



AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES  
MELBOURNE

## MARCUS WILLS

*Paintings*

MEDIA RELEASE

Exhibition Dates: 19 April - 8 May 2016  
35 Derby Street Collingwood VIC 3066  
Open 7 days 10am to 6pm

Marcus Wills' dramatic, figurative paintings are rendered with unnerving realism. Inspired by the exquisite beauty inherent in the muscular structure of the human form, Wills paints highly detailed and intimate portraits of bodies in motion and faces captured in moments of extraordinary expression. His potent large-scale paintings convey a sense of immense power and movement while his intimate small-scale works convey deep emotion. Passion, suffering and intense reflection are vividly evident on the faces of his subjects.

Born in Kaniva, Victoria in 1972, Wills graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art) in 1995. In 1999 he won the Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship, undertaking a residency at the Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris. In 2006 Wills won the

Archibald Prize with his monumental and surreal portrait *The Paul Juraszek Monolith (after Marcus Gheeraerts)*. Wills was a finalist in the 2010 Sulman Prize, the 2014 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize and Benalla Nude Prize and the 2015 Archibald Prize.

Masterfully executed in oil paint, Wills' unflinchingly honest portrayals of the human body are realised through an unconventional eye for composition, resulting in an exhibition of surprising, striking and poignant works.

*Paintings* is current until 8 May 2016.

For more details or images contact:  
[media@australiangalleries.com.au](mailto:media@australiangalleries.com.au)  
[australiangalleries.com.au](http://australiangalleries.com.au) 03 9417 4303