

# Philp Wolfhagen

b.1963, Launceston

## Biography

1987 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Centre for the Arts, the University of Tasmania, Hobart  
 1990 Graduate Diploma of Visual Arts, Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney  
 1990–95 Lived and worked in Sydney  
 Currently lives and works in Tasmania

## Solo Exhibitions

2026 *The Colour of Darkness*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane  
 2025 *Hallucinations*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
 2024 *Premonitions*, Bett Gallery, Hobart  
 2023 *Secular Altarpieces*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane  
 2021 *Weather Forecast*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
 2020 *Out of Darkness*, Bett Gallery, Hobart  
 2019 *Reveries*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane  
 2018 *Elegies*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
 2017 *Hinterland*, Bett Gallery, Hobart  
*Transformations: the art of Philip Wolfhagen*, Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston  
 2016 *Re-visions*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane  
 2015 *Tracks and Traverses*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
*Other Worlds*, Karen Woodbury Gallery, Melbourne  
 2014 *Illumination; the art of Philip Wolfhagen*, Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra; Cairns Regional Gallery, Queensland; Tweed River Gallery, New South Wales; Hamilton Art Gallery, Victoria  
*Landscape Reinventions*, Melbourne Art Fair, solo exhibition presented by Bett Gallery, Hobart  
 2013 *Illumination; the art of Philip Wolfhagen*, Newcastle Art Gallery, New South Wales; Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart  
*Propositions*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
 2012 *A Procession of Shadows*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane  
*The Indelible Blue Line*, Bett Gallery, Hobart  
 2011 *Four Exaltations*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
 2010 *A Painter's Landscape*, Karen Woodbury Gallery, Melbourne  
*The Extended Journey*, Bett Gallery Hobart  
 2009 *Journey to the Source*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
*Out of The Garden*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane  
 2007 *New Deliriums*, Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne  
*Vapour Trails*, The Australian Embassy in Washington DC, United States of America  
 2006 *Luminary Traces*, Bett Gallery Hobart, Hobart  
*Night Visions*, Sherman Galleries, Sydney  
 2005 *Night Beacons*, Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne  
 2004 *Noctiluca*, Bett Gallery Hobart, Hobart  
*The Inner Edge*, Academy Gallery, Academy of the Arts, School of Visual and Performing Arts, University of Tasmania, Launceston  
*The Inner Edge*, Sherman Galleries, Sydney  
 2003–04 *Archipelago*, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery at Inveresk, Launceston  
 2003 *Shifting light*, Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne  
 2002 *high ground*, Sherman Galleries, Sydney  
 2001 *Winter Journeys*, Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne  
 2000 *converging planes*, Sherman Galleries, Sydney  
*Liawenee Exploration*, Bett Gallery Hobart  
 1999 *Cross Sections*, Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne  
 1998 *Surface Tension*, Sherman Galleries, Sydney  
 1997 *Plateaux*, Chapman Gallery, Canberra  
*Six Level Seas and Four Recollections*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart  
 1996 *Illuminations*, Sherman Galleries, Sydney  
 1995 *Vanishing Points*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart  
 1994 *Passages*, Sherman Galleries, Sydney  
 1993 *Elevations*, Devonport Gallery and Arts Centre, Tasmania, touring; Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart

- 1992 *Illusory Fields, Series 2*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart  
 1991 *Illusory Fields*, Syme Dodson Gallery, Sydney  
 1990 *The Stages of a Delirium*, Syme Dodson Gallery, Sydney  
*The Path of Least Resistance*, Salamanca Place Gallery, Hobart

## Group Exhibitions

- 2025 *On Island NOW*, Bett Gallery Hobart  
*On Island*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart  
*Articulate Matter*, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart  
*The Preview 2025*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
*Hadley's Art Prize*, Hobart
- 2024 *New Acquisitions from the Mosman Art Collection*, Mosman Art Gallery  
*Summer Soiree*, Bett Gallery Hobart  
*Hadley's Art Prize*, Hobart
- 2023 *Vision Splendid: Highlights from the University of Wollongong Art Collection*, Hazelhurst Arts Centre, NSW  
*Atmospheres, Ecologies and Attunement: Contemporary Landscape Practice from the Devonport Regional Gallery Permanent Collection*, Paranaple Arts Centre, Devonport  
*Hadley's Art Prize*, Hobart  
*Sydney Contemporary 23*, Carriage Works Sydney  
*Landscape and Psyche*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney
- 2022 *Water[shed]*, Bett Gallery, Hobart
- 2021 *Hadley's Art Prize*, Hobart  
*Arthur Guy Memorial Painting Prize*, Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria  
*On Land, On Water*, Sydney Contemporary Explore
- 2020 *Secret Garden*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney
- 2019 *Hadley's Art Prize*, Hobart  
*Sydney Contemporary 19*, Carriage Works, Sydney
- 2018 *Sydney Contemporary 18*, Carriage Works, Sydney
- 2017 *Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Artist Profile: Australasian Painters 2007-2017*, Orange Regional Gallery, New South Wales  
*Imagine*, Gippsland Art Gallery, Victoria  
*Strange Trees*, Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery, Hobart  
*Lloyd Rees Art Prize*, Coville Gallery, Hobart
- 2016 *Panorama*, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria  
*Strangers in a Strange Land*, Poimena Gallery, Tasmania
- 2015 *Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Becoming*, National Self Portrait Prize, University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane  
*When the Ocean Turns to Dust*, Campbelltown Arts Centre, New South Wales
- 2014 *40 Years, 40 Paintings*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane  
*Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Galerie Patrick Ebensperger*, Berlin, Germany  
*Sublime Point: Landscape in Painting*, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre, New South Wales  
*Tasmanian Landscape*, Academy Gallery, SVPA, Launceston  
*The Skullbone Experiment: A Paradigm of Art and Nature*, Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston; COFA Galleries, University of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2013 *Australia*, Royal Academy of Arts, London, United Kingdom  
*Nah Und Fern – Landscape Painting in the 21st Century*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney  
*Poets & Painters 2013*, Bett Gallery, Hobart  
*Tasmania Today*, Academy Gallery, SVPA, Launceston
- 2012 *Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Hits & Memories: 10 years at the Academy Gallery*, Academy Gallery, Launceston
- 2011 *25 Years – An Unfolding Journey*, Bett Gallery, Hobart  
*Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Basic Instinct*, Karen Woodbury Gallery, Melbourne  
*C20 – 100 years of Australian art from the TMAG collection*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart  
*Curious Colony: A twenty first century Wunderkammer*, SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney  
*Indelible*, Karen Woodbury Gallery, Melbourne  
*New Romantics*, Gippsland Art Gallery, Victoria
- 2010 *Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Curious Colony: A twenty first century Wunderkammer*, Newcastle Art Gallery, New South Wales  
*In Partnership*, Academy Gallery, School of Visual & Performing Arts, Launceston, and Devonport Regional Gallery, Tasmania  
*What Surrounds Me*, Dominik Merch Gallery, Sydney

- 2009 *Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Four Tasmanian Painters: Burns, Keeling, Wastell, Wolfhagen*, Holmes à Court Gallery, Perth, Western Australia in association with Bett Gallery, Hobart  
*New Gallery Artists*, Karen Woodbury Gallery, Melbourne
- 2008 *Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Contemporaneous; Australian Contemporary Painting 1*, Wangaratta Exhibitions Gallery, Victoria  
*The Green Zone*, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Hobart  
*Time and Place: Selected works from the TarraWarra Museum of Art collection*, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria
- 2007 *Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Wonderful World*, The Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, Adelaide
- 2006–07 *From an Island South*, Asia Link Touring Exhibition; Lahore, Pakistan; Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok
- 2006 *Australia and Constable*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
*Senses of Place: Art in Tasmania, 1970-2005*, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
- 2006 *Salon*, Bett Gallery, Hobart
- 2005 *Rhapsody 21C: Tasmanian Contemporary Art*, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Hobart
- 2004–05 *Great Escapes*, Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, New South Wales
- 2004 *Frank Saxby Acquisitions*, Manning Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales  
*Tidal*, Devonport Regional Gallery, Tasmania
- 2003 *Depth of Field*, Shepparton Art Gallery, Victoria  
*Depth of Field*, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne  
*Painting Tasmanian Landscape*, Plimsoll Gallery, University of Tasmania, Hobart
- 2002 *Extreme Landscapes*, Sherman Galleries Hargrave, Sydney (with Philip Hughes)
- 2001 *Aspects of Tasmanian Art*, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery at Inveresk, Launceston  
*Between Phenomena: The Panorama in Tasmania*, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart  
*Five Painters*, Sherman Galleries Goodhope, Sydney  
*Poets and Painters*, Bett Gallery, Hobart  
*Redlands Westpac Art Prize*, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2000 *Through the Landscape*, Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston  
*Uncommon World: Aspects of Contemporary Australian Art*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 1999 *distance*, Sherman Galleries Hargrave, Sydney
- 1998 *Contemporary Australian Art from the Tamar Collection*, Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston  
*Leading the Way: 1997–98 Acquisitions Exhibition*, Newcastle Region Art Gallery, New South Wales  
*Redlands Westpac Art Prize*, Sydney
- 1997 ANON, Sherman Galleries Goodhope, Sydney  
*Australian Perspecta: Between Art and Nature*, Temple of Earth Memories, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney  
*Moët & Chandon Touring Exhibition*, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane; national tour  
*Site and Sensibility: A Selection from the Artbank Collection*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney  
*The Horizon Line*, King Street Gallery, Sydney
- 1996–98 *Flagging the Republic*, Sherman Galleries Goodhope, Sydney; regional gallery tour
- 1996 *Brushing the Dark: Recent Art from Tasmania*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, touring; Perc Tucker Gallery, Townsville, Queensland; Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney; Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide; Lawrence Wilson Gallery, Perth; Brisbane Civic Gallery & Arts Centre, Brisbane; Burnie Regional Gallery, Tasmania; Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston  
*Moët & Chandon Touring Exhibition*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; national tour
- 1995-96 *Blundstone Contemporary Art Award*, Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston, touring; Penrith Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales; Waverley City Gallery, Melbourne
- 1995 *Figure/Ground*, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart  
*Group Show*, Sherman Galleries Goodhope, Sydney  
*Hidden Treasures; Art in Corporate Collections*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney  
*Salon des Refusés*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney  
*Storehouse*, Long Gallery, Salamanca Place, Hobart  
*The Artist's Garden*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
*Windows on Australia I*, Australian Embassy, Tokyo, Japan
- 1994 *Rommix*, ROM Gallery, Sydney  
*Salon des Refusés*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1992 *Salon des Refusés*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney  
*Seven*, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Fisher's Ghost Award*, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, New South Wales
- 1991 *Microcosm*, Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
- 1989 *Genius Loci: Spirit of Place*, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart; RMIT, Melbourne  
*The October Show*, Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston
- 1988 *Thinly Veiled Threats*, Chameleon Contemporary Art Space, Hobart

## Prizes, Grants & Commissions

- 2019 Highly Commended, *Hadley's Art Prize*, Hobart
- 2017 Winner, *Lloyd Rees Art Prize*, Coville Gallery, Hobart
- 2010 Commissioned work for the *Newcastle Chest*, Newcastle Region Art Gallery
- 2007 Winner, *Wynne Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2001 Winner, *Redlands Westpac Art Prize*, Sydney  
Awarded the Centenary Medal, for contribution made to the Arts
- 1998 Commonwealth Law Courts, Melbourne
- 1997 Royal Women's Hospital, Sydney
- 1996 *Illuminations*, Australia Council, VACB Project Grant
- 1995 Sydney Grammar School Fellowship in Art, Sydney
- 1993 *Elevations*, Australia Council, VACB Project Grant
- 1992 Winner, *Fisher's Ghost Award*, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, New South Wales
- 1990 Art for Public Buildings Scheme, Tasmanian Arts Advisory Board, Hobart Project for *Unknown Landscapes*, Murray High School, Queenstown, Tasmania

## Selected Bibliography

- 2018 Briony Downes, *In Our Nature*, Artist Profile, Art Collector, Issue #87 July-September
- 2013 Tim Winton, *The Island seen and felt: some thoughts about landscape*, Illumination: The art of Philip Wolfhagen, publication, Newcastle Art Gallery  
Jane Clark, *Painting memory*, Illumination: The art of Philip Wolfhagen, publication, Newcastle Art Gallery  
Sarah Johnson, *The studio as sanctuary*, Illumination: The art of Philip Wolfhagen, publication, Newcastle Art Gallery  
Jane Stewart, *Philip Wolfhagen: full circle*, Illumination: The art of Philip Wolfhagen, publication, Newcastle Art Gallery  
William Wright, *The matter of painting*, Illumination: The art of Philip Wolfhagen, publication, Newcastle Art Gallery  
John McDonald, *Head in the clouds*, Spectrum, Sydney Morning Herald, July 13-14  
Christopher Allen, *Distant Vistas*, Review, Weekend Australian, July 20-21
- 2012 Humphrey Clegg, *101 Contemporary Australian Artists*, National Gallery of Victoria  
Simon Gregg, *New Romantics – Darkness and Light in Australian Art*, Gippsland Art gallery, Australian Scholarly Publishing
- 2010 Miriam Kelly, *Philip Wolfhagen Autumn equinox; the loss of the sun*, Artonview, Issue 61 Autumn, National Gallery of Australia  
Christopher Allen, *The Big Picture*, The Weekend Australian, May 1-2
- 2008 Christopher Heathcote, Patrick McCaughey, Sarah Thomas, *Encounters with Australian Modern Art*, Hermann Editeurs, Paris France  
Peter Timms, *Gatecrashing the sublime*, Artlink Vol 28 No 2
- 2007 John McDonald, *Studio: Australian Painters on the Nature of Creativity*, R. Ian Lloyd Productions
- 2006 Laura Murray Cree (ed.), *Twenty: Sherman Galleries 1986-2006*, Craftsman House, Melbourne  
Anne Gray, *Australia and Constable*, catalogue essay, Constable: Impressions of Land Sea and Sky, NGA, March
- 2005 Peter Timms, *Philip Wolfhagen* (a Tasmanian Monograph presented through Arts Tasmania), Craftsman House, Melbourne  
Malcolm Bywaters, *Rhapsody 21C: Tasmanian Contemporary Art*, exhibition catalogue, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, 2 – 27 May  
Gillian Serisier, *The art of collectives*, Australian Art Market Report, no. 14, December 2004 – February pp. 30–32
- 2004 *Philip Wolfhagen*, Artlink, vol. 24, no. 3, p. 93  
Terry Ingram, *Feeding feeding at show*, Saleroom, Australian Financial Review, 12 August, p. 20  
David Hansen, *Philip Wolfhagen*, Art & Australia, vol. 42, no.1, spring, pp. 90–95  
Maria Rae, *Gallery director in love with history*, Examiner News, 12 June  
Philip Wolfhagen, *Noctiluca*, artist's statement, Bett Gallery Hobart, May–June
- 2003 Laura Murray Cree, *Beauty and hidden agendas*, State of the Arts, July–September pp. 80–82  
Susan McCulloch, *An earthy masterpiece*, Weekend Australian, 19–20 April  
Bridget Arkless, *Philip Wolfhagen: Archipelago*, exhibition catalogue, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery at Inveresk, February
- 2002 Benjamin Genocchio, *Residues of space*, Weekend Australian, 29–30 June
- 2001 Michael Hutak, *Australia's 50 Most Collectable Artists*, Australian Art Collector, issue 15  
Dinah Dysart & Jackie Dunn, *Artbank: Australian Art in Public Places*, Artbank  
Robert Nelson, *The "death of painting" a little premature*, Age, 22 September  
Peter Clarke, *Picture perfect*, Country Style, June  
Georgia Warner, *Critics put Tassie artist in elite club*, Mercury, 16 January
- 2000 Deborah Hart, *Uncommon world*, artonview, issue 23, spring  
Bruce Roberts, *A fish-like boat in a water-like landscape*, Island magazine, winter
- 1999 Laura Murray Cree & Nevill Drury (eds), *Australian Painting Now*, Craftsman House, Sydney  
*Waxing lyrical in Tasmania*, Australian Art Collector, issue 8, April–June 1999, pp. 24, 26  
Susan McCulloch, *Guy Abrahams: Dealer in optimism*, Australian Art Collector, issue 7
- 1998 Joanna Mendelsohn, *Liquid landscapes from the island state*, Australian, 12 June

- Nevill Drury, *Surface Tension*, catalogue essay, Sherman Galleries, Sydney
- 1997 Deborah Hart, *Temple of Earth Memories*, catalogue essay, Australian Perspecta: Between Art and Nature  
Sebastian Smee, *180 degrees of separation*, Metro, Sydney Morning Herald, 20–26 June
- 1996 Victoria Hammond, *Landscape and memory in Tasmania*, Art & Australia, vol. 34, no. 2, summer, pp. 210–219  
Victoria Hammond, *Painting the spirit of place*, 40° South, no. 5, December  
Giles Auty, *Southern sojourn*, Australian, 26–27 October  
John McDonald, *Becoming what one is*, Sydney Morning Herald, 26 October  
Amanda Meade, *It starts with a message*, Australian, 18 October  
John McDonald, *Peaks of inspiration*, Sydney Morning Herald, 4 May  
Colin Simpson, *Challenging winners – to corner cutters*, Bulletin, 27 February  
Marie Geissler, *Banking on art*, Qantas Club Magazine, February, pp. 40–43  
Giles Auty, *Sparkle of sweet success*, Australian, 17–18 February  
Victoria Hammond, *Brushing the Dark*, exhibition catalogue, Contemporary Art Services Tasmania, touring exhibition, January
- 1995 David Hansen, *My dog, your car, our art collection*, Art Monthly Australia, July  
Bronwyn Watson, *Treasures from the corporate world*, Sydney Morning Herald, 3 January
- 1994 Felicity Fenner, *Sublime horizons*, Sydney Morning Herald, 8 July  
Courtney Kidd, *Landscape as metaphor in the art of Philip Wolfhagen*, Contemporary Art Tasmania Magazine, issue no. 5
- 1993 Richard Stanford, *Heightening the senses*, Elevations, catalogue essay, Devonport Gallery and Arts Centre, September
- 1992 Christopher Allen, *Seven at Ivan Dougherty Gallery*, Asian Art News, September–October  
Nick Waterlow, *Seven*, exhibition catalogue, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales, Sydney  
Jacques Delaruelle, *Small is beautiful*, Sydney Review, January–February
- 1991 Jacques Delaruelle, *In search of the modern soul*, Sydney Review, November  
Elwyn Lynn, *Into the landscape of space exploration*, Weekend Australian, 12–13 October
- 1990 Elwyn Lynn, *Idol worship at the altar of abstraction*, Weekend Australian, 27–28 October  
David McDowell, *Hobart: Philip Wolfhagen at Salamanca Place Gallery*, Art & Text, no. 36
- 1989 Nick Waterlow, *Genius Loci: Spirit of Place*, exhibition catalogue, Centre for the Arts, University of Tasmania, Hobart

## Collections

Artbank, Sydney  
 Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide  
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
 Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria  
 Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Tasmania  
 Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, New South Wales  
 Castlemaine Art Gallery, Victoria  
 Devonport Regional Gallery, Tasmania  
 Hamilton Art Gallery, Victoria  
 Macquarie Bank, Sydney, Melbourne, London  
 Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney  
 Muzeum Narodowe W Warszawie, Poland  
 National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
 National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
 Newcastle Art Gallery, New South Wales  
 New England Regional Art Museum, New South Wales  
 Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra  
 Powerhouse Museum, Sydney  
 RACV Art Collection, Melbourne  
 Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston  
 Sydney Grammar School, Sydney  
 TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria  
 The Australian Club, Sydney  
 The Adelaide Club, Adelaide  
 Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart  
 University of Tasmania, Hobart  
 University of Technology Sydney, Sydney