

Ray Crooke

1922–2015

Life & Education

- 1922 Born in Melbourne, Victoria
- 1937 Started part time studies at Swinburne Technical College, Melbourne
- 1938 Joined AIF, drawing when able during service across northern Australia, Borneo, and islands north of Australia.
Resumed studies at Swinburne after war. Worked at various occupations including two years on Thursday Island for the Diocese of Carpentaria
- 1949 Lived in Far North Queensland and Thursday Island
- 1955 Lived in Melbourne with his wife and family and taught art at Swinburne College
- 1961 Returned to North Queensland full time painting Based in Cairns, Crooke travelled extensively, developing an understanding of the people of Torres Strait, Fiji, and neighboring Pacific Islands, as well as inland Queensland and northern Western Australia
- 1966 Appointed an Official War Artist in Vietnam, but did not take up the appointment
- 1969 Returned to live in Sydney but still continued to travel and work Won Archibald Prize with a portrait of writer George Johnston
- 1972 First retrospective exhibition, Adelaide Festival of the Arts
- 1993 Became a member of the Order of Australia
- 1996 Awarded honorary doctorate by Griffith University
- 2015 Died in Cairns, Queensland

Selected Exhibitions

- 2018 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2013 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2009 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2007 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
Savill Galleries, Sydney
- 2006 Savill Galleries, Sydney
- 2005–06 *Encounters with Country: Landscapes of Ray Crooke*, Cairns Regional Gallery, touring to Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria; S. H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney; Orange Regional Gallery, New South Wales; University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane; and Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
- 2005 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2003 Savill Galleries, Sydney
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- 1998 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
von Bertouch Galleries, New South Wales
- 1997–98 *North of Capricorn: The Art of Ray Crooke*, Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, touring to Cairns Regional Gallery, Queensland; Gladstone Regional Gallery & Museum, Queensland; Rockhampton Regional Gallery, Queensland; Customs House Art Gallery, The University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane; Campbelltown City Bicentennial, New South Wales; Drill Hall Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra; Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne
- 1997 Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide and Perth
Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney
- 1995 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 1992 Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide and Perth
Holdsworth Gallery, Sydney
- 1990 Holdsworth Gallery, Sydney
- 1989 Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide and Perth
- 1988 Agnews Gallery, London, United Kingdom
Eddie Glastra Gallery, Sydney
Holdsworth Gallery, Sydney
Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
von Bertouch Galleries, New South Wales
- 1986 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 1984 von Bertouch Galleries, New South Wales

- 1983 Agnews Gallery, London, United Kingdom
 1982 Agnews Gallery, London, United Kingdom
 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
 Upstairs Gallery, Queensland
 1981 von Bertouch Galleries, New South Wales
 1979 Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
 1978 Holdsworth Gallery, Sydney
 1976 Australian Galleries, Melbourne
 1974 Leicester Galleries, London, United Kingdom
 1973 Skinner Galleries, Perth
 von Bertouch Galleries, New South Wales
 1972 Johnstone Gallery, Brisbane
 Retrospective, Adelaide Festival of the Arts, Adelaide
 1970 Holdsworth Gallery, Sydney
 von Bertouch Galleries, New South Wales
 1969 Johnstone Gallery, Brisbane
 Skinner Galleries, Perth
 1967 Johnstone Gallery, Brisbane
 1966 Johnstone Gallery, Brisbane
 1965 von Bertouch Galleries, New South Wales
 1964 Commonwealth Institute Galleries, London, United Kingdom
 Johnstone Gallery, Brisbane
 Ray Crooke, Darlinghurst Galleries, Sydney
 1963 *Australian Painting Today*, Tate Gallery, London, United Kingdom
 1962 Johnstone Gallery, Brisbane
 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
 Ray Crooke, Bonython Art Gallery, Adelaide
 1961 Australian Galleries, Melbourne
 Johnstone Gallery, Brisbane
 1960 Johnstone Gallery, Brisbane
 Terry Clune Galleries, Sydney
 1959 Australian Galleries, Melbourne
 Kozminsky Galleries, Melbourne
 1958 Australian Galleries, Melbourne
 1957 Kozminsky Galleries, Melbourne
 1948 Kozminsky Galleries, Melbourne

Selected Bibliography

- 2005 Gavin Wilson, *Encounters with Country: Landscapes of Ray Crooke*, Cairns Regional Gallery, Queensland
 2000 Ray Crooke, *Island Journal*, BEDE Publishing, Brisbane, Queensland
 1997 Sue Smith, *North of Capricorn, The Art of Ray Crooke*, Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Queensland
 1992 James Gleeson, *Ray Crooke (introduction)*, Collins, Sydney
 1971 Rosemary Dobson, *Focus on Ray Crooke*, University of Queensland Press, Brisbane

Collections

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
 Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
 Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
 Australia House, The Strand, London
 Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
 National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
 National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
 Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane
 Reserve Bank of Australia, Canberra
 Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
 Vatican Collection, Rome

All major regional galleries throughout Australia
 All major university collections throughout Australia
 Numerous private collections in Australia and overseas