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TYRA HUTCHENS is a Melbourne-based artist who uses traditional oil painting techniques to address the anxious and uncertain times we live in through the synthesising of Old Master, 19th Century, Surrealist and abstract painting, along with an exploration of literary and philosophical themes.

"They are powerful works and stand alongside other artists who are willing to enter the haunting realms and mourn the predicament of the natural world, works that should be recognised as crucial to our human conscience," said Sheridan Palmer.

Simon Lawrie wrote, "These enigmatic works address the lacuna between words and things, between representation and reality, imitating an existence that is anterior to our experience of it."

Hutchens was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Drawing and Painting from Portland State University, Oregon. After arriving in Australia in 1971, he had a solo show in Albury, NSW in 1972 and two solo shows at Stuart Gerstman Gallery, Melbourne and Hogarth Galleries, Sydney in 1974. In 1973 he was awarded the Regional Galleries Prize.

In 1999 Hutchens curated and exhibited in *Concealment* at Temple Studio, Melbourne. In 2004 he completed a Master of Fine Art at Monash University, exploring mixed media and installation, including the painted, found, altered and constructed object. He also curated *Narrative Voices* at fortyfivedownstairs, Melbourne. He exhibited in *Gulag* at the Counihan Gallery in 2009.

On reflection during a 2010 visit to Spain Hutchens decided to return to painting. Hutchens held a major solo and produced a catalogue for *Teeter* at the Glen Eira City Council Gallery in 2016. In 2017 he had a solo *recent paintings* at Fox Galleries and was a finalist in the Wyndham Art Prize.

Hutchens work is represented in many public and private collections including the Art Gallery of NSW, Xavier College Collection, Somerset Printmaking Papers, Arts Victoria, State Library of Victoria, Firestation Print Workshop, City of Stonnington, Print Council of Australia and Edinburgh Print Workshop.

Hutchens has been involved with education for over 40 years. Upon graduation from Portland State University he taught adult classes in sculpture and painting. In Australia he taught adult classes in Albury and Wagga Wagga and lectured at the Riverina College of Advanced Education in Wagga Wagga. Hutchens lectured at Xavier College for 35 years. In 1995 he traveled to China to study and supervise students studying traditional Chinese painting and print-making. During Hutchens Masters study at Monash University he supervised undergraduate students during a 2 month study tour of Italy.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

2004	Master of Fine Art, Monash University, Melbourne
2001	Studio Technician, July-August, Monash University Prato Institute, Prato Italy
1995	Certificate of Completion in Traditional Chinese Painting and Woodblock Printing, Fine Art Academy, Guangzhou, China
1976-2010	Teacher, Xavier College, Melbourne
1975	Lecturer, Wagga Technical College, Wagga Wagga, NSW
1974	Lecturer, Riverina College of Advanced Education (Charles Sturt University), Wagga Wagga, NSW
1973	Lecturer, Albury Technical School, Albury, VIC
1970	Post Graduate Studies, Reed College, Oregon, USA
1969-1970	Certificate of Education, Portland State University, Oregon, USA
1966-1969	Bachelors of Science, Drawing and Painting, Portland State University, Oregon, USA

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2017	<i>recent paintings, Fox Galleries, Melbourne</i>
2016	<i>Teeter, Glen Eira City Council Gallery, Melbourne</i>
2009	<i>Tyra Hutchens, Stephen McLaughlan Gallery, Melbourne</i>

- 2006 *Acceleration Interrupted*, Stephen McLaughlan Gallery, Melbourne
- 2004 *Remnant Culture in Time and Memory Expressed Through the Painted, Found, Altered and Constructed Object*, Faculty Gallery, Monash University, Melbourne
- 2002 *Remnant Culture*, Stephen McLaughlan Gallery, Melbourne
- 1999 *Distant Song*, Latrobe Street Gallery, Melbourne
- 1994 Gallery at Tolarnos, Melbourne
- 1980 Pinacotheca Gallery, Melbourne
- 1979 Port Melbourne Gallery, Melbourne
- 1974 Stuart Gerstman Gallery, Melbourne
- 1974 Hogarth Galleries, Sydney
- 1972 Headquarters Gallery, Albury, VIC

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Works Twenty Ten, Stephen McLaughlan Gallery, Melbourne
- 2009 Gulag, Counihan Gallery, Brunswick, Curated by Sheridan Palmer
- 2008 Works on Paper, Stephen McLaughlan Gallery, Melbourne
- 2006 Acquisitive Artists Book Award, Southern Cross University, Lismore, NSW
- 2004 *Narrative Voices*, fortyfivedownstairs, Melbourne, Curator Tyra Hutchens
- 2004 *Job Lot#59*, R.M.I.T, Project Space, Melbourne, Curator Louiseann Zara
- 2004 Xavier College Contemporary Art Exhibition, Xavier College, Melbourne, Curator Maria Talaridas
- 2002 *Summer Salon*, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
- 2001 *Big Brother*, Gallery 369, Swinburne University of Technology
- 2001 *Artists Books*, Stephen Mclaughlan Gallery, Melbourne
- 2001 *Powder*, Faculty Gallery, Monash University, Caulfield, Curator Malcom Bywaters
- 2001 *Summer Salon*, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne

- 2000 *Art Art*, Monash University Gallery, Clayton, Curator Nadine Sawyer
- 2000 *Summer Salon*, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
- 1999 *Concealment*, Temple Studio, Melbourne, Curator Tyra Hutchens
- 1999 *Post Post Card Show*, Linden Gallery, Melbourne
- 1999 *Summer Salon*, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
- 1998 *Salon Show*, Firestation Print Workshop, Melbourne
- 1998 *Palimpsest*, Span Galleries, Melbourne, Curators Pam Clements and Carolyn Begley
- 1998 *Digital Print Exhibition*, Firestation Print Workshop, Melbourne
- 1998 *Sub Zero Summer Salon*, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
- 1998 *Post Post Card Show*, Linden Gallery, Melbourne
- 1997 *Artists Exchange Portfolio Exhibition*, Firestation Print Workshop, Melbourne
- 1997 *Integration*, Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, Melbourne, Curators Bibi Chew and Bob Stewart
- 1997 *Asia Pacific Beyond 2000*, University of Melbourne, Curator Lindy Joubert
- 1997 *Members show*, Firestation Print Workshop, Melbourne
- 1997 *The Return of Hong Kong to Her Motherland*, International Chinese Art Exhibition, Melbourne Town Hall
- 1997 *Salon Group Show*, Firestation Print Workshop, Melbourne
- 1997 *Post Card Show*, Linden Gallery, Melbourne
- 1985 *St Kilda Council Art Exhibition*, Melbourne
- 1985 *St Kilda Council Art Exhibition*, Melbourne
- 1976 *Clive Parry Gallery*, Melbourne
- 1969 *3 Artists*, Pacific University, Oregon, USA

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

- 2017 *Destination Art*, Art Edit
- 2016 *Teeter*, catalogue essay, Dr Sheridan Palmer

- Filling the void: dark romanticism and deconstruction in the recent paintings of Tyra Hutchens*, catalogue essay, Simon Laurie
- 2009 *Gulag*, catalogue essay, Dr Sheridan Palmer
- 2006 *Disturbing detritus*, Penny Webb, *The Age*, September 1, 2006
- 2002 *Remnant Culture*, catalogue essay, Bronwyn Stocks
- 2001 *Artists taken to book*, Peter Timms, *The Age*, April 11, 2001
- 2000 *Art Art; an immediate engagement with everyday*, Bronwyn Stocks
- 1999 *Concealment*, Tyra Hutchens essay for exhibition at Temple Gallery, Melbourne

COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of NSW, Xavier College Collection, Somerset Printmaking Papers, Arts Victoria, State Library of Victoria, Firestation Print Workshop, City of Stonnington, Print Council of Australia, Edinburgh Print Workshop

AWARDS

- 2018 Finalist, Wyndham Art Prize
- 2017 Finalist, Wyndham Art Prize
- 1985 Eltham Art Award Exhibition
- 1975 First Annual Wagga Wagga City Art Prize Exhibition
- 1975 Tumut Art Prize Exhibition
- 1973 Regional Galleries Association Art Prize, Albury, NSW
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