

AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

THORNTON WALKER

Born 1953, Auckland, New Zealand

1965	Arrived in Australia
1974-76	Diploma of Art (Printmaking), Prahran College of Advanced Education, Melbourne
1977	Commenced Post Graduate Diploma (Printmaking) Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Landscapes for uncertain times'
2023	Australian Galleries, Sydney, 'Into the Woods'
2022	Beaver Galleries, Canberra, 'The heron and the cat in the bath: paintings & works on paper'
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'The rising moon and other contemplations'
2020	Beaver Galleries, Canberra, 'Studies in Solitude'
2019	Bett Gallery, Hobart, 'The Raked Sea'
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'The Breaking Wave'
2018	Beaver Galleries, Canberra, 'The sea and the folded cloth'
2016	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Landscapes and still life'
	Beaver Galleries, Canberra, 'Through the trees'
2015	Bett Gallery, Hobart, 'Sea, Snow and other Matters'
	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Book launch and small exhibition'
2014	Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2013	Heiser Gallery, Brisbane
	Scott Livesey Gallery, Melbourne
2012	Bett Gallery, Hobart
	Beaver Galleries, Melbourne, 'Melbourne Art Fair'
	Hotel Penaga, Penang, Malaysia
2011	Beaver Galleries, Canberra
	Scott Livesey Gallery, Melbourne
2010	Bett Gallery, Hobart
2009	Beaver Galleries, Canberra
	Heiser Gallery, Brisbane
2008	Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
2007	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
	Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne, Printmaking Fellowship
	Heiser Gallery, Brisbane
	Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2006	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
	Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
2005	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
2004	Beaver Galleries, Canberra
	Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
2003	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
2002	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
	Christine Abrahams Gallery at Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
2001	Milford Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne

2000	Christine Abrahams Gallery at Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
1999	Beaver Galleries, Canberra Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
1998	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney
1997	Philip Bacon Gallery, Brisbane Rimbun Dahan Residency, Kuang, Malaysia
1996	Beaver Galleries, Canberra
1995	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney
1994	Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney
1993	Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
1992	Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra Perth Galleries, Perth
1991	Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
1990	Deutscher Brunswick Street, Melbourne, 'Thornton Walker: Recent Paintings' Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra
1989	Café Maximus, Melbourne, 'Recent Paintings' Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra, 'Thornton Walker'
1987	United Artists Gallery, Melbourne, 'Vital Functions and Mythography'
1986	United Artists Gallery, Melbourne
1984	Leveson Street Gallery, Melbourne
1982	Paul Craft Gallery, Melbourne
1980	Drummond Art Gallery, Melbourne

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Australian Galleries Celebrates 70 Years: 1956 – 2026 Group Exhibition' Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'In Stillness'
2025	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Assemblage'
2020	The King's School, Sydney, King's School Art Show Australian Galleries, Sydney, 'Off the Wall'
2019	Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'Australian Galleries: The Purves Family Business. The First Four Decades', Book Launch and Group Exhibition Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart Glen Eira City Council Gallery, Melbourne, 'Paper walls' Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 'papermade'
2017	Tussock Gallery, Point Lonsdale, VIC, 'Small works' Bett Gallery, and Moonah Arts Centre, Hobart, 'Poets and Painters Exhibition'
2016	Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne, 'Impressions' Beaver Galleries, Canberra, 'Small works'
2014	Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Melbourne Art Fair
2013	Beaver Galleries, Sydney, Sydney International Art Fair
2012	Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne, Group exhibition
2011	Australian Embassy, Washington, USA, 'Home and Away', Prints from the Australian Print Workshop
2010	Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, USA, Dallas Art Fair Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo, VIC, Paul Guest Prize Kedumba Drawing Prize, Kedumba, NSW Aichi Museum of Art, Nagoya, Japan
2009	Mossgreen Gallery, Melbourne, 'Here Now'
2007	Redcliffe Art Gallery, Redcliffe, QLD, Redcliffe Art Prize

	Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Wynne Prize
2006	Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne
2004	Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Melbourne Art Fair
2003	Shepparton Art Gallery, Shepparton, VIC, 'Changing Surfaces'
2002	Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Melbourne Art Fair
2000	Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Melbourne Art Fair
1998	Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Melbourne Contemporary Art Fair Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney, 'Important Works on Paper'
1997	Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Mornington, VIC, 'Mulch & Metaphors: The Garden in Contemporary Art'
1996	Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Mornington, VIC, 'Food in Art' Gallery Two, Launceston, TAS Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Melbourne Contemporary Art Fair
1995-96	Blake Prize National Touring Exhibition, Australia
1995	Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne, 'Works on Paper – A Selection' Herald Sun Art Prize Exhibition, Melbourne
1994	Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney, 'Works on Paper' Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Melbourne Contemporary Art Fair Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong, Art Asia
1992	Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Melbourne Contemporary Art Fair Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney, 'Works on Paper'
1991	Deutscher Gallery, Melbourne, 'Recent Australian Painting'
1990	Arden Street Gallery, Melbourne, '100 x 100 Print Exhibition'
1988	Bicentennial Exhibition, Melbourne, 'Fifty Fine Artists' National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, 'A New Generation 1983 – 1988: The Philip Morris Arts Grant Purchases' Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra, 'Art Now – Painting in the Eighties' Linden, Melbourne, 'St Kilda One'
1987	Mori Gallery, Sydney, Sydney Moet & Chandon Australian Art Foundation Touring Exhibition
1986	Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra, Melbourne Painters Australian National University, Drill Hall, Canberra, 'A First Look: The Philip Morris Arts Grant Purchase',
1985	Linden, Melbourne, St Kilda Acquisitive Exhibition
1984	Linden, Melbourne, St Kilda Acquisitive Exhibition
1982	Linden, Melbourne, St Kilda Acquisitive Exhibition
1976	Travelling Exhibition of Australian Prints to France, Print Council of Australia Pahran College of Advanced Education Graduate Exhibition, Melbourne

SELECTED AWARDS

2020	King's School Art Prize, Sydney, Finalist
2019	Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart, Finalist
2017	Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, Finalist
2016	Punchbowl Poets and Painters Retreat & Residency, Tasmania The Art Vault, Mildura, Studio residency Climarte Poster Project
2012	Hotel Penaga, Malaysia, Studio residency
2010	Kedumba Drawing Prize, Wentworth Falls, NSW, Finalist Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo, VIC, Paul Guest Prize, Finalist
2007	Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne, Printmaking Fellowship Redcliffe Art Gallery, Redcliffe, QLD, Redcliffe Art Prize
2006	Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne, Master Class in Printmaking

1997 Rimbun Dahan, Malaysia, Studio residency
1994 Australia Council Studio Residency, Barcelona, Spain
Ansett Drawing Prize, Australia

COLLECTIONS

Aichi Museum of Art, Nagoya, Japan
Artbank, Sydney
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Australian National Gallery Commonwealth Government Offices, Canberra
AXA Australia, Sydney
British Museum, London, UK
Commonwealth Government Offices, Canberra
Deakin University, Burwood, VIC
Macquarie Bank, Sydney
New South Wales University, Sydney
Phillip Morris Arts Grant Collection: Parliament House, Canberra
Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
Private collections throughout Australia, New Zealand, Israel, USA and Europe

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abrahams, Guy; Rimbun Dahan Residency, catalogue, December 1997
Art and Australia Exhibitions Commentary, vol. 25, no.1, Spring 1987
Australian National Gallery, A New Generation 1983 - 1988: Philip Morris Arts Grant Purchases, catalogue, July 1988
Barron, Sonia; "Bowl a Personal Trademark", Canberra Times, May 8 1999
Barron, Sonia; "Walker Heightens our Experience of the Real", Canberra Times, 20 June 1988
Brown, Phil; "Zen Pal", Brisbane News, May 1997
Catalano, Gary; Age, 19 Feb 1986
Cawthorne, Zelda; "Residential Coup", Herald Sun, 28 December 1996
Chow, Lesley; "Stillness is the Move: Frozen Frames in Thornton Walker", artinfo.com.au
Christudas, Sam; "Haunted by Melancholic Images", Sunday Star, Malaysia, 14 December 1997
Grishin, Sasha; "Profound contemplation in paintings", Canberra Times, 23 October 2018
Grishin, Sasha; "The Framing of Dreams", Canberra Times, April 2 2011
Grishin, Sasha; What Now?, Art Collector, Jan – March 2011
Grishin, Sasha; "Challenging Path Flows in Rewards", Canberra Times, May 2009
Grishin, Sasha; "Thornton Walker's Mood Painting", Australian Art Collector, Issue 42 October - December 2007, pp 166-175
Grishin, Sasha; "Meditations on Eternity", Canberra Times, May 2007
Grishin, Sasha; "Mood Paintings with a Sense of Enigma", Canberra Times, 18 May 1996
Grishin, Sasha; "Reserves of Precious Virtue", Canberra Times, 14 November 1990
Grishin, Sasha; Review, Canberra Times, 20 May 1992
Grishin, Sasha; Canberra Times, 20 September 1987
Haynes, Peter; "Review: Thornton Walker Paintings & Works on Paper exhibition", Canberra Times, 10 November 2014
Herbert, Kate; "A Residency in Malaysia Inspires New Landscapes", Melbourne Times, 1998
Hutchings, Patrick; "Of Possibility and Paradox", Age, September 2007
Lopez, Annemarie; Zen in a Teacup, Australian Art Review, May – July 2010
Lord, Elizabeth; "Vintage Chinese Photos Inspire Exhibition", Mercury, 9 November 2012
Lynn, Elwyn; "Children of the Cosmos", Australian, 14 April 1991
Makin, Jeff; "No Logo, Just a Mystery to Bowl Us Over", Herald Sun, 24 September 2007
Makin, Jeff; "Critic's Choice", Herald Sun, 10 April 2006
Makin, Jeff; "Little Bowls for the Soul", Herald Sun, 18 July 2005

Makin, Jeff; "In the Frame", Review, Herald Sun, 18 May 1998
 Mendelssohn, J; "Taking a Risk on Art", Bulletin, 14 June 1988
 McCulloch, A & S; The Encyclopedia of Australian Art, Allen & Unwin, NSW, August 1994, p733
 McNamara, T J; "In Sync with Simplicity of Bowls" NZ Herald, 26 November 2001
 Moët & Chandon Australian Art Foundation, Moët & Chandon Australian Art Foundation touring exhibition, catalogue, 1987
 Musa, Helen; "Maker of Sonnets in Paint", Canberra Times, 26 May 1996
 Rooney, Robert; "Melbourne Art", Australian, 15 September 1995
 Rooney, Robert; Australian, 22 February 1986
 Smith, Sue; "When Intuition Meets Serendipity", Courier Mail, May 1997
 Stanford, Leone; "Strong and Contemplative", Brisbane Review, May 1997
 "Thornton Walker by Thornton Walker", with essays by Professor Sasha Grishin, Dr Patrick Hutchings & Guy Abrahams, Melbourne Books, 2015
 Timms, Peter; "The Year in Review", The Age, 30 December 1998
 Timms, Peter; "Art Holds the Key to Landscape", The Age, 17 June 1998
 "Walker's works show darker side of exotic lands", Mercury, 17 November 2012
 Ward, Peter; "Flash and Feisty", Weekend Australian, 11-12 June 198
 Whateley, Gerard; "A Local Talent Bowls 'em Over", Herald Sun, 26 September 1995