

Tom Blake.

b. 1985, Perth; lives and works in Walyalup / Fremantle

Tom Blake's practice draws on fragmented moments, looped imagery and recurring motifs as potential sites for contemplating the psychological, architectural and technological frameworks that surround us.

'Most of the work I do starts with drawing,' says the artist about his wide-ranging practice. The drawings are then fragmented and redrawn, and the new compositions incorporated into cyanotypes, hand-etched de-silvered mirrors, mobiles and installations. 'There's a balance between concept and formalism, and where those two meet,' explains Tom.



Tom has exhibited in Australia, Japan and Italy, and has undertaken residencies with Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA), Museo de Arte Moderno Chiloé (MAM), Fremantle Arts Centre (FAC), North Metro TAFE, Sapporo Tenjinyama Art Studio, and Parramatta Artists' Studios. He was a 2013 recipient of a Clitheroe Foundation Mentorship.

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AWARDS & COMMISSIONS

- 2025 *Invitation Art Prize*, City of Joondalup, WA (shortlisted)
- 2024 *National Works on Paper*, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery (finalist)
leaves in the stream, PICA commission for bleed online
- 2023 *Ramsay Art Prize*, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide (finalist)
Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
- 2021 *Dobell Drawing Prize #22*, National Art School, Sydney (finalist)
- 2018 *Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize*, Woollahra Art Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre (finalist)
- 2016 *The Blake Prize*, Casula Powerhouse (finalist)
- 2015 *Claremont Art Award*, Town of Claremont, WA (finalist)
- 2013 *Apache CLIP Awards*, PCP (finalist)
- 2012 *Feast your Eyes 'Container Project'* (winner)

GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

- 2024 PICA International Studio Exchange Program, (Treasure Hill Artist Villiage) Taipei, Taiwan
- 2022 Megalo Print Studio, Artist-in-Residence, Canberra
- 2020 Fremantle Arts Centre, Moores Building Residency
Copyright Agency, Cultural Fund Resilience Grant
- 2019 Parramatta Artists' Studios, One Year Studio Tenancy
- 2018 Australia Council for the Arts, Arts Projects for Individuals & Groups
Parramatta Artists' Studios, One Year Studio Tenancy
- 2017 Sapporo Tenjinyama Art Studio (Japan), Artist Residency
- 2016 Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts, Studio Residency
North Metro TAFE, Artist Residency
Museo de Arte Moderno (Chiloé), Studio Residency
SITUATE Art Lab, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart
Department of Culture and the Arts (WA), Creative Development
- 2015 Proximity Artist Lab, Helen Cole (UK), AGWA
Fremantle Arts Centre, AiR studio seven
Proximity Mentorship (Dr David Williams)
Department of Culture and the Arts (WA), Artflight
- 2014 Future/Forward Travel Bursary, NAVA
Fremantle Arts Centre, AiR studio one
- 2013 Mindaroo Foundation, Interstate Freight Grant
Alcoa Aluminium Materials, Grant
Clitheroe Foundation Emerging Sculptor Mentorship, (w/ Ken Unsworth)
Alcoa Aluminium, Materials Grant

COLLECTIONS

Wesfarmers Collection, WA
City of Bunbury Art Collection, WA
Murray Art Museum Albury, NSW

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 index of a stream, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2024 thoughts are metallic they melt in salt water, Perth Festival, Perth
leaves on the sea, Treasure Hill Artist Village, Taiwan
- 2022 holding leaves (index), N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2020 leaf on the stairs, KNULP, Sydney
- 2018 it's hard to move away from turning water, Firstdraft, Sydney
the foam that floats on stagnant pools, c3 Contemporary Art Space, Melbourne
- 2017 downstream dreams, Moana Project Space, Perth
seeing 眼 in the stream, Tenjinyama Art Studio, Japan
- 2015 Boundless Planes, some.center, Sydney

- 2014 House of Kardia, Lawton House, West Perth
2012 On the Verge, The Film & Television Institute (FTI), Fremantle
2011 Dark Shapes / Miniature Colours, MKDC Gallery, Perth

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Art Fair Tokyo, N.Smith Gallery booth, Ginza, Japan
Summer '26, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2025 Tension (curated by Shaye Preston and Kate Dolan), Hayside Gallery, Subiaco
Art Fair Tokyo, N.Smith Gallery booth, Ginza, Japan
Melbourne Art Fair, N.Smith Gallery booth, Melbourne
Yesterday, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
The Interior, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Summer '25, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Mirror Image, Lawson Flats, Perth
- 2024 Biennial Live Event in the Everyday Digital, PICA, Perth
Sydney Contemporary, N.Smith Gallery Paper booth
Art Fair Tokyo, N.Smith Gallery booth, Ginza, Japan
Sunrise, Sunset, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2023 Cloud 9, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Library Arrangement, ReadingRoom, Melbourne
Ramsay Art Prize, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
- 2022 Keeping Score, Tracing Time, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
Hidden Rookwood Films, Rookwood, Sydney
Out of Bounds, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Perth
- 2021 Opening Exhibition: Welcome, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Tributary Projects, Canberra
Dobell Drawing Prize #22, National Art School, Sydney
NO SHOW, (w/ Firstdraft) (Curated by Aarna Hanley), Carriageworks, Sydney
Dhawun Guwaala-y (curated by Dominique Chen & Samuel Chen), Nexus Arts, Adelaide
slippery when wet (curated by Benjamin Clay), Olsen Annexe, Sydney
IMA Gala and Benefit Auction, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 2020 Against separation (curated by Elyse Goldfinch), Fires, Sydney
the churchie (curated by Talia Smith), Institute of Modern Art (IMA), Brisbane
field notes for care workers (online program by Sofie Burgoyne) w/ Dominique Chen, Bus
Projects, Melbourne
mixed business (curated by Suzanne Claridge & Gianna Hayes), Pari, Parramatta
- 2019 All things are water (curated by Meryl Ryan & Naomi Riddle), The Lock-Up Artspace,
Newcastle
Fremantle Biennale: Undercurrent, Fremantle
SPRING1883, The Establishment, (with Success Arts), Sydney
Site Seeing (curated by Tian Zhang), PAS, Sydney
The Utopian Object, c3 Contemporary Art Space, Melbourne
Saturated Terrain (curated by Kate Britton for Art Month), Incinerator Art Space
- 2018 All the parts I like about you, Ideas Platform (curated by Sophia Kouyoumdjian, Michelle
Newton, Lola Pinder & Alexie Glass-Kantor), Artspace, Sydney
Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre
A Score to Scratch the Surface (with Dominique Chen), The Unconformity, Tasmania
some things only become clear much later (curated by Hayley Megan-French), PAS, Sydney

- 2017 Warp (curated by Amy Marjoram), Fremantle Arts Centre (FAC)
Antarctica (curated by Nadim Samman & Alexander Ponomarev), Antarctic Pavilion, Italy
Bunbury Biennale (curated by Caro Lunel), Bunbury Regional Art Gallery (BRAG)
- 2016 Radical Ecologies (as part of the 'cene) curated by Andrew Varano, Leigh Robb & Nadia Johnson, PICA
Speed (curated by Bianca Acimovic), Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA)
Twelve Grows (as part of the 'cene), Paper Mountain, Perth
The Blake Prize, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre (CPAC), Liverpool
- 2015 Proximity (curated by Kelli McCluskey & Sarah Rowbottam), Art Gallery of Western Australia (AGWA)
Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre
Bunbury Biennale (curated by Caro Lunel), Bunbury Regional Art Gallery
Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre
- 2014 Embrace, M Contemporary, Sydney
PUBLIC House, FORM, Perth
- 2013 Sculpture by the Sea, Sydney
Bright Lights, Small City (curated by Karys McEwen), Buratti Fine Art, Fremantle
Contemporary Landscapes in Photography, PCP Gallery, Perth
#AFOMFT, Beaufort St Festival, Perth
- 2012 FotoFreo Festival, Fremantle
- 2010 HRAFF (Film Festival), Freerange Gallery, Perth

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- MeMO, Tom Blake: holding leaves (index.), Naomi Riddle, 2022
Institute of Modern Art, 'A Crack in the Surface, Talia Smith, 2020
Art Collector, '50 Things Collectors Should Know: Tom Blake', Jane O'Sullivan, Issue 91(January-March), 2020
Mixed Business, Isaac Di Matteo & Jack De Lacy, 2020
The Lock-Up Art Space, 'all things are water', Naomi Riddle, 2019
Artist Profile, 'Review: all things are water', Madeleine K Snow, November-December 2019
The Conversation, 'The Unconformity Festival', Asher Warren, 2018
Running Dog, 'it's hard to move away from turning water', Naomi Riddle, 23 November 2018
Real Time, 'Inside the real/digital warp', Laetitia Wilson, 2017
Quo Artis, 'A Diary in Antarctica', Wakana Kono, 2017
Moana Project Space, 'Downstream Dreams', Chelsea Hopper, 2017
RealTime, 'Varieties of Creative Intimacy', Nerida Dickinson, 2015