

**DANIE MELLOR**

Danie Mellor's work is at once beautiful and a calling to account. Finely crafted, embellished and framed, with images and devices that disarm with humour, narrative and a play on the 'exotic', the work nonetheless confronts and confounds our understanding of the past. Mellor tells stories that are neither simple nor complete. Instead, the view is presented with multiple layers that challenge assumptions. Stories collide and metaphors reach further than expected.

Dr Campbell Gray, *Danie Mellor: Exotic Lies Sacred Ties*, The University of Queensland Art Museum, 2014, page 11.

**DANIE MELLOR**

Born 1971, Mackay, QLD

Represented by Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

**EDUCATION**

Certificate in Art, North Adelaide School of Art, SA

Bachelor of Arts (Visual) with Honours, Canberra School of Art, ANU

MA (Fine Art), Birmingham Institute of Art and Design, University of Central England, UK

PhD, School of Art, National Institute of the Arts, ANU

**SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

**2020**

*The Sun Also Sets* Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

**2018**

*The Landscape: [all the devils are here]*, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

*Proximity and Perception*, Cairns Art Gallery May-July 2018 curated by Ashleigh Campbell

*Pleasure and Vexation – the strata and spectacle of history*, Pataka Art + Museum, New Zealand May – August 2018, curated by Mark Hutchins-Pond, Kairuruku Toi Hou

**2017**

Sydney Contemporary, Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane

**2016**

*a sensual instinct*, Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane

**2014**

*Danie Mellor: Exotic Lies Sacred Ties*, Major survey and touring exhibition, University of Queensland Art Museum, curated by Maudie Palmer, AO (UQAM, Tarrawarra Museum of Art, Museum and Gallery of the Northern Territory)

Art Basel Hong Kong Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane, QLD

*Primordial: SuperNaturalBayiMinyjirral*, National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, part of the Edinburgh Arts Festival and presented by the Edinburgh International Festival and director Sir Jonathan Mills

**2012**

*Danie Mellor*, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, NSW

*Paradise Garden*, Michael Reid at Elizabeth Bay, Elizabeth Bay, NSW

**2011**

*Multiple Histories*, Jan Murphy Gallery, Fortitude Valley, QLD

**2010**

*Non Sufficit Orbis* Melbourne Art Fair, in association with Caruana and Reid Fine Art, Elizabeth Bay, NSW

## 2009

*NEW WORLD, NEW ORDER A Complex Vision*, Jan Murphy Gallery, Fortitude Valley, QLD  
*A Balance of Power*, Caruana & Reid Fine Art, Elizabeth Bay, NSW

## 2008

*The Great Creative Golden Age of long ago and here and now*, Holmes à Court Gallery in association with Caruana and Reid Fine Art, East Perth, WA

## 2007

*Voyage + Recovery*, Fireworks Gallery, Newstead, QLD  
*Visions of a Curious Wonderland*, Caruana and Reid Fine Art, Elizabeth Bay, NSW  
*From the Landscape of the Curious*, Uber Gallery, St Kilda, VIC

## 2006

*Voyages of Recovery*, Canberra Museum and Art Gallery, ACT  
*More from the Cabinet*, Despard Gallery, Hobart, TAS  
*In memories lie fragile dreams*, Solander Gallery, Yarralumla, ACT

## 2005

*A Backward Glance*, Fireworks Gallery, Newstead, QLD

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

### 2019

*Weapons for the Soldier*, APY Artists and Hazlehurst Regional Gallery, NSW  
*QUEEN'S LAND AND BLACK PORTRAITURE: From late 19th century to the present* Cairns Art Gallery, Queensland  
*Marriage: Love and Law* NSW State Archives and Penrith Regional Gallery  
*Rococolonial* Hazelhurst Arts Centre and Bathurst Regional Art Gallery

### 2018

*Weapons for the Soldier*, APY Artists and Hazlehurst Regional Gallery, NSW  
*We are all connected*, 30th anniversary exhibition, Campbelltown Arts Centre, curated by Adam Porter and Emily Rolfe  
*Life in Irons* Museum of Brisbane, Queensland  
*Indigenous Australia: Masterworks from the National Gallery of Australia* Collectors Room, Berlin | Stiftung Olbricht (Olbricht Foundation) and National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi, curated by Franchesca Cubillo and Kelli Cole  
*Resolution* | new Indigenous photomedia National Gallery of Australia touring exhibition curated by Franchesca Cubillo and Kelli Cole [2017 – 2018]  
Art Los Angeles Contemporary | Starkwhite, Auckland

### 2017

Art Basel Hong Kong, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne  
*@50*, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne  
*Tracks and Traces* Negev Museum of Art, Israel curated by Emily Rolfe and Dr Dalia Manor with the support of Brian and Gene Sherman  
*Framing Nature* McClelland Sculpture Park + Gallery, Victoria, curated by Simon Lawrie, Balnaves Curator of Australian Sculpture  
*Primavera at 25: MCA Collection* Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney and touring through until November 2018

**2016**

Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: *Magic Object*, AGSA  
Yinchuan Biennale, MOCA Yinchuan, Ningxia, China

**2015**

8th Asia Pacific Triennial, QAGOMA

**2013**

*Debil Debil* Anna Schwartz Gallery, Carriageworks, Sydney, curated by Marcia Langton AM  
*Sakahàn International Survey of Indigenous Art*, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa  
*International Kogei Triennial 21st Century* Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Japan  
*Australia Royal Academy of Arts*, London, curated by Kathleen Soriano, Director of Exhibitions, Royal Academy of Arts, Dr Ron Radford AM, Director of the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra and Dr Anne Gray, Head of Australian Art at the National Gallery of Australia  
*Memoires Vives: une Histoire de l'Art Aborigenene Australien/ Vivid Memories: an Aboriginal Art History* Musée d'Aquitaine, Bordeaux, France, curated by Paul Matharan and Arnaud Morvan  
*My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Australia* QAGOMA, curated by Bruce McLean  
*Berlin Preview Berlin*, in conjunction with Michael Reid Berlin and Arts Queensland  
*New 2013* University of Queensland Art Museum, curated by Michele Helmrich  
*Danie Mellor* Sydney Contemporary Art Fair with Jan Murphy Gallery and Sophie Gannon Gallery

**2012**

*unDisclosed 2nd National Indigenous Art Triennial*, National Gallery of Australia, curated by Carly Lane  
*Terrain: crossing landscape and country* AGSA, curated by Lisa Slade, Project Curator  
*NEW 2011: Selected recent acquisitions* UQ Art Museum, curated by Michele Helmrich  
*Animal/Human*, UQ Art Museum curated by Michele Helmrich  
*Sculpture Is Everything: Contemporary Works From The Collection* QAGOMA  
*Keeping Places* AGSA, curated by Nici Cumpston, Curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art and Lisa Slade, Project Curator  
*Redlands Westpac Art Prize*, National Art School Gallery, Darlinghurst, curated by Lindy Lee  
*Bungaree*, Mosman Art Gallery touring exhibition, curated by Djon Mundine, OAM

**2011**

*Curious Colony* S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney (a Newcastle Region Art Gallery travelling exhibition, curated by Lisa Slade)  
*Your Move: Australian Artists Play Chess* The University of Queensland Art Museum; McClelland Gallery + Sculpture Park, The Elisabeth Murdoch Gallery; Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, University of South Australia (a Bendigo Art Gallery travelling exhibition)  
*Message Stick: Indigenous Identity in Urban Australia* an Artbank international touring exhibition  
*Reclaimed: Contemporary Australian Art* Bathurst Regional Gallery, curated by Richard Perram  
*Global Backyard* La Trobe Regional Gallery, Victoria, curated by Fiona West  
*Message Stick: Indigenous Identity in Urban Australia* an Artbank international touring exhibition  
*The New Arcadia* Lismore Regional Gallery, NSW

**2010**

*Your Move: Australian Artists Play Chess* Bendigo Art Gallery  
*Curious Colony* Newcastle Region Art Gallery, curated by Lisa Slade  
NATSIAA, Northern Territory Museum and Gallery, Darwin, NT  
*Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing*, PLC Croydon, NSW

## **TOLARNO GALLERIES**

*Time Travel: Reimagining the Past Tweed River Art Gallery, curated by Susi Muddiman*  
*Interpreting Portraits: Macquarie 1810 – 2010 Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, curated by Kathleen von Witt*

### **2009**

*MCA Collection: New Acquisitions, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney*  
*Culture Warriors: National Contemporary Indigenous Art Triennial, curated by Brenda Croft, National Gallery touring exhibition at GOMA, and Katzen Arts Centre, American University Museum, American University, Washington, USA*  
*Menagerie, Australian Museum and Object Gallery, curated by Nicole Foreshew & Brian Parkes*  
*Floating Life, Contemporary Aboriginal Fibre Art GOMA, Brisbane*  
*Animal Attraction, Newcastle Region Gallery, NSW curated by Lisa Slade*  
*Bravura curated by Robert Reason, AGSA*  
*NATSIAA, Northern Territory Museum and Gallery, Darwin, NT*

### **2007**

*Culture Warriors: National Contemporary Indigenous Art Triennial, National Gallery of Australia, curated by Brenda Croft*  
*Indigenous Ceramic Art Award Shepparton Gallery, Vic*  
*NATSIAA, Northern Territory Museum and Gallery, Darwin, NT*

### **2006**

*Artbank: Celebrating 25 Years of Contemporary Art National touring exhibition*  
*NATSIAA, Northern Territory Museum and Gallery, Darwin, NT*  
*Important Aboriginal Art Caruana and Reid Fine Art, Elizabeth Bay, NSW*  
*3 Large Rooms Fireworks Gallery, Newstead*

### **2005**

*Primavera, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, curated by Felicity Fenner*

### **1992**

*Story Place – the art of Cape York and the Rainforest Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane*  
*Kanagawa International Print Triennial, Japan*  
*Sorak Biennale, Korea*  
*Internationaal Exlibriscentrumi, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium*  
*Passage, Kyoto Seika University, Japan*  
*Jacaranda Drawing Prize, Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW*  
*Native Titled Now, Tandanya, SA*  
*Fragile Objects, National Library, Canberra*  
*Fremantle Print Award and Exhibition, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA*  
*The Alice Springs Art Prize, Araluen, NT*  
*The Art of Place, Heritage Commission, Old Parliament House, Canberra, ACT*  
*Shield and Show Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Townsville, Queensland*  
*National Works on Paper, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, VIC*  
*NATSIAA, Northern Territory Museum and Gallery, Darwin, NT*  
*Important Works on Paper Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Woollahra*  
*Fremantle Print prize and Exhibition, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA*

### **AWARDS**

Winner, Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing, PLC Croydon, NSW, 2010  
Winner, 26<sup>th</sup> National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, Museum and Gallery of the Northern Territory, 2009

Winner, 2009 Indigenous Ceramics Award, Shepparton Art Gallery  
Winner, 2008 Tallis Foundation National Works on Paper, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery  
Highly Commended, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards 2002, 2003, 2007  
Canberra Critic's Choice Award for Visual Arts, 2006  
Research and Development grant, University of Sydney, 2006  
Australian Research Council Research grant, 2000-2003  
Post Graduate Study Award, ANU, 2000-2004  
Rotary Art Prize, 1996  
DEETYA Overseas Study Award, 1995  
Australian National University Award, 1994

### **COMMISSIONS**

480 Queen Street with Grocon/DEXUS/ BVN Architecture & Donovan Hill  
Darling Harbour with Lend Lease/HASSELL  
Australian National University  
Boulderstone Hornibrook Unilodge, ANU  
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), Canberra  
Australian Indigenous Cultural Network, AIATSIS  
Tandanya, National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide  
Tjabal Indigenous Student Centre, ANU

### **CONFERENCES**

Australian Davos Connection Future Summit 2011 Melbourne  
Invited session presenter, EMBA, USYD Business School 2010, 2011  
The great work of china (keynote) Australian Ceramics Triennial 2009 Sydney  
Artists' Voice Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney November 2005 and 2010  
Australian Davos Connection, invited session facilitator, Australian Leadership Retreat, Hayman Island, 2009  
Artist Danie Mellor Discusses art and Life ABC Stateline, 20 June 2008 (broadcast Canberra, North Queensland)  
Memento 6th Australian Print Symposium, National Gallery of Australia, April 2007  
How to hold a spear thrower AAANZ, Canberra 2003

### **SELECTED COLLECTIONS**

National Gallery of Australia  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney  
National Gallery of Canada  
Queensland Art Gallery  
Art Gallery of South Australia  
Art Gallery of Western Australia  
National Gallery of Victoria  
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory  
Queensland Museum  
Australian Museum  
National Museums Scotland  
Canberra Museum and Gallery  
Sir Elton John Collection  
Brian and Gene Sherman  
Westpac  
Artbank

New Parliament House Art Collection  
Warrnambool Art Gallery  
Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery  
City of Sydney Art Collection  
Adelaide Festival Centre  
Muswellbrook Regional Gallery  
Cairns Regional Gallery  
Shepparton Regional Gallery  
Campbelltown Arts Centre  
Newcastle Region Art Gallery  
Wollongong Art Gallery  
Kerry Stokes Collection  
Packer Collection  
Holmes à Court Collection  
Mallesons, Stephens, Jacques  
Australian National University  
Flinders University  
University of Queensland Art Museum  
Garangula Gallery  
Murdoch University Art Collection  
PLC Croydon NSW  
Tjabal Centre, ANU  
Tuggeranong Arts Centre

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Turner, Brook *Out of the Grid* The Financial Review, 25 June, 2003  
Byrne, Lisa *Discrepant MUSE*, September 2003  
Caruana, Wally *The Great Creative Golden age of Long ago and Here and Now* catalogue essay, Caruana, September 2008  
Caruana, Wally *Visions of a Curious Wonderland* catalogue essay, 2007  
Caruana, Wally *Culture Warriors* Frieze Magazine Issue 116 June, Aug 2008  
Clemens, Justin *John Howard in Toytown – Hip politics at the Sydney Museum of Contemporary Art* The Monthly, November, 2005  
Cosic, Miriam *Led by visions of their own* The Australian October 12, 2007  
*Culture Warriors – A Nine Part Indigenous Arts Showcase National Indigenous Television*, broadcast from July 2009  
Creagh, Sunanda *Young artists redraw perceptions of the land* Sydney Morning Herald, September 8, 2005  
Dart, Jonathan *Culture Warriors departs from tradition* Canberra Times, October 6, 2007: 9  
Dawson, Jessica *Australian Indigenous Art Triennial: Culture warriors* Washington Post, Friday, September 11, 2009  
Djon Ian Denham, Peter and Johnson, Trish *Story Place* The Courier Mail, 26 July 2003  
Desmon, Michael *Culture Warriors* CVA+C Broadsheet 2007: 46  
Flynn, Chloe *Telling stories* State of the arts, Visual arts August 2003  
Gardner, Jorian *Two visually stunning shows from CMAG* The Canberra Review, July, 2006  
Garrett, Catherine *Danie Mellor's Art* ABC Stateline, broadcast June 20, 2008  
Grishin, Sasha *Concept of Display*, on Show Sunday Times, Canberra Times, August 20, 2006: 8-9  
Higson, Rosalie *Cool and Collectable* The Australian, 28 August 2003  
Jensen, Erik *Mr Yalandja's traditional sculptures go to Washington* The Sydney Morning Herald October 12, 2007  
La, Khadija *Culture Warriors* Artlink Vol30, No 10, 2010

## TOLARNO GALLERIES

- McClean, Sandra *Art of the Accidental*, The Courier Mail, March 12-13, 2005
- McDonald, John *NATSIAA finalist Danie Mellor takes the expanded world view*, Australian Financial Review, 23 July 2019
- McDonald, John *A vivid trip Back to where it all began* Sydney Morning Herald Saturday January 12, 2008
- McKenzie, Yanada Peter Sotry *Place: Indigeneous art of Cape York and the rainforest* Craft Culture November 28, 2003
- Moses, Alexa *Primavera takes on a new sheen* Sydney Morning Herald, September 24, 2005
- Mundine, Djon *Cows & Kangaroos and Cultural Collations* MUSE, October, 2002
- Mundine, Djon *Good, better, best: the art of Danie Mellor* Art & Australia, Spring 2012
- Nicholls, Christine *Culture Warriors: National Indigenous Art Triennial* Object Magazine Studio Edition Issue 55, April – July 2008:56
- Nicholls, Christine *A Battle Worn World* Sculpture News Volume 14, Number 1 Winter, 2008
- Nunn, Louise *Big guns feature in art tour* The Advertiser, June 24, 2008
- Snell, Ted *Unfolding a Winner* The Australian, 15 September 2003
- Taylor, Luke *Culture Warriors (National Indigenous Art Triennial: 07)* reCollections Journal of the National Museum of Australia Volume 3, Number 1 ISSN 1833-4946
- Thomas, Daniel *Indigenous Triennial* Artlink Vol 27, no 4
- Sunanda Creagh *Young artists redraw perceptions of the land*, Sydney Morning Herald, September 7, 2005
- Sorenson, Rosemary *The Story of the Cape* The Courier Mail, 19 July, 2003
- Sorenson, Rosemary *Tie that kangaroo down on a dinner plate, mate* The Australian, May 3, 2007: 36
- Were, Ian *Story Place* (catalogue) Queensland Art Gallery, July, 2003