

AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

KERRIE LESTER

Born 1953, Sydney, Australia

1971-74	National Art School, East Sydney Technical College, Sydney
1975	Alexander Mackie College of Advanced Education, Sydney
1988-89	Lecturer (part-time) in painting, City Art Institute, Sydney
1990	Lecturer City Art Institute, Sydney
1990-91	Lecturer National Art School, Sydney
1991	Lecturer Seaforth Technical College, Sydney
2009	Artist in Residency program, Taronga Zoo, Sydney
2010	Sessional Lecturer, College of Fine Art, Sydney Summer and winter workshops, National Art School, Sydney
2011-13	Teacher, Willoughby Workshop, Sydney Teacher, Summer School, National Art School, Sydney Teacher, Willoughby Workshop, Workshop Arts Centre, Sydney

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018	'Selected works', Australian Galleries, Sydney
2016	'In memory of...', Australian Galleries, Sydney
2015	'Facetime', Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Maitland, NSW
2013	'Secret glances'. Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
2012	Kerrie Lester at The Bathers' Pavilion in association with Australian Galleries, The Bathers' Pavilion, Sydney 'Extracts', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne
2011	'Momentarily', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
2010	'Bird watching', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
2009	'Here, there & everywhere', Sydney Children's Hospital, Sydney 'Around and about', Australian Galleries, Smith Street, Melbourne
2008	'Situations', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
2007	'Little', Australian Galleries Painting & Sculpture, Sydney
2006	'water people think', Australian Galleries Painting & Sculpture, Sydney
2004	'A Stitch in Time: Kerrie Lester's World', 30 Year Survey Exhibition, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney 'Recent work', Australian Galleries Painting & Sculpture, Sydney
2003	'Faces, Places and Spaces', Solander Gallery, Canberra
2001	'Portrait of An Audience', Australian Galleries, Sydney
2000	'Recent Paintings', Australian Galleries, Sydney
1999	'Recent Works on Paper', Australian Galleries Works on Paper, Sydney
1998	'Recent Works 1998', Australian Galleries, Sydney
1997	Pymble Ladies College, Sydney

- 1996 'Recent Paintings and Works on Paper', Australian Galleries, Sydney
 1994 'An Exhibition of Paintings', Australian Galleries, Sydney
 1981-92 Eight solo exhibitions at Macquarie Galleries, Sydney (1981, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1992)
 1979 'Surfaces', Hogarth Galleries, Sydney
 1978 'Plucked Pieces', Hogarth Galleries, Sydney
 1977 'Above and Beyond Me', Hogarth Galleries, Sydney
 1976 'Australia Around Me', Hogarth Galleries, Sydney

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 'Sculpture: medium and small scale – Mixed Sculptors', Australian Galleries, Sydney
 2014-17 'The Phantom Art Show' (Travelling exhibition), Australian Galleries, Sydney;
 Wollongong Art Gallery, NSW; Artspace Mackay, QLD; Toowoomba Regional Art
 Gallery, QLD; Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Tweed Regional Gallery, NSW;
 Cartoon Bunker Coff's Harbour, NSW; Newcastle Art Gallery, NSW; Manly Art Gallery,
 Sydney
 2015 'An exhibition of paintings, sculpture & works on paper', Australian Galleries, Royston
 Street, Sydney
 'Just Paper – The piano has been drinking (not me)', Maitland Regional Art Gallery,
 Maitland, NSW
 2014 Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
 The James Kiwi Watercolour Prize, Wollongong Art Gallery, Wollongong, NSW
 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, Juniper Hall, Sydney
 NSW Parliament Plein Air Painting Prize, NSW Parliament House, Sydney
 'one of each', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne
 The Gallipoli Art Prize, Gallipoli Memorial Club, Sydney
 2013 Manning Art Prize 2013 – Naked and Nude, Manning Regional Art Gallery, Taree, NSW
 Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
 2012 Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
 Kings School Art Prize, Kings School, Sydney
 'PaperWorks', Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Maitland, NSW
 Gold Coast Art Prize, Gold Coast Art Gallery, Surfers Paradise, QLD
 Gallipoli Art Prize, Gallipoli Memorial Club, Sydney
 2011 'large exhibition of small works', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
 'large exhibition of small works', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne
 Dobell Prize for Drawing, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
 Hawkesbury Arts Prize, Purple Noon Art and Sculpture Gallery, Freemans Reach, NSW
 Mosman Art Prize (Winner), Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
 'Set in Stone', National Art School Gallery, Sydney
 NSW Parliament Plein Air Painting Prize, NSW Parliament House, Sydney
 'Summer Exhibition', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
 2010 'Australian Masters 2010', Solander Gallery, Canberra
 Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
 Kedumba Drawing Prize Invitation, Wentworth Falls, NSW

- 'Slow Burn, A Century of Australian Women Artists from a Private Collection', National Trust, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 2009-10 'Artists' Prints made with Integrity I', Australian Galleries, Smith Street, Melbourne
- 'Summer Show', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
- 'Summer Stock Show', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne
- 2009 'A Sculpture by...', Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 'A Sculpture by...', Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- Adelaide Perry Drawing prize, Adelaide Perry Gallery, Sydney
- NSW Parliament Plein Air Painting Prize, NSW Parliament House, Sydney
- 2008 'Group Exhibition', Australian Galleries, Royston Street, Sydney
- Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- Kings School Art Prize, Kings School, Sydney
- 'Artists of Mosman', Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- 'Stock Exhibition', Australian Galleries Painting & Sculpture, Sydney
- 2007 'Small Pleasures', Australian Galleries Painting & Sculpture, Melbourne
- Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2006 'Summery', Australian Galleries Painting & Sculpture, Sydney
- '50th Anniversary Exhibition', Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 'Art and Music', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 'Solander Survey', Solander Gallery, Canberra
- 2005 'End of Year Group Exhibition', Australian Galleries Painting & Sculpture, Sydney
- Delmar Gallery Group Exhibition, Delmar Gallery, Sydney
- Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 'Australian Icons', S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 'Artists of Mosman', Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- 'Australian Visions: From Mosman to Mudanjiang, China', Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2004 Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- Doug Moran Portrait Prize, State Library of New South Wales, Sydney
- 'In the Presence of All Creatures Great and Small', Australian Galleries Works on Paper, Sydney
- 'Australian Visions: From Mosman to Mudanjiang, China', Government of Mudanjiang, China
- 2003 'Ned Kelly Framed', S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 'New Works', Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 'Jeans for Genes', Retrospective exhibition, Sydney Opera House, Sydney
- 'Solander Survey', Solander Gallery, Canberra
- 'FONAS Art Exhibition', Cell Block, National Art School, Sydney
- 'Brian Moore Memorial Exhibition', Brian Moore Gallery, Sydney
- 'We Are Australian', Touring exhibition, Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne; Volvo Gallery, Sydney; Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide; Canberra Museum and Art Gallery, Canberra; Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
- 'United Nations 3rd World Conference Against Racism', Touring exhibition, Durban, South Africa; Albury-Wodonga Regional Art Gallery, NSW; State Library of Queensland,

- Brisbane; Geelong Art Gallery, VIC; LaTrobe Regional Gallery, VIC; The Immigration Museum, Melbourne
- 2001 'Australian Painting and Sculpture', Australian Galleries, Sydney
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
'A Century of Collecting 1901 – 2001', Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
- 2000 'Proof Positive Exhibition', Gold Treasury Museum, Melbourne
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'Sporting Portrait Prize', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney and touring exhibition
'Fine Paintings, Sculpture & Tapestry', Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 1999 'Christmas Exhibition', Australian Galleries, Sydney
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'Fine Paintings and Sculpture', Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 1998-01 'We Are Australian', visual support for the Australian Government at the United Nations World Conference Against Racism, Durban, South Africa
- 1998 'Fine Paintings and Sculpture', Australian Galleries, Sydney
'Proof Positive', Australian Print Workshop Print Exhibition, Carnegie Hall, Hobart
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1997 Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'Fine Paintings, Sculpture and Works on Paper', Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 1996 Archibald Prize (Highly commended), Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'Australians of the Year Exhibition', National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
'The Australian Opera Portfolio', Sydney
Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
'Faces of Hope', Amnesty International Exhibition, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1995 Archibald and Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'Evolution', works by women artists from the collection, Newcastle Regional Gallery, Newcastle, NSW
'The King and the Accordion', New England Regional Gallery, Armidale, NSW and touring regional galleries
'It's About Time', Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
'Iron Sides', Power House Gallery, Sydney
- 1994 Archibald and Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'About Face', National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
Portia Geach Memorial Award (Highly commended), S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1993 'Sight Regained', Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
'On the Other Hand', S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'Salon des Refusés - The Rival Show', S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1992 Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Archibald and Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1991 'Group Exhibition', Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
'Maritime Art Exhibition', Touring exhibition, Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Adelaide
'Off the Wall/In the Air, A Seventies Selection', Monash University and

- Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne
- 1990 Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1989 Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1988 'New Art II', Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
'Sydney Heritage Prize', Blaxland Gallery, Sydney
'Women 88 Award', Hilton Hotel, Melbourne and Devise Gallery, Melbourne
'Works in the Collection', Wollongong Art Gallery, Wollongong, NSW
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1981 'Australian Perspecta', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'The Opera House Exhibition', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1980 'Drawn and Quartered, Australian Contemporary Works on Paper', Adelaide Festival
Exhibition, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
- 1979 'Biennale of Sydney, European Dialogue', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'The Work and Its Context I, Six Attitudes in Australian Art', organized by The Visual
Arts Board, The Australia Council, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the
Australian Embassy, Paris

RESIDENCIES

- 2009 Artist in Residency program, Taronga Zoo, Sydney

AWARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- 2011 Mosman Art Prize (Winner), Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2009 Chandon Label limited edition, Australia
- 2007 Berkeley Editions, etching, Sydney
- 1998 The Dorchester, woodblock print, Sydney
Portrait of Cathy Freeman, Federal Government commission, National Portrait Gallery
Canberra
- 1997 The Opera House Folio, Opera Australia, woodblock print, Sydney
- 1996 Archibald Prize (Highly commended), Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1994 Portia Geach Memorial Award (Highly commended), S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1990 The 1990 Collection: A Portfolio of Australian Women Artists, commissioned by the
Cancer Council of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1986 State Bank of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1979 Overseas Travel Grant, Georges Acquisition Art Prize, Australia
Insurance Australia Group, Australia
Packer's prize, Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1977 - 78 Visual Arts Board Grant, Sydney

FILMS

- 1998 Kerrie Lester on Portraiture, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
Mordaunt, Barbara; 'Brushes with Fame', Archibald Prize documentary, Sydney

PORTRAITS

- 2012 Guy Warren – Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
2008 Justin Miller – Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
2006 Phillip Noyce – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2005 Rebel Penfold Russell – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2004 Judy Cassab – Doug Moran Portrait Prize, New South Wales State Library, Sydney
Garry Shead – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2002 Jeffrey Smart – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2001 Judy Cassab – Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Akira Isogawa – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2000 Susie Maroney – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1999 Jimmy Barnes – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Cathy Freeman – Federal Government Commission, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
(first ever commission for the NPG)
1998 Self Portrait – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1997 Janet Vernon – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1996 Anna Volska; Lucy and Hillary Bell – Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
James Morrison – Archibald Prize (Highly commended), Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1995 David and Kirsten Williamson – Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Peter Weiss and Australian Chamber Orchestra – Archibald Prize (Runner up), Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1994 Richard Goodwin – Archibald Prize (Runner up), Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Margaret Whitlam – Portia Geach Memorial Award (Highly commended), S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
1993 Fred Hollows – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1992 Burnam Burnam – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Eileen Chanin – Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Bronwyn Bishop – Portia Geach, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
1990 Colleen Clifford – Archibald Prize (Runner up), Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1989 Trent Nathan – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Margaret Fink – Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
1988 Warren Fahey – Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

COLLECTIONS

Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney
Australian National Museum, Canberra
BHP, Australia
Dusseldorp Collection, Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Horsham, VIC
Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Horsham, VIC
Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
National Film and Sound Archive Collection, Australia
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Australia, The Print Collection, Canberra
National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
New England Regional Art Museum, Armidale, NSW
Newcastle Region Art Gallery, Newcastle, NSW
Philip Morris Collection, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
Pymble Ladies College, Sydney
State Bank of New South Wales, Sydney
The Children's Hospital, Westmead, Sydney
University of New South Wales, Sydney
Wollongong City Art Gallery, Wollongong, NSW

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Art & Australia, Vol.17, No.2 (special issue, Biennale of Sydney, 1979), December 1979, Colour plate, p.162
Australian Perspecta, Art Gallery of New South Wales, 1981
Beck, Deborah; Hope in Hell: A History of Darlinghurst Gaol & the National Art School, Allen & Unwin, 2005
Beck, Deborah; Set in Stone, the Cell Block Theatre, University of New South Wales Press, 2011
Boland, Michaela; "Artist Kerrie Lester dies after cancer battle", The Australian, 5 April 2016
Bonython, Kym; Modern Australian Painting 1975-1980, Rigby, 1980
Cashman, Katrina; A Stitch in Time: Kerrie Lester's World, Mosman Art Gallery, 2004
Chanin, Eileen; Contemporary Australian Painting, Craftsman House, Sydney, 1990
Crawford, Kate; 'Wild Child Kerrie settles at Mosman', The Mosman Daily, Sydney, 7th Sept 2006
Drury, Neville; Images in Contemporary Australian Painting, Craftsman House, Sydney, 1990
Drury, Neville; New Art II, Craftsman House, 1988
European Dialogue, 3rd Biennale of Sydney, Art Gallery of NSW, 1979
Fedderson, Jutta; Soft Sculpture and Beyond, 1993
Fortescue, Elizabeth; "Tributes for artist Kerrie Lester after her death from cancer", The Daily Telegraph, 6 April 2016
Germaine, Max; Artists and Galleries of Australia and New Zealand, Lansdowne, 1979
Holle, Matthew; "Ghost Who Walks inspires modern generation of artists", The Australian, 28 November 2014, p. 17
Lynn, Elwynn; Art International, Sydney Harbour Bridge 1932-1982, Angus and Robertson, 1982
McAuliffe, Chris; Art and Suburbia, Craftsman House, 1996
McDonald, John; "Australian artist Kerrie Lester dies after two-year battle with cancer", The Sydney Morning Herald, 5 April 2016

McGrath, Sandra; 'Kerrie Lester', The Work and its Context, (exhibition catalogue, introduction by Grazia Gunn), Visual Arts Board, Australia Council, Sydney 1979 (for the Australian Embassy, Paris)

Prunster, Ursula; The Sydney Harbour Bridge 1932-1982: a golden anniversary celebration ; foreword by Edmund Capon, 1982

Ritchie, Emily; "Kerrie Lester's final works on display", The Australian, 7 June 2016

Ross, Peter; Lets face it – The History of the Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW New South Wales, 1995

Sayers, Andrew, Engledow, Sarah; The companion / National Portrait Gallery, 2008

Simons, Polly; 'Painted Lady', Northside, Sydney, 2011

SMH, Artist profile, January 4th, 2009

Trumble, Angus; Gilmour, Joanna & Engow, Sarah; The companion / National Portrait Gallery 2nd edition, 2015, pp. 237,243

Watson, Bronwyn; "Kerrie Lester had a song in her art for Australian Opera", The Australian, 21 March 2015

Who's Who of Australian Women 2010 Hope and Courage (Print Edition)

National Trust S.H. Ervin Gallery in memory of Eva Breuer; Slow Burn – A Century of Australian Women Artists from a Private Collection, September 2010