

Brent Harris

Biography

Born Palmerston North, New Zealand, 1956.

Arrived Australia 1981,

Australian Citizenship 1996

Lives Melbourne

Education

1982–84

Bachelor of Fine Art, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

1981

Diploma of Art and Design, Footscray College of TAFE, Melbourne

Selected solo exhibitions

2024

Drawings and new Paintings, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

Surrender and Catch, Art Gallery of South Australia

2023

Surrender and Catch, Tarrawarra

Brent Harris: The Other Side, Auckland Art Gallery, NZ

Transfiguration, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington NZ

2022

Monkey Business Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

2021

The Stations Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand

2019

Towards The Swamp, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna O Waiwhetu, New Zealand
peaks, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington

2018

to the forest, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington

2017

the small sword, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

2016

the other side, Martin Browne Contemporary, Sydney
Brent Harris, Works on Paper, Warrnambool, Victoria
the other side, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

2015

Dreamer, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne
On Becoming: Brent Harris, Hamilton Gallery, Victoria

2013

embark, Lister Gallery, Subiaco, Perth

2012

the fall, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne
Brent Harris, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

2011

the reassembled self, Martin Browne Contemporary, Sydney

2010

Surrender and Catch, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

2008

Deluge, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

2007

Heads, Lister Gallery, Perth
Borrowed plumage, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney

2006

Deities, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne
Just a feeling: Brent Harris, selected works 1987–2005, the Ian Potter Museum of Art, the University of Melbourne
Swamp op—Brent Harris, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth

2005

Singapore print and paper pulp works, Singapore Tyler Print Institute
Plato's cave, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

2004

The face, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

2003

Sleep: twenty small paintings, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney

2002

Grotesquerie, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney

Grotesquerie, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

2001

Prints 1988–2001, Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra

Swamp, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney

2000

Prints 1989–2000, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

1999

Swamp, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

The untimely, Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney

1998

'To the forest' and 'Drift', a set of 10 intaglio prints, Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney

1997

The untimely, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

1996

Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney

That uncertain feeling, Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia, Adelaide

1995

Karyn Lovegrove Gallery, Melbourne

Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney

1993

Karyn Lovegrove Gallery, Melbourne

1992

Karyn Lovegrove Gallery, Melbourne

1989

The Stations, 13 Verity Street, Melbourne

1988

13 Verity Street, Melbourne

Selected group exhibitions**2024**

Stop Making Sense: Surrealist Legacies, The Suter Art Gallery, Nelson New Zealand

Figure Holding Ground, Contemporary Art Tasmania
Cloud Study, *Horion of Trees*, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand

2022

Queer: Stories from the NGV Collection National Gallery of Victoria
Antidotes, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington

2021

Mānawatia Takatāpui / Defending Plurality, Tauranga Art Gallery
Auckland Art Fair, Robert Heald Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

2020

Before Hand: The private life of a portrait, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
Illuminations, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington
Te Wheke: Pathways Across Oceania, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna O Waiwhetu, New Zealand
2020 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: *Monster Theatres*, Art Gallery of South Australia
The Long Kiss Goodbye, Perth Festival, Laurence Wilson Art Gallery, The University of Western Australia

2019

On Vulnerability and Doubt, ACCA, Melbourne
A Place for Everything, Artbank Melbourne
Ways of Seeing: Recent Acquisitions from the collection, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

2018

High Windows, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington
Material Feeling, Megalo Print Studio + Gallery, Canberra
Dark [Other] Times, Plimsoll Gallery, School of Creative Arts, University of Tasmania
Auckland Art Fair, Auckland, New Zealand

2017

Every Brilliant Eye, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Versus Rodin, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

2016

The Hunch, Incinerator Gallery, Moonee Ponds, Melbourne

2014

The less there is to see the more important it is to look, The Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne
Transmissions Archiving HIV AIDS, George Paton Gallery, University of Melbourne
Hong Kong Art Fair, Tolarno Galleries

2013

Vibrant Matter, Tarrawarra Museum of Art, Healesville, Victoria

National Artists' Self-Portrait Prize, The University of Queensland, Brisbane
Melbourne Now, NGV, Melbourne
Theatre of the World, La Maison Rouge, Paris, France

2012

Theatre of the World, MONA, Hobart, Tasmania
Louise Bourgeois and Australian Artists, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
Lightness and Gravity; Contemporary works from the Collection, GOMA, Brisbane

2011

Out of Australia, British Museum, London

2010

Change, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne

2009

The things I have seen and the money I have spent, British School at Rome

2006

Before The Body – Matter, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne
Tarrawarra Biennial 2006; Parallel Lives: Australian Painting Today, Tarrawarra, Victoria

2005

Drawn from the collection, NGV International, Melbourne
Extra-aesthetic: 25 views of the Monash University Collection, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne

2004

HANGA: selected artists from the Nagasawa Art Park residency, Devonport Regional Gallery, Tasmania
Making portraits: five years of National Portrait Gallery commissions, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra

2003

Orifice, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne

2002

Archibald prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; tour of regional New South Wales; and *George Adams Gallery*, Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne
Fieldwork: Australian art 1968–2002, the Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Melbourne
It's a beautiful day: new painting in Australia: 2, the Ian Potter Museum of Art, the University of Melbourne, and Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

2001

Art on paper, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney
Low-down: recent acquisitions, Monash University Collection, Monash University Gallery, Melbourne
Painting: an arcane technology, the Ian Potter Museum of Art, the University of

Melbourne

A studio in Paris: Australian artists at the Cité Internationale des Arts, 1967–2000, SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney

2000

The Chartwell Collection: recent acquisitions, Auckland Art Gallery, New Zealand

Sensational painting, Holmes à Court Gallery, Perth

Spitting and biting: ten contemporary artists and the print, Monash University Gallery,

Melbourne
Workings of the mind: Melbourne printing 1960–2000, Queensland University of Technology Art Museum, Brisbane, and tour

1999

Woodblock prints from Nagasawa AIR Program, Sanko Gallery, Kobe, Japan

1998

Private parts, Monash University Gallery, Melbourne

Sets and series, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

1997

Geometric painting in Australia 1941–1997, University Art Museum, University of Queensland, Brisbane

Queer crossing, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, College of Fine Arts, the University of New South Wales, Sydney

1996

Drawn from life, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Other islands, art of the Pacific Rim, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

1993

The black show, Geelong Gallery, Victoria, and tour

Contemporary Australian painting: the Allen, Allen and Hemsley Collection, Westpac Gallery, Melbourne

1992

Australian pastels, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Recent acquisitions, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane

Rules for drawing, Mori Gallery, Sydney

Stations of the Cross, patronage and the visual arts: Rod Milgate and Brent Harris, Noosa Regional Gallery, Queensland

You are here, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, and tour

1991

Exposition, Art Dock Noumea, New Caledonia

John McCaughey memorial art prize, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

Loaded, 13 Verity Street, Melbourne

Moët & Chandon Australian Art Foundation touring exhibition, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, and tour

New art: contemporary Australian art acquisitions, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

Painting + perception, Mori Gallery, Sydney

Recent acquisitions, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

Room for abstraction, Heide Park and Art Gallery, Melbourne

The 2nd Tokyo art expo 1991, Tokyo International Trade Centre

The sublime imperative, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne

1989

Australian perspecta 1989, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

ICI Contemporary Art Collection exhibition, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Victoria, and Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne

Moët & Chandon Australian Art Foundation touring exhibition, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, and tour

Re: creation/re-creation: the art of copying 19th & 20th centuries, Monash University Gallery, Melbourne

1988

A new generation 1983–1988, the Philip Morris arts grant purchases, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Studio artists, 200 Gertrude Street inc. Gertrude Street Artists' Spaces, Melbourne

1987

Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch travelling fellowship exhibition, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

1985

Three new painters, 70 Arden Street, Melbourne

Grants and residencies

2008

Residency, Rome, Australia Council (Oct – 2009 through Jan 2010)

2004

Residency, Singapore Tyler Print Institute

1999

Residency, Nagasawa Art Park, Japan

1997

Grant, Visual Arts/Craft Board of the Australia Council

1993–94

Residency, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris (Visual Arts/Craft Board of the Australia Council and Power Institute, the University of Sydney)

1988

Grant, Visual Arts/Craft Board of the Australia Council

1987–89

Residency, 200 Gertrude Street inc. Gertrude Street Artists' Spaces, Melbourne

Selected collections

Artbank Collection
 Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
 Art Gallery of South Australia
 Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
 Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria
 British Museum, Department of prints and Drawings, London
 Chartwell Collection, Auckland, New Zealand
 Christchurch Art Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand
 Edith Cowan University Art Collection, Perth
 Geelong Gallery, Victoria
 Hamilton Gallery, Victoria
 Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
 Monash University Collection, Melbourne
 Murdoch University Art Collection, Perth
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
 National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
 National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
 National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
 Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
 Queensland University of Technology Art Collection, Brisbane
 Shepparton Art Museum, Victoria
 Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
 Tarrawarra Museum of Art Collection, Yarra Glen, Victoria
 Te Manawa (formerly Manawatu Art Gallery), Palmerston North, New Zealand
 The John McBride Collection
 The Ian Potter Museum of Art, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne
 The University of Queensland, Brisbane
 Tweed Regional Gallery, Queensland
 Wallace Arts Trust, Auckland, New Zealand
 Warrnambool Art Gallery, Victoria
 Wollongong City Art Gallery, Wollongong NSW

Bibliography Books

McCaughey, Patrick, *Strange Country: Why Australian Painting Matters*, 2014
 Grishin, Sasha, *Australian Art: A History*, 2014
 Colless, Edward, 'Blue funk: Brent Harris', *The error of my ways*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, 1995.
 Drury, Neville (ed.), *New art three: profiles in contemporary Australian art*, Craftsman House, Roseville, NSW, 1989.
 Grant, Kirsty & Cathy Leahy, *On paper: Australian prints and drawings in the National Gallery of Victoria*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 2003.
 Jason Smith, *Untitled*. Sonia Payes. *Portraits of Australian Artists*. 2007
 Stanhope, Zara, 'Brent Harris', in Jenepher Duncan & Linda Michael (eds), *Monash University Collection: four decades of collecting*, Monash University Museum of Art, Clayton, Vic., 2002.

Exhibition catalogues and Text

Brent Harris: *Surrender & Catch* exhibition publication, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, 2023

Versus Rodin, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide 2017

Melbourne Now, NGV, Melbourne 2013

Hansen, David, *Mnemosyne*, Theatre of the World, MONA, Hobart, Tasmania 2013

Devery, Jane, Brent Harris, NGV International, 2012

Clemens, Justin, *Soft Target*, Kaliman Gallery Sydney, 2007

Colless, Edward, *Brent Harris: That uncertain feeling*, Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia, Adelaide, 1996.

Cook, Robert, *Swamp op—Brent Harris*, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, 2006.

Gates, Merryn, *Re: creation/re-creation: the art of copying 19th & 20th centuries*, Monash University Gallery, Clayton, Vic., 1989.

Grant, Kirsty, 'Swamp (no. 2)', in Lisa Prager, Margaret Trudgeon & Dianne Waite (eds), *Fieldwork, Australian art 1968–2002*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne.

Kadota, Keiko, Jane Stewart et al., *Hanga: selected artists from the Nagasawa Art Park residency*, Devonport Regional Gallery, Tas., 2004.

Lindsay, Frances, *Moët & Chandon Australian Art Foundation touring exhibition*, Moët & Chandon Australian Art Foundation, Sydney, 1991.

Miller, Steven, *Brent Harris: The face*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 2004.

Mollison, James, *Brent Harris: Singapore print and paper pulp works*, eds Matin Tran & Laura A Taylor, Singapore Tyler Print Institute, 2005.

Moore, Ross, *Brent Harris: The untimely*, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 1997.

Roberts, Luke & Scott Redford, *You are here*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, & Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney, 1992.

Starr, Bala, *It's a beautiful day: new painting in Australia: 2*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 2002.

Timms, Peter, *The black show*, Geelong Gallery, Vic., 1993.

Trounson, Alan, in Max Delany & Kirrily Hammond (eds), *Extra-aesthetic: 25 views of the Monash University Collection*, Monash University Museum of Art, Clayton, Vic. 2005.

Wardell, Michael, 'Brent Harris', *Australian perspecta 1989*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 1989.

Yamamoto, Susumo, *The 2nd Tokyo art expo 1991*, Japan Art Publishing Co. Ltd, Tokyo, 1991. Zagala, Maria, *Drawn from the collection*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 2005.

Journal, magazine and newspaper articles and reviews

'Artist profile', *Artbank*, no. 4, 2000.

Colless, Edward, 'Australian perspecta 1989', *Eyeline*, no. 10, 1989.

Crawford, Ashley, 'Brent Harris: between quotation and homage', *Tension*, no. 15, 1988.

Dodge, Alan R, 'Brent Harris: The Stations', *Tension*, no. 18, 1989.

Dodge, Alan R, 'Brent Harris: consistency and contradiction', *Art & Australia*, vol. 31, no. 4, 1994. Hill, Peter, 'The wagers of sin', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 29 May 2004.

McAuliffe, Chris, 'The blank generation? Monochrome in the eighties and beyond', *Art + Text*, no. 44, 1993.

McDonald, Ewen, 'Sydney', *Contemporanea*, New York, vol. II, no. 5, 1989.

Mollison, James, 'Brent Harris: "Bubbles", "Just a feeling", "Sleep"', *Art & Australia*, vol. 42, no. 1, 2004.

Nicholson, Tom, 'On becoming figurative: the art of Brent Harris', *Broadsheet*, vol. 5, no. 2, 1996. Nicholson, Tom, 'Brent Harris', *Artext*, no. 68, 2000.

Rooney, Robert, 'Sold on an iconic tone of success', *The Australian*, 16–17 September 1989.