

AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

MARY TONKIN

Born 1973, Melbourne, Australia

1992-94	Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts), Faculty of Art & Design, Monash University, Melbourne
1995	Bachelor of Arts – Honours (Fine Arts), Faculty of Art & Design, Monash University, Melbourne
1996	Sessional Lecturer (Drawing), Ceramic Department, Monash University, Melbourne Sessional Lecturer (Drawing), Monash University, Frankston, VIC
1998	Summer School and Fall Semester, New York Studio School, New York
1999-2004	Sessional Lecturer (Drawing), Faculty of Art and Design, Monash University, Melbourne
2000-02	Master of Arts by Research (Fine Arts), Faculty of Art & Design, Monash University, Melbourne

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026	Australian Galleries, Sydney, 'In Fresh Air' S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 'Among the Trees'
2025	Benalla Art Gallery, Benalla VIC, 'Rambles'
2024	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Both Sides Now'
2022	Sydney Contemporary Art Fair with Australian Galleries, Sydney
2020	Whitehorse Art Space, Melbourne, 'Ramble'
2019	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Ramble'
2017	Australian Galleries, Sydney, 'Between the dams'
2015	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Two spots'
2013	Australian Galleries, Sydney, 'A short walk'
2012	Latrobe Regional Art Gallery, Morwell, VIC, 'Black paintings'
2011	Australian Galleries with Burrinja Gallery, Upwey, VIC, 'Home 2000-2010' Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Black paintings'
2009	Australian Galleries, Sydney, 'Shall we?'
2007	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Near the Top Dam'
2005	Australian Galleries, Sydney, 'Recent Painting' Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Recent Painting'
2003	Australian Galleries, Melbourne
1999	Victoria University Gallery, Melbourne, 'Recent Drawings'

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026	Australian Watercolour Institute, Garden Gallery, Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, 'Moods, Moments, Memories: AWI 102 nd Annual Exhibition 1923-2026' Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Australian Galleries Celebrates 70 Years: 1956 – 2026 Group Exhibition' S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 'Salon des Refusés'
2025	Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra, NSW, 'Calleen Art Award'

	Hadley's Orient Hotel, Hobart, Hadley's Art Prize
	S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 'Salon des Refusés'
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Assemblage'
2024	S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 'Salon des Refusés'
	McClelland Gallery, Langwarrin, VIC, Rick Amor Drawing Prize
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Ceramics'
2023	S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 'Salon des Refusés'
2022	S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 'Salon des Refusés'
	Hadley's Orient Hotel, Hobart, Hadley's Art Prize
2021–22	Burrinja Cultural Centre, Upwey, VIC, 'For the Love of Trees'
2021	Hawkesbury Art Prize, Hawkesbury, NSW
	Burrinja Cultural Centre, Upwey, VIC, 'The Ranges / 3 Perspectives: Mary Tonkin, Fred Williams and Miles Evergood'
	S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 'Tree of Life: a testament to endurance'
	Deakin University Art Gallery, Melbourne, 'The Big Tree and Other Landscapes from the Whitehorse Art Collection'
	Defiance Gallery, Sydney, 'The AWC Mount Zero Exhibition'
	Hadley's Orient Hotel, Hobart, 'Hadley's Art Prize'
2020	Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra, NSW, 'Calleen Art Award'
	Menzies Art Brands, Sydney, 'Paddington Art Prize'
2019	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Australian Galleries: The Purves Family Business. The First Four Decades', Book Launch and Group Exhibition
	Hadley's Orient Hotel, Hobart, 'Hadley's Art Prize'
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'papermade'
2018	Special Group Studios, Sydney, 'A Painted Landscape'
	Silver Leaf Art Box, Merricks, VIC, 'Native Flora'
2017	Mr Kitly Gallery, Melbourne, 'Plein – air'
2015	Marlene Antico Fine Art, Sydney, 'Paddington Art Prize'
2014	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'one of each'
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Australia Day 2014 Celebratory Exhibition'
	Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 'Drawing Out, Dobell Australian Drawing Biennial'
2013	National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 'Contemporary Australian Drawing: 20 years of the Dobell Prize for Drawing and the Dobell legacy'
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Australia Day 2013 Celebratory Exhibition'
	Gallows Gallery, Perth, 'Australian Galleries at Gallows Gallery'
2012	Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney, 'Australia Day 2012: The great Australian Landscape'
2012-13	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Summer Stock Show'
2011	Australian Galleries, Sydney and Melbourne, 'large exhibition of small works'
	Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 'Australia Day 2011: Celebration'
2010	National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 'Blake Prize'
	Kedumba Gallery, Wentworth Falls, NSW, 'Kedumba Prize for Drawing'
2009-10	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Summer Stock Show'
2009	Stephen McLaughlan Gallery, Melbourne
	La Trobe University Visual Arts Centre, Bendigo, VIC, 'Prospect and Refuge: Small Landscapes by Five Painters'
2008	Gippsland Art Gallery, Sale, VIC, 'John Leslie Landscape Art Prize'
	Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Horsham, VIC, 'Prospect and Refuge: Small Landscapes by Five Painters'
2007	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Small Pleasures'
2006	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Stock Show'

	Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney, 'Redlands Westpac Art Prize'
	Fleurieu Peninsula Art Prize, McLaren Vale, SA
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, '50 th Anniversary Exhibition'
2005	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Notes from the Natural World'
2004	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Panorama'
2002	Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 'Dobell Drawing Prize Exhibition'
	Australian Galleries, Sydney, 'Landscapes'
2001	Faculty Gallery, Monash University, Melbourne, 'Drawing'
1998	McKee Gallery, New York, USA, 'Absolute Secret New York'
	New York Studio School, New York, USA, 'Fall Student Exhibition'
1996	National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, '1996 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize'
	Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Mornington, VIC, 'Drawing from the Visible – New Artists'
	Charles Hewitt Gallery, Sydney, 'Radical Choice – Twelve Figurative Painters'
	Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Mornington, VIC, 'Spring Festival of Drawing Survey Exhibition 1973-1995'
1995	Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne, 'Monash Painting Graduates "Opening Exhibition"'
	Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Mornington, VIC, 'Mornington Peninsula Spring Festival of Drawing'
1994	George Paton Gallery, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, 'The Victorian Campus Art Prize Exhibition'

AWARDS

2025	Hadley's Orient Hotel, TAS, Hadley's Art Prize (Finalist)
	Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW, Calleen Art Award (Finalist)
	S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, Salon des Refusés, Holding Redlich People's Choice Award
2022	S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, Salon des Refusés, Holding Redlich People's Choice Award
2010	Kedumba Prize for Drawing, Wentworth Falls, NSW
2002	Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Dobell Drawing Prize
2000-02	Monash University, Melbourne, Australian Post-Graduate Award
1995	National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Trustees Award
1994	National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Trustees Award
	Victoria Campus Art Prize, VIC

GRANTS

1998	Robert Greenberg Fees Grant, New York Studio School, New York, USA
1996	Elizabeth Greenshield's Foundation Grant, New York Studio School, New York, USA

COLLECTIONS

Melbourne Club, Melbourne
 ANZ Bank, Australia
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
 Australia Catholic University, Melbourne
 City of Whitehorse, Melbourne

Deakin University, Melbourne
Kedumba Collection of Contemporary Australian Drawing, Wentworth Falls, NSW
Lowenstein Sharp
Monash University, Melbourne
Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Mornington, VIC
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (Margaret Stewart Foundation)
Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, VIC
UNSW Art Collection, The University of New South Wales, Sydney

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Backhouse, Megan; 'In galleries, it's show time', The Age, A2, January 20, 2007, pp. 15-16
Backhouse, Megan; 'Portraits and paper at Australian Galleries', The Age, April 2003, pp. 18-19
Bell, Amber Creswell; A Painted Landscape: Across Australia from Bush to Coast, Thames & Hudson, 2018
Dober, Mark; 'Mary Tonkin', Art World, Issue 8, April-May 2009, pp. 118-121
Dober, Mark; 'Home truths in the lie of the land', The Age, A2, May 12, 2007, p. 19
Dober, Mark; 'The branded landscape', Overland, Issue 183, 2006, pp. 18-22
Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, exhibition catalogue, 1996, pp. 60-61
Gray, Paul; 'Drawn to Success', Herald Sun, 17 June, 2002
Grishin, Sasha; 'Impressive debut for Dobell Australian Drawing Biennial 2014' Sydney Morning Herald, December 26, 2014
Kolenberg, Hendrik; Campbell, Helen; Ryan, Anne; 'Contemporary Australian Drawing. 20 years of the Dobell Prize for Drawing', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Kolenberg, Hendrik; 'Drawing a Winner – A decade of Dobell Prizes shows us how and why', Look, AGNSW, August 2003, pp. 24-27
Kolenberg, Hendrik and Ryan, Anne; The Dobell Prize for Drawing: The First Ten Years 1993-2002; exhibition catalogue, AGNSW, 2003, pp. 34-35
McDonald, John; 'C.J.Pyle & J.D.'Ohai Ojeikere; Mary Tonkin; Six Artists, Seven Days', Sydney Morning Herald, August 24, 2013
McDonald, John; 'Drawing Out, the inaugural Dobell Australian Drawing Biennial is now on at the Art Gallery of New South Wales', Sydney Morning Herald, December 5, 2014
McDonald, John; 'Mary Tonkin', The Good Weekend, August 3, 2019
McDonald, John; 'Least they could do', The Sydney Morning Herald, pp. 28, 29, 21 – 22 May 2005
Nelson, Robert; 'Mary Tonkin's painted forests evoke a rhapsodic nature', The Age, August 2015, p. 47
Nelson, Robert; 'A dab hand at technique', The Age, April 6, 2011, p. 17
Nelson, Robert; 'Art connections going beyond a cringe', The Age, Metro Arts & Culture, December 26, 2007, p. 18
Nelson, Robert; 'Corporal process of painting reveals transcendent forest beyond the trees', The Age, Review, Wednesday June 6, 2007, p. 23
Nelson, Robert; 'Mary Tonkin and the Onus of Perception', Mary Tonkin, Australian Galleries, 2003
Nelson, Robert; 'Lost in space', The Age, April 30, 2003, p. 12
Nelson, Robert; 'Undiscovered Artists, Mary Tonkin', Australian Art Collector, April-June, 2002, p. 100
Nelson, Robert; 'Visual acumen displayed by artists with confidence', The Age, June 1996, p. 12
Pesa, Melissa; 'Ramble', Art Almanac, July 2019, pp. 32-34
Robba, Leo; 'Quintessential Australia', The Age, January 26, 2013, front page wrap around
Robba, Leo; 'The great Australian landscape'. The Sydney Morning Herald, January 26, 2012, front page wrap around
Ryan, Anne; 'Drawing Out, Dobell Australian drawing biennial 2014', Look, Art Gallery of New South Wales, November 2014, pp. 24-28

Seedy, Kimberly; 'Braving the elements', Free Press Leader, November 30, 2011, p. 9
Vaz, Nikita; 'Taking it in', Morwell and Churchill Advertiser, May 28, 2012
Vogue Living, Visual Arts Section, May-June 2005, p. 64
Walton, Inga; 'Mary Tonkin at Sydney Contemporary', Artist Profile, Issue 60, 2022
Walton, Inga; 'Judgement Calls: Mary Tonkin at the NGV', Artist Profile, pp. 106-109, July 10, 2013
Walton, Inga; 'Days Like This: Mary Tonkin', *Trouble*, 2015
Wise, Kit, 'Australian drawing Now: labouring lightly', Artlink, Vol. 25 No. 1, 2005, pp. 35-39