

## GUNTER CHRISTMANN

Gunter Christmann was born in Berlin in 1936 and arrived in Melbourne in February of 1959. He moved to Sydney and started painting in 1962. Christmann's first exhibition in 1965 was a group show, *25 Young Painters*, at the Argus Gallery in Melbourne. The following year he held his first solo exhibition at Central Street Gallery, Sydney and has exhibited regularly since that time both in Australia and overseas. Christmann has shown at Niagara Galleries, Melbourne since 1984. A groundbreaking and subversive artist since the 1960s, Christmann resists following any trend but instead finds inspiration to create innovative new work from the objects and places that surround him.

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 *AVAGOYAMUG*, Society, Sydney  
*SIDE SHOW MAX*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2010 *KOZMIX*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2008 *Encore*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2007 *Tanzlied*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2006 *AXION JENNY 2006*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2005 *AUTOMONTAGE*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2004 *10gm OZKAR*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2003 *T.O. Tranceporter*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2002 *Christmann 2002*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2000 *WYSIWYG @ niagara Y2K*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1999 *OZKAR*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1997 *G.C. REMIX: Acid House and Garage*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1996 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1995 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
Coventry Gallery, Sydney
- 1994 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1993 *Pleasures of the Mind*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1992 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1991 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1988–90 consecutively, Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney  
Roslyn Oxley 9 Gallery, Sydney.
- 1984–92 consecutively, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1982–87 consecutively, Yuill/Crowley, Sydney
- 1980 Solander Gallery, Canberra
- 1978 Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane
- 1977 Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane  
Riverina College of Advanced Education, Wagga Wagga
- 1976 Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne  
Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1975 Barrington Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane
- 1974–81 consecutively, Coventry Gallery, Sydney
- 1973 Haus am Lutzowplatz, Berlin, West Germany  
Albert Hall, Canberra
- 1972 South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne  
Inhibodress, New South Wales
- 1971–73 consecutively, 38 Hargrave Street, Sydney
- 1970 John Gould Gallery, Perth
- 1967 J. Walter Thompson, Sydney
- 1966–70 Consecutively, Central Street Gallery, Sydney

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 *Auckland Art Fair*, Niagara Galleries, Viaduct Events Centre, New Zealand  
*Artist Artists*, Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria  
*Blue Chip XIII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2010 *Muster: A Round Up of Works from the Stockroom*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

- 2010 *Abstraction 9*, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne  
*Melbourne Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne  
*Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2009 *Song of Sirens*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne, Victoria  
3 x 2 x 2 x 3, Deloitte, Sydney
- 2008 *Rimbaud/Rambo*, Neon Park, Melbourne  
*Blue Chip X: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2006 *Warning: Smoking has been linked to some of the most powerful images of the twentieth century*, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria  
*The Summer Show*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2005 *Blue Chip VII – The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2004 *Collection Focus: Gunter Christmann, Dick Watkins and Jenny Watson*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 2003 *Act XII: New Works on Paper*, George Adams Gallery, Melbourne and touring  
*Blue Chip V – The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2002 *Good Vibrations: The Legacy of Op Art in Australia*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne  
*Blue Chip IV – The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
*Melbourne Art Fair 2002*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1996 *Joan and Peter Clemenger Triennial Exhibition of Contemporary Australian Art*, by invitation, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*In and Out of Abstraction*, with Richard Larter, Dick Watkins and Howard Arkley, curated by John McPhee, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1995 *Victor and Loti Smorgon Collection*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 1994 *Fourth Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1992 *Third Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1991 *One*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1990 *Niagara Galleries at Hill-Smith Fine Art Gallery*, Hill-Smith Fine Art Gallery, Adelaide  
*Second Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1988 *First Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1987 *Field to Figuration*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*Surface and Reflection*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*In Print Vol.1 Artists Books*, Power Gallery, Sydney
- 1985 *Recession Art and Other Strategies*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1984 *Apocalypse and Utopia*, Melbourne University Art Gallery, Melbourne  
*Form-Image Sign*, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
- 1983 *Vox Pop*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*Romanticism and Classicism in Contemporary Australian Painting*, Geelong Art Gallery, Victoria and touring
- 1982 *Coventry Gallery*, Sydney  
*Fourth Sydney Biennale*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1981 *Perspecta '81*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1980 *Der Baum Bist Du*, Ben Wargin Gallerie, Berlin, and Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1979 *Kunst in Berlin 1960 Bis Heute*, Berlinsche Gallerie, Berlin, Germany  
*European Beginnings*, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney  
*Works on Paper*, Australian Embassy, Paris, France
- 1978 *The Work and Its Context*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, USA  
*USA Visual Arts Board, Travelling Roadshow No 2*
- 1977 *W.A.I.T.*, Perth
- 1976 *Sixth FBK*, Berlin, Germany  
*Soundsculpture*, The Sculpture Centre Sydney, New South Wales  
*Coventry Collection*, Armidale, Melbourne and Brisbane
- 1975 *Coventry Gallery*, Sydney
- 1974 *Overback Gassellshaft: Two-Man Show*, with Hans Sperrschneider, Lubeck, West Germany  
*Fourth FBK*, Berlin, Germany

- 1973 *First Biennale of Sydney*, Australian Painting Now, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Third FBK*, Berlin, Germany  
*30 International Artists in Berlin*, Bonn, German
- 1972 *20 Years of Australian Painting*, New South Wales House, London, UK
- 1971 *Harold Szeeman Show*, Bonython Gallery and the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*XI Bienal*, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 1968 *The Field*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*Fifth International Young Artist Exhibition*, Tokyo, Japan  
Central Street Gallery, Sydney  
*International Miniatures 70*, Galleries 66, Hofiem/Tauns, Germany
- 1967 *Works on Paper*, Central Street Gallery, Sydney
- 1965 *25 Young Painters*, Argus Gallery, Melbourne

## COLLECTIONS

Armidale City Art Gallery, New South Wales  
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth  
Auckland Art Gallery, New Zealand  
Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria  
Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria  
Berlinische Gallerie, Berlin, Germany  
British Museum, London, England  
City of Hamilton Art Gallery, Victoria  
Coventry Collection  
Curtin University of Technology Art Collection, Perth  
D.A.A.D. Federal Republic of Germany  
Education Department of Victoria, Victoria  
Geelong Regional Art Gallery, Victoria  
Holmes a Court Collection, WA  
H.R.M. Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands  
Latrobe University Collection, Melbourne  
McClelland Art Gallery, Victoria  
Monash University Collection, Victoria  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Yugoslavia  
Myer Collection  
National Bank of Australia  
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
National Gallery of Victoria, Victoria  
Parliament House, Canberra  
Philip Morris Collection  
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane  
State Bank Collection  
Sylvester Stallone Collection  
University of New England, New South Wales  
Victor and Loti Smorgon Collection  
W.A.I.T. Perth Morris Collection  
Wollongong Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales  
Private collections Australia and overseas

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Gina Lee, Afterword, *SIDE SHOW MAX*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2011  
*Blue Chip XIII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, 2011  
*Abstraction 9*, exhibition catalogue, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne, 2010

Gina Lee, 'Eyes on the ground. Heart in the stars.', Gunter Christmann, 'Terra subpede (The Earth Underfoot)', *KOZMIX*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne 2010  
*Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2010  
*Portrait d'Amour: Recent and Not So Recent Paintings*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2007  
 Simon Barney, 'The life of ephemera', *AXION JENNY 2006*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2006  
*T.O. Tranceporter*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2003  
 S. Barney, *Act XII: New Works on Paper*, (catalogue essay), Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne 2003  
*Gunter Christmann*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2002  
 C. Heathcote, B. Smith & T. Smith, *Australian Painting 1788–2000*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 2001  
*Joan & Peter Clemenger Triennial Exhibition of Contemporary Australian Art (TECAA)*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 1996  
*Gunter Christmann – Pleasures of the Mind*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1993  
*Gunter Christmann*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1992  
*Gunter Christmann*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1991  
 Daniel Thomas, *Outlines in Australian Art – The Joseph Brown Collection*, Macmillan, 1989  
 Neville Drury, *New Art Three*, Craftsman Press, 1989  
*Surface for Reflexion*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 1987  
 Robert Lindsay, *Field to Figuration: Australian Art 1960 – 1986 Works from the National Gallery of Victoria*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne 1986  
*Australian Perspecta*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 1981  
*Licht in der Farbe*, catalogue essay by K. Ruhrberg, Berlin, Germany, 1973  
 B. Smith, *Australian Painting: 1788–1970*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1971  
 M. Horton, *Present Day Art in Australia*, Ure Smith, 1969  
*The Field*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 1968

#### ARTICLES

Harbant Gill, 'Uncontrollable delights', *Herald Sun*, 1 April 2009  
 Ingrid Periz, 'The Unexplained', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue 41, July 2007  
 Sebastian Smee, 'Smoking thrills', *The Australian*, 13 May, 2006  
 John McPhee, 'MFCs and Gunter Christmann', *Artlink*, Volume 24, Issue No. 3, 2004  
 Patrick Hutchings, 'Gunter Christmann', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue 29, July 2004  
 Anne Loxley, 'Cottier closing and cult hero', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 December 2003  
 Jeff Makin, 'The many hues of blue', *Herald Sun*, 10 March 2003  
 Jeff Makin, 'Critic's choice: Gunter Christmann', *Herald Sun*, May 2002  
 A. Pilmer, 'Just what the doctor ordered', *The Age*, 1 May 2002  
 'Gunter Christmann at Niagara', *Monument*, April 2002  
 Jeff Makin, 'Fashion meets art', *Herald Sun*, 14 February 2000  
 Peter Timms, 'Abstract appeal a matter of interest', *The Age*, 9 February 2000  
 Robert Rooney, 'Melbourne art: Gunter Christmann', *The Australian*, 4 April 1996  
 Felicity Fenner, 'Haunting images from the other side of the social self', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12 May 1995  
 Christopher Heathcote, 'Dearth of imagination mars artists' shows', *The Age*, 22 October 1993  
 L. Fern, 'Harlequin gives the sign', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 May 1992  
*The Monash Quarterly (cover)*, Melbourne, Winter 1991  
 C. Allen, 'A decade's optimism and pathos', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 31 August 1990  
 Gary Catalano, 'Review', *The Age*, 18 July 1990  
*Tension*, Vol. 19, December 1990  
 E. Cross, 'Inner calm to anxiety', *The Age*, 18 October 1989  
 C. Allen, 'Janus up against a wall', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 September 1989  
*Art Almanac (cover)*, October 1989  
 G. Catalano, 'Review', *The Age*, 12 October 1988  
 'Review', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 July 1988  
 'Review', *The Weekend Australian*, 25 June 1988

C. Marando, 'Man and his environment seen through different eyes', *The Eastern Herald*, 23 June 1988  
J. McDonald, 'An ocean of art in waves of old and new', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 February 1987  
R. Millar, 'Art', *The Age*, 30 October 1986  
G. Catalano, 'A display of perplexity', *The Age*, 22 October 1986  
R. Carmichael, 'Artscene', *Herald Sun*, 16 May 1984  
S. Cramer, 'Paintings of unnerving presence, power', *The Age*, 16 May 1984  
E. Lynn, 'Gunter Christmann', *Art & Australia*, Vol. 10, No. 3, 1973  
T. Smith, 'The Painting of Gunter Christmann', *Art International*, Vol. XV/3, 1973  
T. Smith, 'Colour-Form Painting: Sydney 1965-70', *Other Voices*, Vol. 1, 1970