

# AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

## GEORGE BALDESSIN

Born 1939, San Biaggio di Callalta, Italy

1949	Emigrated to Australia
1958-61	Diploma Fine Arts (painting), RMIT
1962	Studies in printmaking, Chelsea Art School, London
1963	Further studies, Brera Academy, Milan
1964	Part-time lecturer, RMIT
1965-66	Full-time lecturer, RMIT
	Alcorso-Sekers Travelling Scholarship for Sculpture (went to Japan)
1967	Winner: Maitland Print Prize
1970	Winner: Second International Biennale for Drawing, Yugoslavia
	Winner: Geelong Print Prize
	Shared winner: Shepparton Print Prize (with Jan Senbergs)
1971	Comalco Invitation Award for Sculpture
1973	Ballarat Gallery Prize
	La Trobe Valley Ronald Award
1975	Represented Australia at Bienal de Sao Paulo, Brazil (with Imants Tillers)
1976	Worked at Atelier Lacouriere et Freault etching workshop, Paris; Completed MM of Rue St Denis drawings in Paris
1977	Returned to Australia
1978	Lecturer, RMIT; Died in car accident, aged 39

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018	'Works from the Estate', Australian Galleries, Melbourne
2014	'Being Human: The graphic work of George Baldessin', Heidi Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
2010	'Paintings, sculpture and etchings', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne
2009-10	'George Baldessin', TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria
2006	'Portraits and Performers', Australian Galleries Works on Paper, Sydney
2004	'George Baldessin – Prints of Darkness', Australian Galleries Works on Paper, Melbourne
2003	'George Baldessin 1939-1978', La Trobe Regional Gallery
2001	'George Baldessin – drawings, sculpture, etchings', Australian Galleries Works on Paper, Melbourne and Sydney
2000	'George Baldessin – Occasional Images from a City Chamber 1975, Australian Collection Focus', Art Gallery of New South Wales
1998	'George Baldessin Estate Prints 1963 – 1978', Brisbane
1997	'George Baldessin Estate Prints 1963 – 1978', Australian Galleries, Melbourne and Sydney
1992	'George Baldessin Prints and Drawings', Sherman Galleries, Sydney
	'Etchings Prints 1963 – 1978', Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne
1991	'Drawings and selected sculpture', Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
	'Exhibition of drawings', Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne
	'An exhibition of drawings', Heide Park and Art Gallery, Melbourne
1987	'Selected prints and bronzes', Powell Street Gallery, Melbourne
1983	'George Baldessin Retrospective', Wollongong City Gallery, NSW
	'Etchings', Stuart Gerstman Galleries, Melbourne
	'George Baldessin: Sculpture and etchings – a memorial exhibition', National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

- 1978 'Personages, remnants and discards', Bonython Gallery, Adelaide
- 1977 'M M of Rue St Denis', Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane  
 'Etchings', Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane  
 'M M of Rue St Denis' (drawings), Rudy Komon Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1974 'Etchings', Rudy Komon Art Gallery, Sydney  
 'George Baldessin: Complete etchings', Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, Victoria  
 'Etchings', Festival of Perth, Desborough Galleries, Perth
- 1972 (Etchings), Crossley Gallery, Melbourne  
 'Sculpture 1971-72' Rudy Komon Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1971 'Drawings and sculpture', Ballarat Art Gallery, Victoria
- 1970 'Etchings', Gallery One Eleven, Brisbane  
 (Etchings), Crossley Gallery, Melbourne  
 'Sculpture', Rudy Komon Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1967 'Exhibition of prints by George Baldessin', Geelong Art Gallery, Victoria
- 1965 'Drawings, sculpture and etchings', Rudy Komon Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1964 'Sculpture, etchings and drawings', Argus Gallery, Melbourne

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 'Sculpture: medium and small sculpture – Mixed Sculptors', Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 2015 'An exhibition of paintings, sculpture & works on paper', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
- 2014 'one of each', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne  
 'Australia Day 2014 Celebratory Exhibition', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne
- 2013 'Works from the Stock Rooms', Australian Galleries, Smith Street, Melbourne
- 2011 'large exhibition of small works', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney  
 'large exhibition of small works', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne
- 2010 'Artists' Prints made with Integrity I', Australian Galleries, Smith Street, Melbourne
- 2008 'Summer Stock Show', Australian Galleries Smith Street, Melbourne
- 2007 'Summer Stock Show', Australian Galleries Painting and Sculpture, Melbourne  
 'Summer Stock Show', Australian Galleries Works on Paper, Sydney  
 'European sensibilities: Baldessin and his circle', Castlemaine Art Gallery and Historical Museum, Castlemaine  
 'The story of Australian Printmaking; 1801-2005', National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 2006 '50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition', 5<sup>th</sup> June, Australian Galleries, Melbourne  
 'Fine Australian Prints and Drawings', Australian Galleries Works on Paper, Melbourne
- 2005 'A selection of works on paper', Australian Galleries Works on Paper, Melbourne
- 2003 'Pen to Pixel: 200 years of Australian Prints & Drawings', NGV Australia, Ian Potter Centre, Melbourne  
 'Sculpture at RMIT during the Jomantas years', RMIT Gallery, Melbourne  
 'This was the future...Australian sculpture of the 1950's, 60's, 70's + today', Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
- 1997 'I had a dream: Australian art in the 1960's', National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1996 'Occasional screens with seating arrangement, Grahame Sturgeon Memorial Trust', Museum of Modern Art at Heide, Melbourne
- 1995 'Rites for an Anxious Spring, selected acquisitions 1981-1995', Museum of Modern Art at Heide, Melbourne
- 1978 'A tribute to George Baldessin', Realities, Melbourne  
 'Contemporary Australian Drawing', Perth Survey of Drawing, Festival of Perth, Art Gallery of Western Australia and touring
- 1975-76 'Australian Graphics 1974', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

- (organised VAB touring South America 1975)
- 1975 '3 Printmaker: Maddock, Shomaly, Baldessin', National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 'XIII Biennale de Sao Paulo', Brazil
- 1974 'Tamarind: Homage to lithography', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 'International Biennale of Prints', Tokyo
- 1973 'Print Council of Australia Print Prize', National Gallery of Victoria
- 'Ballarat Gallery Prize', Ballarat Fine Art Gallery
- 'First Biennale of Sydney', Sydney Opera House, Sydney
- 1971 '1971 Victorian Contemporary Sculpture Exhibition', Geelong Art Gallery
- 'Multiples', Crossley Gallery, Melbourne
- 'Comalco Invitation Award for Sculpture', National Gallery of Victoria
- 1970 'Ten printmakers', National Gallery of Victoria
- 'Shepparton Print Prize Exhibition', Shepparton Art Gallery, Victoria
- 'Geelong Print Prize Exhibition', Geelong Art Gallery
- 'Second International Biennale for Drawing', Yugoslavia
- 1969 'International Print Biennale', Cracow, Poland
- 'International Print Biennale', Bradford, UK
- 1968 'International Print Biennale', Ljubljana, Yugoslavia
- 1967 '11<sup>th</sup> Annual Maitland Art Prize Exhibition', Maitland Art Gallery
- 'Georges Invitation Art Prize', Georges Art Gallery, Melbourne
- 1966 'Australian Prints Today', Smithsonian Institute, Washington DC, USA
- 'Alcors-Sekers Travelling Scholarship for Sculpture', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1965 'Recent Australian Sculpture', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1964 'Australian Print Survey 1963-64', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 'Mildura Sculpture Triennial', Mildura Art Gallery, Victoria

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### BOOKS AND CATALOGUES

- Connors, Anne; Seven Printmakers, Tasmanian School of Art Gallery, Tasmania 1976
- Cross, Elizabeth; Artists' Objects, Heide Park and Art Gallery, Melbourne 1988
- Draffin, Nicholas; Australian Graphics, AGNSW, Sydney 1974
- Kempf, Franz; Contemporary Australian Printmakers, Lansdowne Editions, Melbourne 1976
- Klepac, Lou; Contemporary Australian Drawing, AGWA, Perth 1978
- Lindsay, Robert and Holloway, Memory; George Baldessin: Sculpture and etchings, a memorial exhibition, NGV, Melbourne 1983
- McCulloch, Alan; Selected drawings from the collections of the Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, Mornington Peninsula Art Gallery, 1984
- McCulloch, Alan & McCulloch, Susan; The Encyclopedia of Australian Art, Allen and Unwin, Sydney 1994 (and all previous editions by McCulloch, Alan)
- Mollison, James and MacKean, Margaret; Australian Prints, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, 1972
- Phipps, Jennifer; I had a dream: Australian art in the 1960's, NGV, Melbourne 1997
- Ryan, Anne; George Baldessin Occasional images from a city chamber, Australian Collection Focus, Art Gallery NSW, Sydney 2000
- Scarlett, Ken; Contemporary sculpture in Australian gardens, G & B Arts International, 1993
- Scarlett, Ken; Australian sculptors, Thomas Nelson, Melbourne 1980
- Siedel, Brian; The arts in Australia, Longmans, Melbourne 1965
- Sturgeon, Graeme; Sculpture at Mildura: The story of the Mildura Sculpture Triennial 1961-1982, Mildura City Council, 1985
- Sturgeon, Graeme; The development of Australian sculpture 1788-1975, Thames and Hudson, London 1978
- Turner, Dick; European sensibilities: George Baldessin and his circle; printmaking in Melbourne during the 1960s and 1970s, Castlemaine Regional Art Gallery and Historical Museum, 2007

The permanent collection: Bathurst Regional Gallery, Bathurst Regional Gallery 1980  
Verbeek, Anne (editor); Directory 1988: Australian artists producing prints, Print Council of Australia, 1988  
Wood, Lilian (editor), Directory of Australian Printmakers, Print Council of Australia, Melbourne 1976  
Zimmer, Jenny, & Richie, John (gen. editor); Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 13, Melbourne University Press, 1993

#### PERIODICALS

Allen, Christopher; "Images of the body", Sydney Review, November 1991  
"Aluminium legs walk off with \$2,000 prize", Sydney Morning Herald, 26 July 1966  
Baily, John; "George Baldessin", Bulletin of the Art Gallery of South Australia, Vol 33 No 3, January 1971  
Borlase, Nancy; "We lose a complete artist", Sydney Morning Herald, 19 August 1978  
Campbell, Richard; "The cool breed", Bulletin, 18 November 1972  
Catalano, Gary; "The secret Italian", Aspect No 29/30, Autumn 1984  
Davies, Suzanne; "Occasional images from a city chamber", Imprint No 4, 1975  
Dolan, David; "Baldessin the professional", Advertiser, Adelaide, 19 August 1978  
Eagle, Mary; "Tribute to a winner", Age, Melbourne, 6 November 1978  
Galbally, Ann; "Familiar threshold for a top sculptor", Age, Melbourne, 15 December 1972  
Galbally, Ann; "Enigma of the brooding mysterious figures", Age, Melbourne, 11 November 1970  
Gleeson, James; "Earle treads a different path", Sun, Sydney, 30 September 1970  
Gleeson, James; "Smoke signals", Sun, Sydney, 26 July 1966  
Hannan, Bill; "Sculptors good second-rater?" Bulletin, Sydney, 13 November 1965  
Hocking, Ian; "An artist in female guise", News, Adelaide, 26 April 1978  
"Interview by George Baldessin", Art Craft Teachers Associations Magazine, Melbourne, November 1973  
"Is this decent? Sexy girl at open window", Sun, Sydney, 26 July 1966  
Jach, Antoni; "George's important obscurity", Melbourne Times, 31 August 1983  
Langer, Gertrude; "Two shows are tops", Courier Mail, Brisbane, 1 October 1977  
"Long live memories of the new", Sun, Melbourne, 17 August 1983  
"Lost for words about a winner", Daily Telegraph, Sydney, 26 July 1968  
Lynn, Elwyn; "Popularity without compromise – seriously", Weekend Australian, 26-27 October 1991  
Lynn, Elwyn; "Triumphant first show", Australian, Sydney, 13 November 1965  
McCaughey, Patrick; "Superb etchings from Baldessin", Age, Melbourne, 22 November 1972  
McCaughey, Patrick; "Disconcerting and surprising", Age, Melbourne, 23 October 1971  
McCaughey, Patrick; "The graphic work of George Baldessin", Art and Australia, Vol 7 No 2, September 1969  
McCaughey, Patrick; "After the art boom", Age, Melbourne, 10 July 1967  
McCaughey, Patrick; "Paintings that bounce off the wall", Age, Melbourne, 10 May 1967  
McCulloch, Alan; "Death of George Baldessin", Art and Australia, Vol 16 No 3, Autumn 1979  
McCulloch, Alan; "Mildura's Boston Tea Party", Herald, Melbourne, 22 April 1964  
McCulloch, Alan; "Sculptor's impressive debut", Herald, Melbourne, 17 June 1964  
McGrath, Sandra; "Baldessin: a genuine Renaissance man", Weekend Australian, 19-20 August 1978  
McGrath, Sandra; "Wonderful fantasy", Australian, Sydney, 11 November 1972  
Millar, Ronald; "A final tribute", Herald, Melbourne, 11 August 1983  
Plant, Margaret; "The encounter of Baldessin and Tillers on an etching plate: According to des Esseintes", Art Bulletin of Victoria, No 22, 1982  
Plant, Margaret; "Melbourne Printmakers", Art Bulletin of Victoria, Melbourne, 1973/74  
Plant, Margaret; "Etchings by Baldessin", Imprint, Melbourne No 3, 1969  
Pidgeon, W. E.; "A taste for the sinister", Sunday Telegraph, Sydney, 28 August 1977  
Rooney, Robert; "Warmth lost in 'cool' quest", Weekend Australian, Sydney, 6-7 April 1991  
Rooney, Robert; "Baldessin tribute in perspective", Weekend Australian, Sydney, 27-28 August 1983  
Smith, Bernard; "Baldessin sculpture a welcome change", Age, 17 June 1964  
Taylor, Paul (editor); "Anything goes: Art in Australia 1970-1980", Art and Text, Melbourne, 1984  
Thomas, Daniel; "Tillers and Baldessin for Sao Paulo", Sydney Morning Herald, 31 July 1975

Wallace, Thornton; "Baldessin show at Rudy Komon", Sydney Morning Herald, 3 November 1965  
Warren, Alan; "Bold adventure in art at Mildura", Sun, 20 April 1964  
Waterlow, Nick; "Art: Global crayons", Nation Review, 1 September 1977