

MICHAEL SCHLITZ

Michael Schlitz is a Tasmanian based printmaker whose work is intrinsically linked with nature and the landscape; "I want to acknowledge that the environment we live in influences us all. The longer you stay in one place the more you become a part of it." His work addresses psychological, environmental, spiritual and, sometimes, political issues. Working in woodblocks allows Michael to print his images by hand in any size and in any place. First starting with a water based ink, he draws the composition before gouging the negative space in a series of straight parallel lines in varying lengths and widths. This detailed cutting of the entire block, both inside and outside the figurative element, creates the suggestion of a subject that is absorbed within its surroundings. This technique also allows Schlitz to achieve tonalities and contrasts in his prints, with a unique depth of black and grey tones.

Michael graduated with Honours in Fine Arts from the Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania in 1996 before completing his Masters in 2000. Since graduating, Michael has exhibited widely throughout Australia as well as overseas and, in 2011, was selected as the winner of the Rick Amor Print Prize. He has lectured at the University of Tasmania, RMIT, University of Southern Queensland and the Australian National University. Michael's work is represented in collections including the National Gallery of Australia, Art Gallery of South Australia, Queensland Art Gallery and the Tasmanian Museum and Gallery.

BIOGRAPHY

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| 1967 | Born |
| 1991 | BCA, University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Qld |
| 1993-5 | Tutor, printmaking and Drawing, Southern Queensland Institute of Tafe |
| 1996 | Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours), Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania, Hobart |
| 1997-8 | Lecturer in drawing and Printmaking, University of Tasmania, Hobart |
| 2000 | Master of Fine Art, Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania, Hobart |
| 2000-2 | Lecturer in Drawing and Printmaking, Australian National University, Canberra |
| 2003-4 | Technician and lecturer in printmaking, RMIT, Melbourne |
| 2006 | Lecturer in printmaking, University of Southern Queensland |
| 2007-8 | Part time lecturer in Printmaking, Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania, Hobart |
| 2009-10 | Artist in residence/part time lecturer, Printmaking, Australian National University, Canberra |
| 2011 | Part time lecturer in printmaking, Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania, Hobart |
| 2013 | Artist in Residence, off the Grid, Toowoomba, Qld |
| 2016 | Artist in residence the Art Vault, Mildura, Vic |

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

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| 2023 | "the well in the waterhole", Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2021 | "Pictures from the mindfield", Beaver Galleries, Canberra Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2018 | "Ruminant", Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2017 | "From the air", Beaver Galleries, Canberra "Light, memory, dark ground", Contemporary Art Tasmania "Tortured Earth", Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2016 | "Schlitz woodcuts", Art Vault, Mildura Vic |
| 2014 | "fieldwork", Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2013 | "Recent woodcuts", Montsalvat, Eltham, Vic |
| 2011 | "Cloud exchange", Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2010 | "Michael Schlitz: recent woodcuts", Grahame Galleries, Brisbane "Michael Schlitz: recent woodcuts", Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2008 | "Michael Schlitz", Impressions on Paper Gallery, Canberra |
| 2007 | "Michael Schlitz", University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Qld |
| 2006 | "The nature of things", Bett Gallery, Hobart "The nature of things", Grahame Galleries, Brisbane |
| 2005 | "Michael Schlitz", Grahame Galleries, Brisbane |
| 2003 | "Collaborative woodblock prints" with Hiroki Satake, Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2001 | "Recent experiments", Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra "Engravings inspired by Duparc's 'Interview with the Savages: Bay of Sea Dogs', Bett Gallery, Hobart |
| 2000 | "Language of the Mute", Plimsol Gallery, University of Tasmania, Hobart |
| 1998 | "House", University Fine Art Gallery, Hobart |
| 1997 | "Intervention 4", Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart |

- 1996 "Boat signs", Grahame Galleries, Brisbane
1994 "Waterline", Ipswich Regional Art Gallery, Qld

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Somewhere here", Megalo Print Studio, Canberra
- 2022 "Water[shed]", Bett Gallery, Tas
"Celebrating Tasmanian Printmakers", Handmark Gallery, Tas
Poimena Art Gallery, Launceston, Tas
"Impact 12", International Printmaking Conference, Bristol, UK
"Flow", Huon Valley Hub, Huonville, Tas
"Flow", Art Box popup, Launceston, Tas
"Kit Hillier, Michael Schlitz", pressWEST, Queenstown, Tas
- 2021 "The Unconformity Festival", pressWEST, Queenstown, Tas
"collected + tools for self distortion", The Palette Collective, Derwent Valley Arts, New Norfolk, Tas
"From a distance" (online), May Space, Sydney
- 2018 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2017 "Sculpture by the sea", with Matt Calvert, Sydney
- 2016 "brainstorm", Dark MOFO, Hobart
"Limited edition", Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Tas
- 2015 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Sculpture by the Sea" with Matt Calvert, Bondi Beach, NSW
- 2014 "Biophilia", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Whack and Blight", Sawtooth, Launceston, Tas
- 2013 "Acts of Exposure", Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Qld
"Work in progress", the Grid, Toowoomba, Qld
"Time", Pamoea Art Gallery, Tas
"SEA", Sawtooth Gallery, Tas
"Perennials", Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Qld
- 2012 "Life", Bett Gallery, Tas
"Foreplay", Plimsoll Gallery, Tas
- 2011 "Creative exchange, China exhibition", Jingdehzen Ceramic Institute, China
"Personal Space: Contemporary Chinese and Australian Printmakers", touring exhibition
- 2010 "Figure in the ground", 146 Elizabeth Street, Hobart
- 2009 "Green", Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
"Stories of our making", University of the West of England, UK
"Stories of our making", Tweed River Art Gallery, Murwillumbah, NSW
- 2008 "Contemporary prints from Australia", Columbia College Exhibition Space, Michigan, USA
- 2007 "On a Roll", Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
- 2005 "Stuff of History", Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
"Lessons in History Vol 1", Grahame Galleries, Brisbane
"Isolation/solitude", Salamanca Long Gallery, Hobart
- 2004 "HANGA", Devonport Regional Art Gallery, Tas
- 2002 "Tick tock", Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
- 2001 "Poets and painters", Bett Gallery, Hobart
"Between phenomena", Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
"Somewhere between Then and Now", CAST (Contemporary Art Space Tasmania), Hobart
- 2000 "Ingress", RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
"Small Works", Bett Gallery, Hobart
"Six equals nine", CAST, Hobart
- 1997 "Excursive sight", Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
- 1994 "Um", Doggett Street Gallery, Brisbane
- 1993 "Paper work", Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Qld
- 1992 "Four Australian Printmakers", Grahame Galleries, Brisbane
- 1991 "The Brisbane Line", Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2018 *Nieske* Hotel commission
2015 Moonah Art Centre Gate commission
2011 Winner, Rick Amor print prize
2007 Hutchins Art Prize, Hobart
2006 Rio Tinto Alcan Martin Hanson Memorial Art Award
Commission, Tisdall Wines
2005 Rio Tinto Alcan Martin Hanson Memorial Art Award
2004 Established Artist, New Work Grant, Australia Council
2001 Asialink grant
2000 Emerging Artist, New Work Grant, Australian Council
1999 Public Building Grant, Arts Tasmania
1998 Heritage Grant, Arts Tasmania
Writing Voyages and Encounters Grant, Arts Tasmania

PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 "Michael Schlitz", Lucy Hawthorne, *Artist Profile*, Issue 64
2022 "Presence and Play", Melissa Smith, *Imprint*, Autumn
2021 "Clever prints with introverted humour", Sasha Grishin, *Canberra Times*, 15 November
2015 "Michael Schlitz: Tasmanian Printmaker", Jo Stuart and Lara van Raay, *ABC Open Southern Tasmania*
2011 "Michael Schlitz, New Woodblocks", Anne Kirker, *Eyeline Contemporary Visual Arts Magazine*, No. 73
"Materiality and the Print Iconography of Michael Schlitz", Anne Kirker, *Art Monthly*, No. 243
2007 "The book, the poet, the artist, the breakthrough", Grahame N, *Artlink*, Vol 27, no.1
2006 "the nature of things", S Kelly, *Artlink*
1997 "Navigating Space", Richard Watell, *Imprint*, Vol 4, No. 3
"Historical Incisions", Mary Knights, *Art Monthly*, Vol 33, No. 2
1996 *Australian Printmaking in the 1990's*, Sasha Grishin, Craftsman's House, Melbourne

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart; Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Tas; Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Tas; Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Qld; Ipswich Regional Art Gallery, Qld; Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, NSW; Gladstone Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Carrington Smith Art Library, Tas; Print Council of Australia; Bank of Queensland; University of Southern Queensland; University of Wollongong, NSW; Queensland College of Art; Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW