

Natasha Walsh.

b. 1994, Sydney / Warrung; lives and works in Sydney

'My practice thrives on experimentation... I actually don't enjoy confronting my reflection. At times the vulnerability of this can be very disheartening and unpleasant.'

Natasha Walsh's practice is informed by an understanding of the artist as an alchemist. Known for her transformation of pigments on copper surfaces, Walsh's work acutely observes delicately-painted

figures that emerge from the surface. 'From the moment that I prepare the surface, it begins to naturally oxidise. I experiment with applying different ground pigments which change colour in response to this process. These paintings visibly age as I work on them. As such, my attempt to transfix time is inherently impossible and this interests me.'

Walsh has been a recipient of multiple awards, prizes, and scholarships, including The Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship, Mosman Art Prize, and The Kilgour Prize, and has been a finalist in The Archibald Prize four times, The BP Portrait Award (London National Portrait Gallery), The Royal Scottish Academy Annual Exhibition (Edinburgh), and The Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition (London).



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EDUCATION

2016 – 2017 MFA (Painting), National Art School, Sydney
2015 BFA Honours (Painting), National Art School, Sydney
2012 – 2014 Bachelor of Fine Art (Painting), National Art School, Sydney

SCHOLARSHIPS

2018 The Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship

AWARDS

2026 Dobell Foundation Artist in Residence Award, Bundanon (Winner)
2025 The Archibald Prize (Finalist)
The Wynne Prize (Finalist)
2024 The Archibald Prize (Finalist)
Ravenswood Art Prize (Finalist)
2023 The Archibald Prize (Finalist)
2022 The Archibald Prize (Finalist)
2021 Moran Portrait Prize (Semi-Finalist)
2020 Portia Geach Memorial Award (Highly Commended, Finalist)
15 Artists (Finalist)
2019 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize (Finalist)
The Archibald Prize (Finalist)
BP Portrait Award (London National Portrait Gallery) (Semi-Finalist)
2018 Mosman Art Prize (Winner)
Kilgour Prize (Winner)
The Archibald Prize (Finalist)
2017 Black Swan Prize (The Lester Prize) (Highly Commended)
Doug Moran National Portrait Prize (Finalist)
The Archibald Prize (Finalist)
Royal Scottish Academy Annual Exhibition, Edinburgh (Finalist)
Waverley Art Prize (Finalist)
Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition, London (Shortlisted)
2016 Portia Geach Memorial Award (Highly Commended)
Mosman Art Prize (Finalist)
The Archibald Prize (Finalist)
Kilgour Art Prize (Finalist)
Waverley Art Prize (Finalist)
Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition, London (Finalist)
The Chippendale New World Art Prize (Finalist)
2015 Guy Warren Emerging Artist Award (The Mosman Art Prize) (Winner)
Mosman Youth Art Prize, Tertiary Category (Finalist)
The Australian Watercolor Institute Award, Mosman Youth Art Prize (Finalist)
2014 The John Olsen Figurative Drawing Prize (Finalist)

GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

2026 Bundanon Artists in Residence, NSW
2023 Hysteria in the Studio, The National 4: Australian Art Now, Brett Whiteley Studio, Sydney
2019 Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris

COLLECTIONS

Private collections

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 The Window, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
2024 Hysteria, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney

- Our Nude, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2023 Untitled, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2022 Dear..., N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2017 Timepiece, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Melbourne Art Fair, N.Smith Gallery booth, Melbourne
- 2025 Summer '25, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Yesterday, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
Folio, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2024 Sunrise, Sunset, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
- 2023 Cloud 9, N.Smith Gallery, Sydney
The National 4: Australian Art Now, Brett Whiteley Studio, Sydney
Sydney Contemporary, N.Smith Gallery booth, Sydney
- 2022 Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
From Margaret Olley to Salote Tawale: 75 Years of the Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2020 15 Artists, Redcliffe Art Gallery
Portia Geach Memorial Award, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 2019 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, Paddington
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
The Whiteley at 20, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
The Fall, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney
- 2018 The Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship Exhibition, Brett Whiteley Studio, Sydney
Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
Kilgour Art Prize, Newcastle Art Gallery, Sydney
Copper, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre
Invitational, Home@735 Art Gallery, Sydney
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Summer Group Show, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney
- 2017 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, Paddington
The Black Swan Prize, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
RSA Annual exhibition, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, Scotland
Waverley Art Prize Finalist Exhibition, Sydney
Introducing V, MAY SPACE, Sydney
- 2016 Portia Geach Memorial Award, National Trust S.H. Ervin Gallery
National Art School Postgraduate Exhibition, National Art School, Sydney
Mosman Art Prize Finalists Exhibition, Mosman Art Gallery
Archibald Prize, The Art Gallery of New South Wales
Kilgour Art Prize, Newcastle Art Gallery
Waverley Art Prize Finalist Exhibition
Art Now Revisited, Kensington Contemporary, Chippendale
Chippendale New World Art Prize (CNWAP) Exhibition, Kensington Contemporary, Chippendale, NSW
The Breakthrough Art Festival, Ambush Gallery, Chippendale

- 2015 National Art School Postgraduate Exhibition, National Art School, Sydney
Honours Painting Show, Library Stairwell Gallery, National Art School, Sydney
Another Day in Paradise: Painting from the National Art School, Sydney
Celebrating Art, Supporting Science, Dominik Mersch Gallery
Mosman Art Prize Finalists Exhibition, Mosman Art Gallery
Mosman Youth Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery
- 2014 The John Olsen Drawing Prize, National Art School, Sydney
The National Art School Graduate exhibition (Painting), Sydney
The Graduate Drawing Exhibition, The National Art School, Sydney

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Harper's Bazaar, 'Female gaze: Four Australian artists on reclaiming their own image', Mariela Summerhays, 27 September 2021
Frankie, 'Artist Interview – Natasha Walsh', Emma D, 15 April 2019
LOOK, 'Studio Visit: Natasha Walsh', Susannah Smith, January–February issue 2019
National Portrait Gallery, 'Observation Point – Natasha Walsh', Issue #61, Summer 2018
Art Almanac, 'Natasha Walsh wins the 2018 Mosman Art Prize', 26 September 2018
The Daily Telegraph, 'New accolade for rising art superstar', 2018
The Daily Telegraph, 'Artist turns her dyslexia into arts career', 2018
Art Guide, 'Natasha Walsh wins 2018 Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship', 10 September 2018
ArtAsiaPacific, 'Natasha Walsh Wins 2018 Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship', Dennis Mao, 8 September 2018
The Australian, 'Secret colours on copper win the Whiteley for Walsh', Matthew Westwood, 7 September 2018
Limelight Magazine, 'Natasha Walsh wins 2018 Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship', Imogen Barker, 7 September 2018
Sydney Morning Herald, 'Self portrait wins artist Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship', Linda Morris, 6 September 2018