

JOAN ROSS

b. Glasgow, Scotland; lives and works in Warrung / Sydney

EDUCATION

- 1980 Art Certificate, Liverpool Technical College
- 1981 Post-Certificate in painting, East Sydney Technical College.
- 1985 Bachelor of Visual Arts, City Art Institute UNSW
- 2012 Masters of Fine Arts, College of Fine Arts, UNSW

AWARDS

- 2024 Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW (finalist)
Bowness Photography Prize, Museum of Australian Photography (finalist)
- 2023 Valerie Taylor Art Prize (winner)
Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW (finalist)
National Art School Fellowship
- 2022 15 Artists, Redcliffe Regional Gallery, Brisbane (finalist)
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW (finalist)
- 2021 Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW (finalist)
- 2019 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW (finalist)
- 2018 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW (finalist)
- 2017 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW (winner)
Ravenswood Womans Art Prize (winner)
- 2016 The 2016 Sovereign Asian Art Prize, Hong Kong (finalist)
- 2013 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize (finalist)
Fremantle Print Prize, Fremantle Arts Centre (finalist)
Blake Prize for Religious Art (finalist)
- 2012 Redlands Westpac Art Prize – Viewer's Choice Award (winner)
- 2011 RBS Emerging Artist Award (highly commended)
National Artists' Self-Portrait Prize, UQ Art Museum (finalist)
- 2009 58th Blake Prize (finalist)
Art on Paper, Hazelhurst Art Award (finalist)
RBS Emerging Artist Award (finalist)
- 2008 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize (finalist)
National Works on Paper prize, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery (finalist)
- 2006 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize (finalist)
- 2005 Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award (winner)
Canberra Contemporary Art Prize, Canberra Contemporary Art Space (finalist)
- 2004 Canberra Contemporary Art Prize, Canberra Contemporary Art Space (finalist)
- 2002 Redlands Westpac Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
- 1997 Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
- 1993 Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
- 1991 Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
- 1990 Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
- 1989 Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney (finalist)
- 1988 Lloyd Rees Youth Art Award (winner)
- 1986 Mitchell Cottis Award, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney

COMMISSIONS, GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

- 2018 Australian Centre for the Moving Image/Mordant Family VR Commission
- 2017 New Work Grant, Visual Arts Board, Australia Council for the Arts
- 2016 Glennfiddich Artists Residency

- 2014 Turner Galleries Residency, Perth Australia
- 2012 New Work Grant, Visual Arts Board, Australia Council for the Arts
- 2011 Australian Postgraduate Award Scholarship
- 2010 The Lockup residency, Newcastle
Arts NSW Grant – through Newcastle Regional Gallery
- 1990 Project Grant, Visual Arts Fund, Australia Council for the Arts

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia
Art Gallery of New South Wales
Art Gallery of South Australia
Museum of Contemporary Art Sydney
Bathurst Regional Art Gallery
Gold Coast Regional Gallery
Newcastle Region Art Gallery
Penrith Regional and Lewers Bequest
Campbelltown Art Centre
Wagga Wagga Art Gallery
Bega Regional Art Gallery
New England Regional Art Museum
Artbank
University of Sydney
University of Wollongong
Macquarie Group Collection
Westpac Bank Collection
Kaldor Art Projects: MOVE
Private collections, Australia wide, London, Beijing, Singapore

PUBLIC ART

- 2020-2022 We have sung the same song for millions of years, Sydney Modern Project,
commissioned by the Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2021 Collectors Paradise Projection, Enlighten, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Solo, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2024-2025 Those trees came back to me in my dreams, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
- 2024 Let's party like it's 1815, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria
- 2023 Imagine if they'd cared, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Don't let leaves into your house, Bett Gallery, Hobart
- 2022 Possession, N.Smith Gallery booth – Sydney Contemporary, Sydney
- 2021 I like to name everything after myself, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Land of the broken hearted, Bett Gallery, Hobart
Collectors Paradise Projection, Enlighten Festival, National Gallery of Australia
- 2020 We have sung the same song, Hoarding commission, Art Gallery of New South Wales,
Sydney
- 2019 Collectors Paradise, Michael Reid Gallery, Sydney

I give you a mountain, Bett Gallery, Hobart
Did you ask the river?, Virtual Reality, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Melbourne
Did you ask the river?, Virtual Reality, Sydney Contemporary Installation, Carriageworks Sydney

- 2017 The art of trying to control flowers, Moana Project Space, Perth Festival WA
All you can eat Seafood Buffet, Installation, Barangaroo, Sydney
Project 333, Bank of America, Sydney
Recent Prints, Michael Reid Berlin, Germany
- 2016 TAKETAKETAKE, Bett Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2015 20-50% off all plants and animals, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba
I made this for you, Michael Reid Gallery, Sydney
- 2014 You can't just take everything, Turner Gallery Perth
We love your sunburnt country, Michael Reid Berlin
- 2013 Touching other people's shopping, Bett Gallery, Hobart
- 2012 The claiming of things, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney
BBQ this Sunday, BYO, Bett Gallery Hobart
MFA Exhibition, COFA space, College of Fine Arts Paddington
- 2011 BBQ this Sunday, BYO, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney
- 2010 Joan Ross: Enter at your own risk, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney
I don't think I can see you anymore, John Paynter Gallery, Newcastle
- 2008 Come a little closer, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney
- 2007 The knitted brow, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney
- 2006 Fur for instance, Tin Sheds Gallery, University of Sydney
- 2005 Pelt, Campbelltown Arts Centre
Afraid Not, Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest, Sydney
Like pulling hair from butter, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney
- 2004 OH MY GOD, Out of Gallery, Nepean Hospital, Kingswood
Preoccupied, St Bartholomew's Church, Prospect
- 2001 Flag Installation (with Pamela Croci), Katoomba
- 1998 WANTING, Plastic and Fur pictures, Gitte Weise, Sydney
- 1996 Performance protest & exhibition-on-self, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1993 Small Paintings. National Trust Centre, S.H. Ervin Gallery,
- 1989 Solo Exhibition, Roslyn Oxley 9 Gallery, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Bankstown Biennale, Bankstown Arts Centre, Sydney

Summer '25, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney

- 2024 Sydney Contemporary, N.Smith Gallery Paper booth
We Move As A Murmuration, Timespan, Helmsdale, Scotland
Ross & Rothwell: in the same boat, Ngungungula, Southern Highlands Regional Gallery, Bowral
Art Fair Tokyo, N.Smith Gallery booth, Japan
Melbourne Art Fair, N.Smith Gallery booth, Melbourne
Sunrise, Sunset, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2023 Cloud 9, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Vision Splendid, Works from the UOW Collection, Hazelhurst Arts Centre
Wynne Prize (finalist), Art Gallery of NSW
Just not Australian, The Museum of Sydney
Australiana : Designing a Nation, Bendigo Art Gallery
Glover Prize finalist, Evandale Tasmania
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW
Sydney Contemporary, N.Smith Gallery booth, Sydney
- 2022 15 Artists, Redcliffe Regional Gallery, Brisbane
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW
Captivate, National Art School Sydney
New Stitches, Tamworth Regional Gallery
Destination Sydney, The Natural World, Manly Art Gallery and Museum
Birds and Language, Wollongong Art Gallery
A SHOW OF STRENGTH, Bett Gallery Hobart
- 2021 Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW
Know My Name, National Gallery of Australia
Destination Sydney, Manly Art Gallery & Museum, Sydney
Just Not Australian, Bathurst Regional Gallery, Maitland Regional Gallery & Blue Mountains Cultural Centre
The Call, curated by Alyce Neal, Michael Reid Gallery, Sydney
Requim, Janet Laurence SYDNEY FESTIVAL, Paddington Reservoir, Sydney
- 2020 Just Not Australian, Wollongong Art Gallery
Too Many Cooks, Plimsoll Gallery, University of Tasmania Hobart
SYMBIOSIS, Bankstown Biennale, Bankstown Arts Centre
CRITICAL MASS, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba
NAVIGATING COOK, Michael Reid Gallery Sydney
DEMAIN (TOMORROW), Bett Gallery Hobart
Hi Viz, Casula Powerhouse, Liverpool
RocColonial Lismore Regional Gallery
- 2019 Just Not Australian, ARTSPACE, Sydney
Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW
RocColonial Hazelhurst Arts Centre and Bathurst Regional Gallery
CAUGHT STEALING, National Art School Sydney
Lightyears, Michael Reid Gallery Sydney
Marriage: Love and Law, Penrith Regional Gallery
Borrowed Scenery, Campbelltown Arts Centre
- 2018 I give you a mountain, Michael Reid Gallery, Sydney Contemporary Art Fair
Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW

- WALL POWER: Contemporary Australian Photography, Embassy of Australia, Paris
1818 Project, Newcastle Art Gallery & Bega Regional Gallery
MOVING HISTORIES, Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery
Dispossessions and Possessions, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
National Art — Part One, National Art School Gallery, Sydney
TRANSFORMATIONS VR & 360° Video, The Connection, Rhodes
Ravenswood Art Prize, Ravenswood School, Gordon
Cultural Landscapes, Casula Powerhouse
- 2017 WORD, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
TRACKS AND TRACES: Contemporary Australian Art, The Negev Museum of Art, Be'er
Sheva Grounded, National Art School Gallery, Sydney
WALL POWER, Cologne, Berlin, Paris
Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW
All you can eat Seafood Buffet, Michael Reid , Sydney Contemporary Art Fair
Portraits of Men, Verge Gallery, Sydney University
Today Tomorrow Yesterday, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney
Poets and Painters at The Big Punchbowl, Bett Gallery Hobart
A New World, Incinerator Gallery Mooney Valley, Vic
Apologies to Roadkill: Life and Death in Contemporary Australian Art, Godinymayin
Yijard Rivers Art Centre, Katherine NT
YOUNG & FREE, Bega Valley Regional Gallery
How Does Your Garden Grow, Goulburn Regional Gallery
Colonial Afterlives, Western Plains Cultural Centre , Dubbo
People Like Us, Nautilus Arts Centre, Port Lincoln, SA
AUSTRALIA IN BERLIN, Australian Embassy, Berlin
- 2016 Today Tomorrow Yesterday, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
At Home, Old Government House Parramatta
All Dressed Up, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor
Tasmanian International Video Art Festival, Sawtooth Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania
The Glenfiddich Artist in Residence Exhibition, Scotland
Film Screening ATLAS, Isle of SKYE, Scotland
Fleurieu Art Prize, Samstag Museum, Adelaide
Best of the Best, National Gallery of Victoria
Beyond the Tower, UQ Art Museum, Brisbane
Collection, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre Katoomba
The 2016 Sovereign Asian Art Prize, Hong Kong
Recent Acquisitions, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
Antipodean Inquiry, Yavuz Gallery, Singapore
- 2015 Streetwise: Contemporary Print Culture, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
People Like Us, UNSW Galleries, Sydney
The Many, Juniper Hall, Paddington Sydney
Under Kunany, Bett Gallery, Hobart
Australia in Berlin, Australian Embassy, Berlin
Let's Go, Godsbanen, Aarhus, Denmark
Festival Hub Video Art, Sydney Contemporary @Sydney Film Festival
YOLO, Godsbanen, Aarhus, Denmark
Colonial Afterlives, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart, Tasmania
BRAG 200X200, Bathurst Regional Gallery, Bathurst NSW
HOME and HOUSED, Spectrum Project Space, Edith Cowan University WA
Wall Power, Michael Reid Gallery, Sydney

Portal to K-Town, Modern Art Projects, Copper Beech House Katoomba, curated by Claire Healy + Sean Cordiero
On This Site, Verge Gallery, Sydney University

- 2014 Glazed and Confused, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gymea
 SOUTH, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gymea
 Babana Mens Group, Carriageworks
 Contemporary art that glows, Capel off Chapel, Pahrn Melbourne
 Colonial grab, Micheal Reid Gallery, Melbourne Art Fair
 MicroParks, Possession is 9/10ths of the law, please keep off the grass, Performance
 Space
 Desire, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre
 For Lease, Breezeblock Sydney
 The Colonial to the Personal, Michael Reid at Peter Walker Gallery, Adelaide,
 Nature/Nurture, Karen Woodbury Gallery, Melbourne
 Striking Contrasts, Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (Touring)
- 2013 Australian Voices, Fine Art Society Contemporary London
 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney
 Please allow me to introduce myself, Strange Neighbours, Melbourne
 Fremantle Print Prize, Fremantle Arts Centre
 UNREAL, Tully Arnotts MCA ArtBar, MCA Sydney
 Oil!, Wellington Street Projects, Sydney
 Blake Prize for Religious Art, UNSW Galleries, Sydney
 Sydney Art Fair, Michael Reid Gallery
 dTV Screening, Cultural Creative, Federation Square, Melbourne
 Dot Gif, DNA Projects, Sydney.
 Plan B, Bathurst Regional Gallery.
 Close to Home, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre.
 Birdbath, Utopia Gallery, Sydney.
 The claiming of things, Mars Gallery, Melbourne.
 Birds, Penrith Regional Gallery and Lewers Bequest.
- 2012 Wonderland: New Contemporary Art from Australia, curated by Antoanetta Ivanova,
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei
 Panorama, Casula Powerhouse Art Centre, Sydney
 When I grow up I want to be a video artist, Artbank collection, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
 Hello Dollies, Penrith Regional Gallery, Sydney
 The Isle of Many Waters, Tasmania Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart.
 Cut with a kitchen knife, NETS Victoria touring exhibition at Counihan Gallery, Melbourne
 Redlands Westpac Art Prize, The National Art School Gallery, Sydney.
- 2011 Lycett and Ross, Campbelltown Arts Centre
 I was here, The Lock-up Cultural Centre, Newcastle
 Shelf Life, Delmar Gallery, Sydney
 National Artists' Self-Portrait Prize 2011: Life is risk / Art is risk, UQ Art Museum
 RBS Emerging Artist Award, Sydney
 Gbk, KIAF, Seoul, Korea
 The New Arcadia, Lismore Regional Gallery
 Art Through the Ages: The bog from when we came, Kudos Gallery, Sydney
 gbk, Hong Kong Art Fair
 Heads, Utopia Art Gallery, Sydney

- Curious Colony: A twenty first century Wunderkammer, S.H Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 2010 Sydney One Minutes, One Minutes Foundation, Shanghai World Pavilion, Shanghai
Shelf Life, Delmar Gallery, Sydney
SUPPORT, Shapiro Gallery, Sydney
gbk, Melbourne Art Fair
Still Life, FBI Radio art auction, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Curious Colony: A twenty first century Wunderkammer, Newcastle Region Art Gallery
Meet Joan Ross, The Playhouse Hotel, Barraba
Hidden, Rookwood Cemetery, Sydney
Constellations: A Large number of Small drawings, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
- 2009 A fairy's tail, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Sydney
I'm worst at what I do best, Parramatta Artist Studios, Sydney
Art on Paper, Hazelhurst Art Award, Hazelhurst Gallery, Sydney
RBS Emerging Artist Award, Sydney
58th Blake Prize, National Art School, Sydney
- 2008 Beastly, MOP Projects, Sydney
Trees for Children, Customs House, Sydney
The Year of the Bird, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Sydney
Lines in the Sand: Botany Bay Stories from 1770, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Sydney
BAZAAR 08, Terminus Projects, Sydney
gbk, Melbourne Art Fair
- 2007 2007: The Year in Art, S.H.Ervin Gallery, Sydney
CURRENT – sculpture projects in the River City, Parramatta City Council, Sydney
2007 gbk @ Silvershot, Silvershot, Melbourne
Blood Lines: Art and the Horse, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery
Art and Humour Too, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
The Coloured Digger, Damien Minton Gallery, Sydney
Regarding Retro, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery
L'Australia Immaginata, Monash University Prato Centre, Prato, Italy
Drawing Together, National Archives of Australia, Canberra
Living Elvis, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
- 2006 The Idea of the Animal, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne International Festival
The Great Dividing Range, curated by Lisa Byrne, Canberra Contemporary Art Space
Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney
Redlands Westpac Art Prize, Mosman Gallery, Sydney
- 2005 Canberra Contemporary Art Prize, Canberra Contemporary Art Space
Art on Paper Award, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery (winner)
Art + Humour, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
Regarding Retro, Blacktown Arts Centre, Sydney (touring)
- 2004 Canberra Contemporary Art Prize, Canberra Contemporary Art Space
- 2003 Home Sweet Home, The Peter Fay Collection, National Gallery of Australia
The Art of Collecting Contemporary Art, Damien Minton Gallery, Newcastle
The Styx Exhibition, Mori Gallery, Sydney
Picturing Paradise, Mori Gallery, Sydney
- 2002 Redlands Westpac Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney

- 1998 Salon des Refuses, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1997 Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Salon des Refuses, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1996 Salon des Refuses, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
A Touchy Subject, Sweet Foray Gallery, Katoomba NSW
- 1995 Octette, Eva Breuer Gallery, Sydney
- 1993 Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1991 A Figurative Focus, Tamworth Regional Gallery
Dissonance West, Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest, Sydney
Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1990 Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1989 Fresh Art, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Portia Geach Memorial Art Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1988 Lloyd Rees Youth Art Award, Lane Cove Library, Sydney
- 1986 Mitchell Cotts Award, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
- 1985 Past Your Eyes, Arthaus Gallery, Sydney
Lloyd Rees Youth Art Award, Lane Cove Library, Sydney
The Most Beautiful Show in the World, Mori Gallery, Sydney

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Sydney Morning Herald, 'Destination Sydney show merges nature with art', John McDonald, 10 February 2022
- Art Collector Magazine, 'Houston, We Have A Problem', Daniel Mudie Cunningham, #98 Oct – Dec 2021
- Institute of Modern Art, 'A Crack in the Surface, Talia Smith, 2020
- Guardian Australia, From Abdul Abdullah to Vincent Namatjira: 10 artists forging a new political future, 13 Jan 2020
- The Australian Newspaper, Joan Ross's BBQ this Sunday delivers beauty with bite, 2015
- Art Collector, What Now – Joan Ross speaks to Chloé Wolifson, 2014
- Art Collector, If I Could Have, Lisa Slade, 2014
- BBC & ABC TV, The Art of Australia, Edmund Capon, 2013
- Lismore Regional Gallery, The New Arcadia, ex. Cat, Kezia Geddes, 2011
- Art Collector, The Invisible Punch, Carrie Miller, issue 57, July – September 2011
- Sydney Morning Herald, Bright before your eyes, Andrew Frost, 29 October – 4 November 2010
- The Post, Joan Ross: Enter At Your Own Risk, Tracey Clement, 26 October 2010
- Art Monthly Australia, Curious Colony: A twenty first century Wunderkammer, David Hansen, issue 233, September 2010
- Newcastle Art Gallery, Curious Colony: A twenty first century Wunderkammer, Lisa Slade, 2010
- Rookwood Cemetery, Hidden: A Rockwood Sculpture Walk (ex. cat), 2010
- Sydney Morning Herald, Some say it's crook, but art is worth a look at Rookwood, Louise Schwartzkoff, 6 April 2010
- ABC, Visual Art: Sculpture; Sculptural walk hidden in graveyard, 22 March 2010
- Artist Profile, Joan Ross, Owen Craven, issue 08, 2009
- Sydney Morning Herald, All their eggs in one basket, John McDonald, 10–11 May 2008

Art & Australia, Art on the Outskirts: Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre, Dominique Angeloro, Vol. 5 No.3, Autumn 2007

Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre, Lines in the sand: Botany Bay Stories from 1770 (ex. cat.), Lisa Armitage, 29 March – 11 May 2008

Vogue, Five female artists to watch in 2008, Prue Gibson, January 2008

Blacktown Arts Centre, Work in Progress: Contemporary Drawing from Western Sydney (ex. cat.), Sophia Kouyoumdjian, 2006

Sydney Morning Herald, John McDonald, Fey way, 13-14 March 2005

Campbelltown Arts Centre, Jacqueline Millner, Pelt, Pelt: Joan Ross (ex. cat.), 2005

Sydney Morning Herald, Painting Dead? The future's not so bleak, John McDonald, 18 July 1998

Sydney Morning Herald, Bruce James, 14 July 1998

Sydney Morning Herald, Brook Turner, 3 October 1996

The Australian, Lynn Elwyn, 10 March 1995

Sydney Morning Herald, Felicity Fenner, 4 September 1994

Art & Australia: Eroticism Issue, Felicity Fenner, Spring 1992

Sydney Morning Herald, Christopher Allen, 2 December 1989

Sydney Morning Herald, Christopher Allen, 23 June 1988