

## IAN W. ABDULLA

Born at Swan Reach, South Australia in 1947, Ian Abdulla is one of Australia's most important Aboriginal artists. Having started painting in 1989, he has since been featured in important exhibitions including the 2000 Adelaide Biennial *Beyond the Pale*.

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2006 *Marree Suite and Other Paintings*, Greenaway Art Gallery
- 2004 *Riverland Suite*, Adelaide Festival Centre, South Australia
- 2003 *Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne  
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide
- 2001 *Picking Tomatoes*, Melbourne Museum (as part of the Federation Festival, a Centenary of Federation event)  
Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide
- 2000 *Greenaway Art Gallery*, Adelaide
- 1999 *Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne  
Hogarth Gallery, Sydney
- 1998 *Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne  
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide
- 1997 *Hogarth Gallery*, Sydney
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Hogarth Gallery, Sydney
- 1994 *Greenaway Art Gallery*, Adelaide
- 1993 *Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi*, Melbourne  
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide  
*Looking for a Head Strainer*, Fremantle Arts Centre
- 1992 *Hogarth Gallery*, Sydney
- 1991 *Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute*, Adelaide
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Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2006 *Celebrating 25 Years of Australian Art*, Artbank, Sydney and touring
- 2005 *Holy Holy Holy*, Gippsland Art Gallery, Victoria
- 2004 *The Plot Thickens: Narratives in Australian Art*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne; Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Melbourne
- 2003 *Fair Game: Art and Sport*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*Synergies*, Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra
- 2001 *Federation Festival: The Australia Projects*, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne  
*Spirituality and Australian Aboriginal Art*, Casa de la Entrevista, Madrid, Spain and touring regional Spain  
*2001 Melbourne Savage Club Acquisitive Art Prize*, Savage Club, Melbourne
- 2000 *Beyond the Pale: Contemporary Indigenous Art*, 2000 Biennial of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide  
*John Leslie Art Prize*, Gippsland Art Gallery, Victoria  
*Melbourne Art Fair 2000*, Melbourne
- 1999 *We are Australian*, Melbourne Festival exhibition at Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne.
- 1996 *AFL Centenary Art Expo*, Melbourne  
*Australian Heritage Art Awards*, Canberra  
*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Art Awards*, ACAF 5 Melbourne.
- 1995 *Who's afraid of Black, Red and Yella*, Museum voor Volkenkunde Willemskade, Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
*National Aboriginal Art Awards*, Darwin

- 1994 *Images of a First Language*, Prospect Gallery, Adelaide.  
 1994 Australia Week, Tokyo, Japan; ARCO Madrid, Spain  
*Murrundi, Three River Murray Stories*, Contemporary Art Centre, Adelaide  
*Urban Aboriginal*, Jan Weiss Gallery, New York, United States of America  
 1993 ARCO Madrid, Spain  
*Talking.....listening*, Artspace, Adelaide Festival Centre  
 1992 *Tyerabarrbowaryaou. I Shall Never Become a White Man*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney and touring  
 1991 *A Koori Nunga Perspective*, Tandanya, Adelaide  
*Nunga Artists from the Murray*, Aboriginal Artist Gallery, Sydney  
 Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne  
 1990 *Balance-Views, Visions, Influences*, Queensland Art Gallery, Queensland  
*Aboriginal Art and Spirituality*, High Court, Canberra  
 1989 *Look at Us Now: South Australian Aboriginal Artists*, Tandanya, Adelaide  
 1988 *Reflections of the Dreaming* (NADOC Week), Hilton Hotel, South Australia

#### AWARDS

- 1996 Best Painting section – National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Art Awards  
 1996 Runner-up Australian Heritage Commission Art Award  
 1994 Community Achievement Award, Barmera Council  
 1991 South Australian Aboriginal Artist of the Year

#### PUBLICATIONS

- Stephen Fox, *Don't ya just love looking at the drawings of Ian Abdulla*, Sixth Drawing Biennale, Australian National University, 2006  
 Hetti Perkins, *Tradition Today: Indigenous Art in Australia*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, 2004  
 Stephen Fox and Janet Maughan, *Ian W Abdulla: Elvis has entered the building*, Wakefield Press, Adelaide, 2003  
 Howard Morphy and Nigel Lendon ed., *Synergies*, Australian National University, Canberra, 2003  
 L. Murray Cree, *Awesome! Australian Art for Contemporary Kids*, Craftsman House, Sydney, 2002  
 A. Crawford, 'Seven on a quest for identity', *The Australian*, 15 May 2001  
 G. Coslovich, 'Bring in the feds', *The Age*, 9 May 2001  
 J. Engberg, *Federation Festival: The Australia Projects*, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne, 2001  
 B. Knight, *Spirituality and Australian Aboriginal Art*, Alcaston Gallery and the Board of Culture, Madrid, 2001  
 J. Wright, 'Can art make people (feel) well?', *Artlink*, vol. 20, no.1, 2000  
 R. Taylor, 'Ian Abdulla at Niagara Galleries', *Asian Art News*, January, 2000  
 B. Croft, *Beyond the Pale: Contemporary Indigenous Art*, 2000 Biennial of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, 1999  
 S. Kleinert and M. Neale, *The Oxford Companion to Aboriginal Art and Culture*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 2000  
 S. McCulloch, *Contemporary Aboriginal Art*, Allen and Unwin, Sydney, 1999  
 A. Bragge, 'Memories of mission life', *Herald Sun*, 11 March, 1998  
*Tucker*, Omnibus Books, 1994  
*As I Grew Older*, Omnibus Books, 1993

## **COLLECTIONS**

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth

Artbank, Sydney

Australian Museum, Sydney

Flinders University Art Museum, Adelaide

Holmes a Court Collection, Western Australia

Latrobe University Collection, Melbourne

Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, New South Wales

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

National Museum of Australia, Canberra

Northern Territory Museum and Art Gallery, Darwin

Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane

South Australian Museum, Adelaide

Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide