My Journey Through The Hidden Suburbs of Reconstruction", Maunsell Wickes, Sydney
- 2013 "See with your heart", Despard Gallery, Hobart
- "Delinquent children", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2012 "Progress Report", Frances Keevil Gallery, Sydney
- 2011 "Zookinii", Perc Tucker Gallery, Townsville
- 2010 "Dining with cannibals", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- "Weeping weeds", Despard Gallery, Hobart
- 2008 "Creatures of consequence", Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery
- 2007 "Creatures of consequence", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- "Misfits in Metempsychosia", Maunsell Wickes, Sydney
- "Zookiniis from Metempsychosia", Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney
- 2005 "Plant People - Soul Flowers", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2004 "Metempsychosis", The Foyer Gallery, Sydney College of the Arts
- "Plant People, Soul Flowers", Sir Herman Black Gallery, University of Sydney
- 2002 "Odd couples - transitional creatures", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2001 "Australian Dreamscapes", Bartley Drey Gallery, London
- 2000 "Imps, Goddesses, Tricksters and the Spirit of the Tree", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 1999 Customs House, Sydney
- 1998 Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- "Flower-fish", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1988 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney

- 1987 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
1986 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
1985 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne  
1981 Blackfriars Gallery, Sydney

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2019 "Fusion – contemporary Australian ceramics", Despard Gallery, Hobart  
"All tomorrow's stories", Mayspace, Sydney  
Dobell Drawing Prize, National Art School, Sydney
- 2018 "Jenny Orchard and Dale Richards", Despard Gallery, Hobart
- 2017 "Small works 2017", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney (Despard Gallery)  
University of Queensland's National Self Portrait Prize 2017, UQ Art Museum, Brisbane  
Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Vic
- 2015 Ceramics 2015, Maunsell Wickes, Sydney  
"Uncertain Paradise" Gallery Imazoo, Seoul, Korea  
"Art from Australia", Gail Art Museum, Gyeonggi-do, Korea
- 2013 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2011 "Rusty vessel stories", Maunsell Wickes at Barry Stern, Sydney  
"Sculpture by the Sea", Bondi, Sydney
- 2010 "Sculpture by the Sea", Bondi, Sydney  
"The sculpture show", Brenda May Gallery, Sydney  
"The inedible Zookinii", Cudgegong Gallery, NSW
- 2009 "Replacements: other drawing, reveries of the everyday", Tin Sheds Gallery, University of Sydney  
"Animal farm", Brenda May Gallery, Sydney  
"Sculpture by the Sea", Bondi, Sydney  
"International Ceramic Conference", Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney
- 2008 "Arafura Exchange, Trajectory of memories - tradition and modernity in ceramics, Australian and Indonesian artists",  
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
- 2006 SOFA, Chicago, USA
- 2005 "Trace" College of Fine Arts Exhibition/Performance space, University of NSW, Sydney  
"Chilli" Cudgegong Gallery, Gulgong, NSW
- 2004 "The Hollow and the Whole; Contemporary Ceramics", Delmar Gallery, Sydney  
"Singular Visions", Cowra Art Gallery, Cowra, NSW
- 2003 The Christmas Show, The Ceramic Gallery, Paddington, Sydney  
Ceramics, The Australian and New Zealand Context. Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery
- 2001 International Ceramics, Rufford Craft Center, Nottingham, UK  
"Australian Dreamscapes", Bartley Drey Gallery, London
- 2000 "Celebration", Manly Art Gallery, Sydney  
Australian Ceramics, Marianne Heller, Heidelberg, Germany
- 1999 SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)  
"Teawares: towards 2000", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1998 SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
- 1997 Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney  
Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney  
Kutani International Invitation, Kutani, Japan  
SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
- 1996 SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)  
"Free the Beast", Despard Gallery, Hobart
- 1995 SOFA, Miami, USA  
Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche in Faenza, Italy  
"Delinquent Angel", Australian Historical, Aboriginal and Contemporary Ceramics
- 1994 CINAFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
- 1993 CINAFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)  
"The Family Show", Despard Gallery, Hobart  
"Modern Hybrids", Despard Gallery, Hobart
- 1992 Gallery L of Hamburg, Germany

- 1991-92 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
1990 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
Tao Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
1989 Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne  
"Contemporary Australian Ceramics", Couturier Gallery, L.A., USA  
Perth International Crafts Triennial, Art Gallery of Western Australia  
1988 Stuart Devlin Award Exhibition, Meat Market Centre, Melbourne  
Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
1986 First National Ceramic Award  
1985 "Celebration", collaborative mural and sculpture with Robyn Gordon, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney  
Burnie Art Gallery, Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery  
Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Hobart  
"Just for the Show", Shepparton Art Gallery  
"Clay & Fibre", Orange Regional Art Gallery  
"The Patterned Edge", Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney  
1984 "Australian Crafts 1984", Meat Market Centre, Melbourne  
"Image and Surface", Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney  
1983 "Australian Crafts 1983", Meat Market Centre, Melbourne  
"Indulgences", Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney  
1982 "Australian Crafts 1982", Meat Market Centre, Melbourne  
"Artists - Ceramics", Wollongong Art Gallery  
1981 Mayfair Ceramic Award Exhibition  
"New Directions in Australian Ceramics", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne

**AWARDS / COMMISSIONS**

- 2017 Winner, Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Vic  
Winner, University of Queensland's National Self Portrait Prize 2017, UQ Art Museum, Brisbane  
2014 Winner, Korea-Australia Arts Foundation Prize (KAAFP)  
2005 Sculptures for Methodist Ladies College, Sydney  
2002 Acquisitive award - Schubert International Ceramic Award, Gold Coast, Qld  
2001 6m tall sculpture for Joshua Berger, Paddington, Sydney  
1990 Fish panels for Vatuele Resort, Fiji  
1987 Eight ceramic murals for Sheraton International Hotel, Arlington, Virginia, USA  
70ft long ceramic mural for Darling Harbour, Sydney

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

- 2020 "Startling ceramic conversations with plants and nature", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 24 August  
2013 "Irregular shapes create a vibrant beauty", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 9 March  
Catalogue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jakarta Ceramics Biennale, Indonesia  
2010 "In the realm of the imagination", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 20 February  
2008 *Journal of Australian Ceramics*, Volume 47  
2007 "Creatures repel and attract", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 21 June, pg. 8  
2006 *Australian Art Review*, iss. 11  
*500 Animals in Clay*, Lark Books  
2005 "Strange figures of deep mutation", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Canberra Times*, 1 March  
2004 *Australian Art Review*, iss. 5  
2003 *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 52  
2002 "Elemental beauty from the earth", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Canberra Times*, 3 October  
2000 *Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung*, 20 November  
"Wild with whimsy", Fran Kennely, *Canberra Times*, 2 July  
1998 *Pottery in Australia*, No. 37/3, September  
Exhibition review, Priscilla Henderson, *Muse*, March  
*A Collectors Guide to Contemporary Ceramics*, Janet Mansfield. Craftsman Press  
"Element of whimsy in creative ceramics", Myra McIntyre, *Canberra Times*, 20 February  
1997 *Masters of Their Craft*, Norris Iannou, Craftsman House  
*Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 30  
1996 *Australian Art and Artists*, Sue Melville and Julie Rollinson, Science Press

- 1995 *Contemporary Ceramic Art in Australia and New Zealand*, Janet Mansfield, Craftsman House
- 1992 *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 7
- 1990 Exhibition review, *Huntleys Australian Art Investor*, February
- 1989 *Pottery Decoration*, John Gibson, AC Black, London  
*Aspects of Art*, L Tesorero & H Nilson, Science Press
- 1988 *A Collectors Guide to Modern Australian Ceramics*, Janet Mansfield, Craftsman House  
*New Art Two - New Directions in Contemporary Australian Art*, Craftsman House  
*The Elton John Collection*, Volume IV, Diverse Collection, Sotherbys  
Exhibition review, *Australian Financial Review*, 16 September
- 1987 *Spirit & Place - Artworks on Commonwealth Properties in Australia*, Pot Still Press  
Exhibition review, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 April
- 1986 Exhibition review, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 December

**REPRESENTED**

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth; Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart; Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney; University of NSW; Queensland Institute of Technology; Darling Downs Institute, Qld; Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tas; Newcastle Region Art Gallery, NSW; Orange Regional Gallery, NSW; Shepparton Art Gallery, Vic; Gold Coast City Gallery, Qld; Bathurst Regional Gallery, NSW; Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW; Newcastle Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, NSW; Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW; Shepparton Art Museum, Vic; Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority, Cooma; Aichi Prefecture Design Centre, Japan; Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Faenza, Italy