

HELEN WRIGHT

Born in Sydney in 1956, Helen completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the Tasmanian School of Art between 1977 and 1979. The following year she undertook a Post Graduate Diploma of Visual Arts at the Alexander Mackie School, Sydney and in 1986 began a Master of Fine Arts at the University of Tasmania, Hobart. Helen has tutored at several tertiary colleges including the Tasmanian School of Art, and was part-time lecturer in printmaking at the University of Tasmania between 1991 and 1999. A founding member of the Chameleon Studios and Contemporary Art Space, Hobart; in 1989 she was artist in residence at the Verdaccio Studio, Italy. Wright's work is included in numerous public and private collections including the National Gallery of Australia, National Gallery of Victoria and the Art Gallery of South Australia. Helen currently lives and works in Tasmania.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 *More Signs of Life*, Bett Gallery, Hobart
2007 *Survival of the Cutest*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2005 *Nobody Knows Anything*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
2004 *White (Light)*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2003 *Untouchable Face*, Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra
Know Body Knows Anything, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
2002 *Future Perfect*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2000 *Future Perfect*, Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra
Frankenflower, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
1999 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1998 *Helen Wright - Almost familiar*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
1997 *Helen Wright - A 'taxonomy' of symbols*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1996 *Helen Wright - A symptom of beauty - Drawings*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
1995 *Helen Wright - The perfume factory and other drawings*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1993 *Helen Wright - Recent work*, Australian Girls Own Gallery (aGOG.), Canberra
Helen Wright - Villa of mysteries, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
1992 *Helen Wright - Recent works*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1991 *Science Lessons and Other Mysteries*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
1990 *Helen Wright; prints and drawings*, Australian Girls Own Gallery, Canberra
1989 *Helen Wright - Recent work*, Cockatoo Gallery, Launceston
Short Stories, Salamanca Place Gallery, Hobart
1987 *Helen Wright; prints and drawings*, Reconnaissance Gallery, Melbourne
Avago, Tasmania School of Art, University of Tasmania

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 *The Hutchins Art Prize exhibition*, The Long Gallery, Hobart
2010 *The Catalano Collection*, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria
Rick Amor Drawing Prize Finalists' Exhibition, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria
Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
2009 *The Geelong Acquisitive Print Awards Finalists' Exhibition*, Geelong Gallery, Victoria
Niagara Presents..., Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Burnie Print Prize Finalists' Exhibition, Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Tasmania
2006 *Salon*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
2005 *Rhapsody: Tasmanian Contemporary Art*, Academy Gallery, Hobart
2003 *Love Letter to China: Drawings by 35 Australian Artists*, International Drawing Research Institution, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney and touring China
Travelling The Roundabout, University of Tasmania, Launceston
Future Perfect, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
The Robert Jacks Drawing Prize, Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria
2001 *Survey of Recent Tasmanian Art*, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston

- 1998 *Look again: Contemporary Works on Paper from the Collection*, National Gallery of Victoria
- 1997 *Hobart Art Prize*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
- 1996 *Brushing the Dark*, curator: Victoria Hammond, Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery and touring
- 1995 *City of Hobart Invitation Art Prize*, Tasmania
Poets and painters exhibition, Salamanca Writers Festival, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
The Derwent Collection, Australian Art of the 1980's & 1990's, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
- 1994 *Artists for Mt Wellington*, Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart
A Celebration of Women's Suffrage, Central Gallery, Adelaide
Focus, Celebration, Adelaide
Artist's choice, Curated by Noel McKenna, Rex Irwin, Sydney
Fourth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne
- 1993 *Recent Acquisitions*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
Recent Acquisitions, Devonport Gallery and Art Centre, Tasmania
To the Surface, Curator: Ray Arnold, University of Tasmania, Hobart.
- 1992 *Barcelona: Rick Amor, Angela Brennan & Helen Wright*, Niagara Galleries in conjunction with the Melbourne International Festival
Rediscovery - Australian artists in Europe 1982-1992, Curator: Jonathan Holmes, Seville Universal Expo, Spain and touring
My Head Is A Map, Curator: Roger Butler, Australian National Gallery, Canberra
- 1991 *South of No North*, Curator: Richard Flanagan, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
Invitation Print Prize, Melbourne Savage Club, Bendigo
Six Tasmanian Printmakers, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
One, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart
- 1990 *The Summer Show*, Chameleon Gallery, Hobart
Tasmanian Printmakers, Gallery Cimitiere, Launceston
Michelton Print Exhibition - Where Have All the Gum Trees Gone?, Curator: Janie Gillespie (Assistant Curator of Australian Prints, Australian National Gallery)
- 1989 *Australian prints now*, Curator: Roger Butler, Australian National Gallery
Island, Tasmanian Printmakers, Print Council of Australia
Paradise Lost: Tasmanian prints, Regionalism, Postmodernity, curator: Ian McLean, Print Council of Australia, Melbourne and touring
Genius Loci: Spirit of place, Contemporary Tasmanian painting, curator: Nick Waterlow, Tasmanian School of Art, Plimsol Gallery, Tasmania, and RMIT Gallery, Melbourne.
The October Show, curator: Diane Dunbar, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston
- 1988 *Landfall*, curator: Sean Kelly, Chameleon Gallery, Hobart
3 x 15, Sculpture Exhibition, curator: Finola Jones, Chameleon Gallery, Hobart
Selected works, Fine Arts Gallery, University of Tasmania, Hobart
Diversities, curator: Mary Scott, Fine Arts Gallery, University of Tasmania, Hobart
- 1987 *M.F.A. Graduate Exhibition*, Centre for the Arts Gallery, University of Tasmania
- 1986 *Post Lintel Design - David Keeling, Helen Wright & Wayne Malm*, Handmark Gallery, Hobart
Six Tasmanian Artists, Rhumbarallas Gallery, Melbourne
Prints from the Collection, Fine Arts Gallery, University of Tasmania, Hobart
- 1985 *Three Tasmanians in Print*, curator: Kay Francis, Burnie Art Gallery, and touring
- 1984 *The Chameleon Print Show*, Chameleon Gallery, Hobart
Works on paper, Chameleon Gallery, Hobart
- 1983 *Helen Wright and David Keeling*, Memorial Fine Arts Gallery, University of Sydney
Henri Worland Print Prize, Warrnambool Art Gallery, Warrnambool, Victoria
- 1981 *Student Printmakers*, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney

COLLECTIONS

Artbank, Sydney

Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
Art in Public Places Scheme, Tasmania
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Burnie Art Gallery, Tasmania
Derwent Collection, Tasmania
Devonport Art Gallery, Tasmania
Geeveston Print Collection, Tasmania
Joseph Brown Collection, Melbourne
Macquarie Bank, Sydney
Monash University Collection, Melbourne
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
Rockhampton Regional Art Gallery, Queensland
Tamar Collection, Tasmania
Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
University of Tasmania, Hobart
University of Tasmania, Launceston
Corporate and Private Collections, Australia

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2011 Winner of the Hutchins Art Prize, The Long Gallery, Hobart
2010 Shortlisted in the Rick Amor Drawing Prize, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria
2009 Winner Burnie Print Prize, Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Tasmania
2000 Australia Council New Work Grant
1999 Tasmanian Art in Public Buildings Grant
1998 Arts Tasmania Professional Development Grant
1997 Arts Tasmania Professional Development Grant
1994 Visual Arts Board, Australia Council, Project Grant
Arts Tasmania Project Funding
1991 Visual Arts Board, Australia Council, Overseas Studio - Barcelona
Arts Tasmania
1989 Travel/Development Grant, Tasmanian Arts Advisory Board
1988 Workshop Development Grant, Tasmanian Arts Advisory Board
1987 Commonwealth Postgraduate Scholarship, Masters, Hobart
1985 Visual Arts Board Australia Council
1982 Visual Arts Board Australia Council

PUBLICATIONS

'Process: Helen Wright', *Artist Profile*, Issue 11, 2010
Daniel Thomas, 'Ten Days on the Island', *Art Monthly Australia*, No. 220, June 2009
'Artnotes: Wright honour', *Art Monthly Australia*, No. 219, May 2009
White (Light) (exhibition catalogue), Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2004
Anna Gray, *Australian Art in the National Gallery Collection*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, 2002
Future Perfect, (exhibition catalogue), Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart, 2003
Future Perfect (exhibition catalogue), Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2002
Victoria Hammond, 'The night, its volume and what engenders it: Recent pastels by Helen Wright', *Art & Australia*, Vol.36, No.4, pp516-23, 1999
Kirsten Matthews, 'Helen Wright', *Imprint*, Vol.34, No.1, 1999
'Helen Wright in interview' *Helen Wright - A 'taxonomy' of symbols*, Niagara Galleries (exhibition catalogue), 1997
Anna Cladburn, 'Modest views of the world', *Herald Sun*, 9 September 1997
Victoria Hammond, *Brushing the dark*, (exhibition catalogue) CAST, Tasmania, 1996
John MacDonald, 'Peaks of inspiration', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1996

Giles Auty, 'Theories with holes', *The Australian*, 1996
Susan Faulkner, 'Brushing the dark', *Art Monthly*, June, 1996
Anna King Murdoch, 'The powerful mystique of navels', *The Age*, 6 December 1995
Alison Barclay, 'Do the strand, girl', *The Herald Sun*, 3 December 1995
Jennifer Spinks, '*Helen Wright - The perfume factory & other drawings*', (catalogue essay),
Niagara Galleries, 1995
J. Holmes & E. Colless, *Rediscovery: Australian artists in Europe 1982 - 1992*, 1992
My head is a map, (catalogue essay), Australian National Gallery and touring Australia, 1992
What happened to the gum trees?, Mitchelton Print Exhibition, 1990