

ROBERT BRIDGEWATER

Robert Bridgewater was born in Victoria in 1971. He obtained a Bachelor of Fine Art from Monash University in 1992 when he also won the National Gallery of Victoria Trustees Award. He went on to complete a Graduate Diploma of Fine Art at the Victorian College of the Arts in 1995, receiving the Post Graduate Encouragement Award the previous year.

In 1995 he won the Kangaroo Sculpture Award, was a finalist in the Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award in 2001, 2003 (highly commended) and 2005, and also a finalist in the McClelland Sculpture Survey and Award in 2010.

Robert recently completed a series of commissioned works for the RACV Club premises throughout Victoria, the Grand Hyatt in Melbourne, Burwood Casino, Perth and several private collections.

Robert lived and worked in London during an Australia Council Studio Residency in 2000, and was artist in residence at the Ernst Mach Foundation, France in 2003. He is currently based in Melbourne.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 *Little Light of Mine*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2004 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2002 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 2000 Smyrnios Gallery Australia, Melbourne
- 1998 Smyrnios Gallery Australia, Melbourne
- 1997 Smyrnios Gallery Australia, Melbourne
- 1996 *Agricultural*, Temple Studio, Melbourne`

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 *Deakin University Contemporary Small Sculpture Award*, Deakin University Gallery, Melbourne
- 2010 *Auckland Art Fair*, Niagara Galleries, Viaduct Events Centre, New Zealand
McClelland Sculpture Survey and Award 2010 Finalists' Exhibition, The McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park, Victoria
Niagara Presents... Can't See the Wood for the Trees, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2009 *Shelter: On Kindness*, Melbourne Festival exhibitor, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
Auckland Art Fair, New Zealand
- 2008 *Melbourne Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 2007 *10: 1997–2007*, Yarra Sculpture Gallery, Melbourne
Urban Arboreal: The Tree in the Grid, City Gallery, Melbourne Town Hall, Melbourne
- 2006 *If you were to collect... Elements of abstraction*, Deloitte Corporate Offices, Melbourne
Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 2005 *Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize*, Woollahra Municipal Council, Sydney
Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award, Werribee Park, Victoria
- 2004 *Gasworks Artists Exhibition*, Gasworks Arts Park, Melbourne
- 2003 *Boogie, Jive & Bop*, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Launceston
Terrain, fortyfivedownstairs, Melbourne
Against the Grain, McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park, Victoria
Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award, Werribee Park, Victoria
- 2002 *Central Goldfields Art Prize*, Central Goldfields Art Gallery, Maryborough, Victoria

- 2001 *wall, floor, ceiling*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award, Werribee Park, Victoria
Grounds for Sculpture, McClelland Gallery, Victoria
Fundere Art Prize, Yarra Sculpture Gallery, Melbourne
Nillumbik Art Prize, Montsalvat Gallery, Melbourne
Old Landscape: New Garden – Sculpture at Seawinds, Arthurs Seat, Victoria
- 2000 *Deacons Graham & James Award 2000*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne
Sculpture 2000, Access Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1999 *Moët et Chandon Touring Exhibition*, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide;
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; National Gallery of Australia,
 Canberra; RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
Probe, Melbourne Festival, Melbourne
Spacetime – Monash Alumni, Monash University Faculty Gallery, Melbourne
Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship, Victorian College of the
 Arts Gallery, Melbourne
City of Hobart Art Prize, Carnegie Gallery, Hobart
- 1998 *Gasworks Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition*, Gasworks Park, Melbourne
Resourceful, An Australian Ethos, Ararat Gallery, Victoria
Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Smyrnios Gallery, Melbourne
Concurrence or Contrast – Sculpture in the Dandenong Ranges Gardens,
 Victoria
Long Distance, Nicholson Street Gallery, Victoria; Switchback Gallery,
 Melbourne
- 1997 *Moët et Chandon Touring Exhibition*, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane;
 National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth;
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; Art Gallery of South Australia,
 Adelaide
Enough Space, Yarra Sculpture Space, Melbourne
Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship, Victorian College of the
 Arts Gallery, Melbourne
Deacons Graham & James/Arts 21 Award Exhibition, University of Melbourne
 Gallery, Melbourne
Roundness, Stop 22 Gallery, Melbourne
- 1996 *House of Windsor Studio Group Exhibition*, QDOS Contemporary Art Gallery,
 Victoria
Third Anniversary Show, Ether Ohnetitel Gallery, Melbourne
The National Sculpture Trail, Victoria University Footscray Campus and
 Footscray Park, Melbourne
Gasworks Seventh Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, Gasworks Park, Melbourne
Sculpture 3, Austin and Repatriation Medical Centre, Melbourne
- 1995 *Kangaroo Sculpture Awards Exhibition*, Kangaroo Ground, Victoria
Sculpture at Heidelberg, Austin and Repatriation Medical Centre, Melbourne
Excursion – Three Person Show, Linden Arts Centre, Melbourne
Continuum and Contrast, McClelland Gallery, Melbourne
Gasworks Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, Gasworks Park, Melbourne
Victorian College of the Arts Post Graduate Exhibition, Victorian College of the
 Arts Gallery, Melbourne
- 1994 *Victorian College of the Arts Sculpture at the Athenaeum Theatre*, Melbourne
Victorian Student Sculpture Survey, University of Ballarat, Victoria
Gasworks Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, Gasworks Park, Melbourne
Meridian Gallery Christmas Group Show, Meridian Gallery, Melbourne
- 1993 *Artworkz 5*, Gallery 101, Melbourne
- 1992 *Snare*, Monash Studios, Melbourne
Monash Summer Salon, Luba Bilu Gallery, Melbourne
- 1991 *First National Art and Design Students Exhibition*, Exhibition Building,
 Melbourne
Sub-6, Malvern City Council, Melbourne

COLLECTIONS

Artbank, Sydney
Central Goldfields Shire, Victoria
Ernst Mach Foundation. Pontiacq, France
Grand Hyatt, Melbourne
Monash University, Melbourne
Nhill Secondary College, Victoria
Parks Victoria, *Herring Island Environmental Sculpture Park*, Melbourne
RACV Club, Victoria
Tabcorp, Melbourne
Victoria University, Melbourne
Private collections

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

'Herring Island Environmental Sculpture Park', *Sculpture and the Enemies*, Issue 2, Quarterly No. 1, 2010
Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, 2010
Christine Nicholls, 'An illuminated art', *World Sculpture News*, vol. 13, no. 4, Autumn 2007
Rebecca Lancashire, 'Homage to hard labour', *The Age*, 5 April 2003
Molly O'Brien, 'Great ideas, great shapes', *The Age*, 5 March 2003
Robert Nelson, 'Mixing perception with space', *The Age*, 26 March 2003
Jeremy Eccles, 'Off the wall', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue 24, April 2003 (illustrated)
Stephen Crafti, *Request. Response. Reaction: The designers of Australia and New Zealand*, The Images Publishing Group, 2002
Martina Copley, 'The architecture of skin', *Robert Bridgewater*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, 2002
'Carving a place' (photograph by Craig Abraham), *The Age*, 7 March 2001
Bala Starr, *Deacons Graham & James Award 2000*, catalogue essay, 2000
Peter Timms, 'Sizing up for better', *The Age*, 28 June 2000
Scott Brown, *Moët et Chandon 1999 Touring Exhibition*, catalogue essay, 1999
Robert Nelson, *Spacetime – Monash Alumni Exhibition*, catalogue essay, Melbourne, 1999
Roger Taylor, 'A forest of poems', *World Sculpture News*, Vol. 5, no 3, Summer, 1999
Anne Epstein (Ed.), *Australian Family – Images & Essays*, Hyland House, 1998
Penny Webb, 'No, thanks, just touching', *The Age*, 27 November 1998
Louise Bellamy, 'A fair to remember', *The Age*, 19 October 1998
Anna Clabburn, 'Gardens and galleries', *The Age*, 25 March 1998
Anna Clabburn, *Moët et Chandon 1997 Touring Exhibition*, catalogue essay, 1997
Anna Clabburn, 'Of things glass and wood', *Herald Sun*, 30 July 1997
Rachel Kent, *Deacons Graham & James Award 1997*, catalogue essay, 1997
Robert Nelson, 'Deacons Award: About face', *The Age*, 9 July 1997
Robert Nelson, 'The year in review', *The Age*, 1 January 1997
Robert Rooney, 'Robert Rooney on art', *The Australian*, 4 October 1996
Robert Nelson, 'Apart from the art, a good show', *The Age*, 25 September 1996
Robert Nelson, 'Two more than junk junkies', *The Age*, 3 May 1995
Ken Scarlett, 'A democratic showcase', *Australian Art Monthly*, Vol. 75, November 1994
Sonia Harford, 'Fringe art maybe but not on the edge', *The Age*, 13 October 1994
'Bent and Twisted' (illustration), *Herald Sun*, 12 October 1994
Christopher Heathcote, 'A work of art or just an object?', *The Age*, 24 September 1993