

AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

LENTON PARR

Born 1924, Melbourne, Australia

1951-54	Diploma of Sculpture, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Melbourne
1955-57	Assistant to Henry Moore, London, UK
1957-66	Taught sculpture at RMIT, Melbourne
1960-61	President, Victorian Sculptors' Society, Melbourne
1961	Founding member of Centre Five, Melbourne
1961-64	Diploma of Fine Art (Painting), Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania, Hobart
1964-66	Head of Sculpture Department, RMIT, Melbourne
1966-68	Head of Art Division, Prahran Technical College, Melbourne
1969-72	Principal, National Gallery of Victoria Art School, Melbourne
1973	Appointed Dean, School of Art, and Acting Director of the Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne
1973-74	Member of the Visual Arts Board of the Australian Council for the Arts, Sydney
1974	Member of the Interim Council of the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
1974-84	Director, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne
1976-83	Trustee of the National Gallery of Victoria and Chairman of the Australian Tapestry Workshop, Melbourne
1977	Made Member of the Order of Australia for services to sculpture and the arts, Australia
1985	Trustee, McClelland Gallery + Sculpture Park, Langwarrin, VIC
1992	Doctor of Arts (Honoris Causa), RMIT, Melbourne
2003	Died 8 August, Melbourne

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2004	Posthumous show, Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
2000	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
1997	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
1993	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
1992	Irving Galleries, Sydney
1990	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
1987	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
1984	Retrospective, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne Canberra Contemporary Art Space (CCAS) Manuka, Canberra
1981	Axiom Gallery, Melbourne
1978	Powell Street Gallery, Melbourne
1977	Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane
1956	Obelisk Gallery, London, UK

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022	'Centre 5: bridging the gap', McClelland Sculpture Park+Gallery, Langwarrin, VIC
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- 2017 'Sculpture; medium and small scale – Mixed Sculptors', Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 2016 'Hard Edge: Abstract Sculpture 1960s-70s', The Ian Potter Centre, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
'Conjuring, Alchemy and Allure', Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2015 'Lurid Beauty: Australian Surrealism and its Echoes', The Ian Potter Centre, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 2014 'one of each', Australian Galleries, Derby Street, Melbourne
- 2017 'Sculpture; medium and small scale – Mixed Sculptors', Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 2010 'Cubism & Australian Art', Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
- 2003 'Sculpture at RMIT during the Jomantas years 1961-87', RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
'This was the Future... Australian sculpture of the 1950s, 60s, 70s and today', Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
- 1996 'Sculpture Walk', Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne
- 1988 'Sculpture Park '88', Gallery 460, Gosford, NSW
- 1986 'Ten Australian Sculptors', Carrick Hill Sculpture Park, Adelaide
- 1984 Second Australian Sculpture Triennial, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
'Centre Five at Heide', Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
- 1973 'Realities Sculpture Survey', Realities Gallery and Como House, Melbourne
'Centre Five', Geelong Art Gallery, Geelong, VIC
'Centre Five', McClelland Gallery + Sculpture Park, Langwarrin, VIC
- 1970 Fourth Mildura Sculpture Triennial, Mildura Arts Centre, Mildura, VIC
Comalco Invitation Award for Sculpture, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1969 Exhibition with Lesley Dumbrell, Bonython Gallery, Sydney
- 1968 Comalco Invitation Award for Sculpture, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
'Melbourne Sculptors', Bonython Gallery, Sydney
'Form in action, Recent Australian Sculpture', Pan-Pacific Arts Festival, NZ
- 1967 Third Mildura Sculpture Triennial, Mildura Arts Centre, Mildura, VIC
- 1965 'Young Australian Artists', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
'Sculpture in the Community', National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
'Centre Five,' Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1964-65 'Recent Australian Sculpture', National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1964 Second Mildura Sculpture Triennial, Mildura Arts Centre, Mildura, VIC
'Centre Five', Hungry Horse Gallery, Sydney
- 1963 'Centre Five', Newcastle Art Gallery, Newcastle, NSW
'Sculpture Today', Victorian Sculptors Society, Melbourne
- 1962 'Selections from the Kym Bonython Collection', Bonython Gallery, Adelaide
'Four Arts in Australia', touring exhibition, South-East Asia
- 1961 'Second Exposition Internationale de Sculpture Contemporaine', Musée Rodin, Paris, France
'Nine Sculptors', Argus Gallery, Melbourne
First Mildura Sculpture Triennial, Mildura Arts Centre, Mildura, VIC
'Sculpture Today', Victorian Sculptors Society, Melbourne
- 1960 'Contemporary Australian Sculpture', Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
'Exhibition of Australian Art for World Refugee Year', Australian Galleries, Melbourne
'Contemporary Australian Art', Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland, NZ
- 1959-65 Victorian Sculptors Society, Melbourne

- 1959 'Sculpture Today', Victorian Sculptors Society, Melbourne
 1958 'Retrospect: Five Years', Victorian Sculptors Society, Melbourne
 1957 'Twelve Melbourne Sculptors', Brummels Gallery, Melbourne
 'Nine Sculptors', Peter Bray Gallery, Melbourne
 1953 'Herald Outdoor Art Show', Melbourne
 1952-54 Victorian Sculptors Society, Melbourne

COMMISSIONS

- 2003-04 'Tara', Elisabeth Murdoch Sculpture Foundation with the assistance of Annamila Pty Ltd, McClelland Gallery + Sculpture Park, Langwarrin, VIC
 2001 'Windhover', Bayside City Council, Melbourne
 1988 'Wind and Wave', Manly Municipal Council, Sydney
 1976 'Aries', Australian Wool Corporation offices, Melbourne
 1972 External wall relief, 80 Elizabeth Street, Hobart
 1970 Astrojet Building, Tullamarine airport, Melbourne
 1969-70 'Foyer Sculpture', IAC Building, 57-63 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne
 1968 'Boonarong', Philip Morris Pty Ltd, Moorabbin, VIC
 1965 'Fountain', General Motors Holden, Fishermans Bend, Melbourne
 1964 'Beyond', Australian National University, John Curtin Medical School, Melbourne
 1963-67 External screen, New Customs House, Melbourne
 1963 'Mercury', The Age newspaper offices, Melbourne
 Stone mural, Australian National University, Geology School, Canberra
 1962-63 Fountain and spiral staircase balustrade, State Savings Bank, Showground's Branch, Australia
 1961 External wall relief, Australian National University, Chemistry School, Canberra
 1960 'Plant Forms', Chadstone Shopping Centre, Melbourne
 1958 'The Four Humours', The University of Melbourne, Union Theatre, Melbourne
 1954 Relief for Bromby Street Sports Building, Melbourne Grammar School, Melbourne

COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
 Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
 Benalla Art Gallery, Benalla, VIC
 Carrick Hill Sculpture Park, Adelaide
 Deakin University, Melbourne
 La Trobe University, Melbourne
 Macquarie University, Sydney
 McClelland Gallery + Sculpture Park, Langwarrin, VIC
 Mildura Arts Centre, Mildura, VIC
 Monash University, Melbourne
 National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
 National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
 Newcastle Art Gallery, Newcastle, NSW
 Parliament House, Canberra
 Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
 Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Melbourne
 University of Melbourne, Melbourne

Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne
Warrnambool Art Gallery, Warrnambool, VIC

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BOOKS

Edwards, Geoffrey; Lenton Parr: Vital Presences, Beagle Press, Roseville, NSW, 1999
Parr, Lenton; The Arts in Australia: Sculpture, Longman's, Melbourne, 1961
Scarlett, Ken; Australian Sculptors, Thomas Nelson, Melbourne, 1980, p. 510-9
Scarlett, Ken, ed; A Tribute from the Victorian College of the Arts to mark the retirement of Lenton Parr, Director of the College from 1973 to 1984, Lyre Bird Press for the Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne, 1984
Sturgeon, Graeme; The Development of Australian Sculpture, 1788-1975, Thames and Hudson, London, 1978

EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

Edwards, Geoffrey; Lenton Parr Sculpture, exhibition cat., National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 27 October 1984 - 17 February 1985
Parr, Lenton; "Introduction", Clutterbuck, Evison, McKay, Murray-White, Robertson-Swann, Wilson: Recent Sculptures, exhibition cat., Victorian College of the Arts Gallery, Melbourne, 12 May - 15 June 1977
Parr, Lenton; "The Emergence of Contemporary Sculpture", The McClelland Gallery Permanent Collection: Sculpture, exhibition cat., McClelland Gallery, Langwarrin, VIC, 3 September - 20 October 1989

PERIODICALS

Dennis, C. Elwyn; "Lenton Parr - an Australian Asset", Art and Australia, vol. 6, no. 4, March 1969, p. 303-9
Edwards, Geoffrey; "Dr. Lenton Parr 1924-2003", Art and Australia, vol. 41, no. 3, Autumn 2004, p. 397
Parr, Lenton; "Sculpture in Australia since 1945", Art and Australia, vol. 1, no. 1, May 1963, p. 20-5
Parr, Lenton; "Meaning and Art", Parabo, Burwood Teachers College, 1963
Parr, Lenton; "Sculpture in the Urban Environment", Australian Planning Institute Journal, vol. 2, no. 6, July 1963, p. 181-6
Parr, Lenton; "Lenton Parr of Prahran", The Educational Magazine (Education Department of Victoria, Melbourne), April 1966, p. 114-6
Parr, Lenton; "What do you mean by education through art?", The Teachers Journal, vol. XLIX, no. 6, August 1966, p. 285
Parr, Lenton; "Notes on three painted sculptures", Australian Society for Education Through Art (ASEA) Bulletin, vol. 3, no. 2, May - June 1967, (lift-out supplement)

INTERVIEWS

Blackman, Barbara; Lenton Parr interviewed by Barbara Blackman, 2 sound cassettes, Oral History Department, ORAL TRC 2492, National Library of Australia, Canberra, 1989
De Berg, Hazel; Lenton Parr interviewed by Hazel de Berg, 1 sound tape reel (ca. 13 min.), Hazel de Berg collection; Deb 13, Canberra: National Library of Australia, 1961
Gleeson, James; Interview with Lenton Parr, 1 CD, 34 min. 18 sec., James Gleeson Oral History Collection, National Gallery of Australia research library, Canberra, 1979