



Dean **HOME**

Dean was born in 1961, at Busselton Western Australia and studied 1979 -1982 at Curtin University, Perth. He was Lecturer in Drawing & Printmaking at Kalgoorlie College in 1985 and moved to Victoria to become Lecturer in Drawing, at Ballarat University College during 1986 and 1987.

Since his first exhibition in 1984 at Howard Street Gallery in Perth, Dean has had over fifty solo exhibitions across Australia. He has been included in over 20 significant group exhibitions.

In early 2019 Aileen and I were in Italy and France exploring new towns and revisiting some “old friends” unaware, like all of us, that something would soon rear up and dominate world events for two years – and probably beyond. In the turmoil then and now, I found myself in a fortunate position where the galleries that represent me pushed their boundaries and found a strong response from people now at home, their lives inside their houses.

Undoubtedly everyone has a story to tell about how they dealt with those difficult times - for me it coincided with developing the discoveries from that trip. This is my third solo show since returning from Europe and the ideas are coming into bloom now with this new body of work at Gallery One.

The discovery in Rome of the oft-mentioned but not before seen peonies on the roadside near the Mercato Trionfale was quite a surprise They were an explosion of colour and panache. We piled on the train back to our accommodation at Villa Ruffo with an armload of flowers, everyone viewing me as a likely hopeless romantic. The following photographic sessions with those flowers was very intense: I was not in my studio, I did not have the camera I would normally use and I had no access to the things I so often include in my paintings. The colours of these flowers, pure and intense, were vivid and saturated while the fragile delicacy of the petals was so revealing of moods and swings of temperament that I had not yet felt or projected. This was my first revelation. I still use many of those images to develop my ideas and compose new works and I have found different styles of peonies in Australia to add to my resources - it is a work in progress.

The Second wound to the heart was in Beaune, Cote D'Or in France and on the back of a mind-opening white wine experience. "Wake up!" I told myself. That ever-shimmering sense on my tongue was revealing to me how I needed to paint those peonies. I realised I would need to drive harder at my task to let that subtlety and shifting nuance come free to my work. I feel some good things have come from that.

Lastly, I revisited a modest-sized work in the Louvre, The Astrologer by an old flame of mine, *Johannes Vermeer*, which was compelling for me. I felt visceral sensations of the sense of time moving around, articulated by the character of individual objects: the street outside the window, the amazing brocade cascading over the table, the celestial globe, the astrologer himself all bringing their own sense of time and coming together in some synchronised movement like a hand-crafted clock. Somehow this moment gave me the tip about how disparate elements can create their own worlds and coalesce into something linked – a landscape, a flower, a stream, a bowl and brush.

I feel these influential moments were with me as I made the paintings I am showing here.

Solo Exhibitions:

50+ in Gold Coast, Perth, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne

2015 – 2016 – 2018 – 2021: Gallery One

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| 1992 | Bunbury Regional Gallery |
| 2016 | Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery |
| 2019 | Tweed River Regional Gallery |

Touring Exhibitions:

1998-1999 Stigma Touring exhibition: UTS Gallery, Sydney; Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic; Latrobe Regional Gallery, Vic; Hamilton Art Gallery, Vic; Drill Hall Gallery, ACT; Swan Hill Regional Gallery, Vic, Flinders University Art Gallery, SA.

1995 Moët & Chandon, Touring exhibition – all State galleries & NGA Finalist

Select Group Exhibitions:

2017 Orange Regional, Gallery Artist Profile: Australasian painters 2007 – 2017,
2014 Geelong Gallery, Contemporary Art Prize, Finalist
2013 Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, Finalist
2012 Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, Finalist
2012 Goulburn Regional Gallery, Australian Still Life -not just another bowl of flowers
2006 Mandorla Invitational Art Prize Finalist 2006, 2004, 2002 & 1991

2004 Fleurieu Peninsula Art of Food and Wine Prize, Finalist

2001 Charles Nodrum Gallery, A Private View,

1983 Art Gallery of Western Australia, TVW7 Young Artists Awards, Finalist & 1982

Collections:

National Portrait Gallery Australia Telstra Collection
Bond University
Murdoch University
ArtBank
Perth City Collection
Albany City Collection
Busselton Council Collection
Middle House Hotel Group, Shanghai
National Australia Bank
Bunbury Regional Gallery Australian Academy of Science Leeuwin Estate Collection
New Norcia (Mandorla) Collection Manjimup City Collection Bayswater Council
MLC Hawthorn
Peninsula Hotel, London

Corporate & Private collections in Australia & overseas.

Bibliography:

Dean Home: An artist's journey, 2018, Ken McGregor,

Still Life 2021, Amber Cresswell Bell

Closet Circus: works from the Horn Collection 2008, Stuart Elliott & Diane Roberts,

McCulloch's Encyclopedia of Australian Art, 2006, Alan McCulloch, Susan

McCulloch, Emily McCulloch Childs *Unfinished Journey*, 2006, Ed. Ken MacGregor,

Artists and Galleries of Australia, Max Germaine, 1990

The Peninsula Magazine, December 2020, text: Ann Tsang

Artist Profile, Issue 37 October 2016, text Ashley Crawford

The Peninsula Magazine, March 2014, Cover image & article, text: Ann Tsang

Dean's latest project has been the completion of this large artwork to be featured in the dining room of the new, prestigious Peninsula Hotel in London – due to open in 2022.

GALLERY
ONE

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