

Fred Williams

1927–1982

Life & Education

- 1927 Born, Melbourne
- 1943–47 Attended National Gallery School
- 1946–50 Attended George Bell Art School, Melbourne
- 1951–56 Travelled to London, worked as framer and attended part-time Chelsea School of Art & Central Art School
- 1957 Returned to Australia
- 1961 Married Lyn Watson
- 1963 Moved to Upwey
- 1964 Travelled to Europe on Helena Rubinstein Scholarship
- 1969 Moved to Hawthorn
- 1972–74 Member, Commonwealth Art Advisory Board
- 1973–76 Member, Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council
- 1975–82 Trustee, Council of the National Gallery of Australia
- 1976 Awarded OBE
- 1980 Awarded Doctorate of Law, LL.D (Honoris causa) by Monash University
- 1982 Died, Melbourne

Selected Exhibitions

- 2026 *Fred Williams: Works from the Artist's Estate*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
Fred Williams: Etchings, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2025 *Fred Williams: Collection in Focus*, Cairns Art Gallery, Cairns
Fred Williams: Gouaches and Late Etchings, Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 2024 *Fred Williams: Late Etchings 1970-1976*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
Fred Williams: Paintings of the North-West, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2023 *Fred Williams: The London Drawings*, NGV Australia & The Ian Potter Centre, Melbourne
- 2021 *Gouaches and Drawing from the Artist's Estate*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2020 *Guthega*, Olsen Gallery, Sydney
- 2018 *Fred Williams*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
Fred Williams: Weipa Series, Cape York, Cairns Art Gallery, Queensland
- 2016 *The Australian Landscape Series 1965-69*, Olsen Irwin, Sydney
- 2014 *Landscapes from the 1970s*, Olsen Irwin, Sydney
Melbourne 1970, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2013 *Fred Williams: Landscapes 1957-1960*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Gouaches and Watercolours, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2011 *Fred Williams: Infinite Horizons*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, touring; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne;
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
- 2004 *Fred Williams: An Australian Vision*, The British Museum, London, United Kingdom
Fred Williams: Paintings, Etchings, Gouaches, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2003 *Fred Williams*, Nevill Keating Pictures (In association with Philip Bacon Galleries), London, United Kingdom
- 2001 *Fred Williams: Drawing The Nude*, Museum of Modern Art at Heide, Melbourne
Fred Williams: Landscapes 1959-1981, Monash University, Melbourne
From Music Hall to Landscape: Fred Williams Drawings and Prints, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2000–01 *The Enduring Landscape: Gouaches by Fred Williams from the National Gallery of Victoria*, Monash University, Melbourne
- 2000 *Fred Williams: Paintings 1959-78*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
Fred Williams: Pilbara Series, Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne
- 1999 *Fred Williams: Drawing the Exotic*, Museum of Modern Art at Heide, Melbourne
- 1998 *Fred Williams: In Queensland 1971-78*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 1996 *Fred Williams: The Queensland Gouaches*, Home of the Arts Gallery (formerly Gold Coast City Art Gallery), Queensland, touring;
Cairns Regional Gallery, Queensland; Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum, Queensland; Rockhampton City Art Gallery,
Queensland; Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Queensland
- 1995 *Fred Williams: A Working Method*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1994 *Fred Williams: Etchings 1970-76 and the Guthega Paintings*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne
Fred Williams: Paintings and Gouaches, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 1988 *Fred Williams: The Pilbara Series*, touring; Serpentine Gallery, London, United Kingdom; Ulster Museum, Belfast and Butler Gallery,
Kilkenny, Republic of Ireland
- 1987–89 *Fred Williams: A Retrospective*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, touring; National Gallery Of Victoria, Melbourne;

Tasmanian Museum And Art Gallery, Hobart; Art Gallery Of Western Australia, Perth; Art Gallery Of South Australia, Adelaide; Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane; Art Gallery Of New South Wales, Sydney; Museums & Art Galleries Of The Northern Territory

- 1983–84 *Fred Williams: The Pilbara Series*, touring; Beijing and Shanghai, China; Seoul, Republic of South Korea; Tokyo, Japan
- 1981–82 *Fred Williams: Bass Strait Landscapes 1971–78*, touring; Queen Victoria Museum And Art Gallery, Tasmania; Devonport Gallery & Arts Centre, Tasmania; Burnie Art Gallery, Tasmania; Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery, Hobart; Mornington Peninsula Art Centre, Victoria; Monash University Gallery, Melbourne; Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
- 1981 *Fred Williams: Painter/Etcher*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1980 *Fred Williams 1969–79*, Fischer Fine Art, London, United Kingdom, touring to Australian Embassy, Paris, France
Fred Williams: Works in the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1978 *Fred Williams: Paintings, Gouaches and Lithographs 1976–78*, touring Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide
- 1977–79 *Fred Williams: Paintings 1963–77*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1977 *Fred Williams: Landscapes of a Continent*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, touring; Norton Gallery, Florida; Joslyn Art Gallery, Nebraska; University of Texas Art Museum, Texas, United States of America
- 1974–75 *Ten Australians*, Australia Council, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, touring; France, Italy, West Germany, United Kingdom
- 1973 *Adelaide Festival Theatre Murals*, Festival Theatre, Adelaide
- 1972 *Fred Williams Retrospective*, Mornington Peninsula Art Centre, Melbourne
- 1971 *Fred Williams: Watercolours*, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, and Newcastle Art Gallery, New South Wales
- 1970 *Heroic Landscape: Streeton to Williams*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1969 *Acquisitions 1968*, Newcastle Art Gallery, N.S.W.
Collectors Collections, Melbourne Grammar, Memorial Hall, Melbourne
Fred Williams - Etchings And Watercolours, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery
Fred Williams, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney, November
Gallery Artists, Rudy Komon, Sydney
The Carnegie Private Loan Exhibition, Whitefriars College, Donvale, Geelong Art Gallery, Victoria
- 1968 *Archibald, Wynne And Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Christmas Exhibition, Rudy Komon Galleries, Sydney
Dealer's Choice, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
Fred Williams Etchings, Exhibition And Book Launch, Crossley Galleries, Melbourne
Fred Williams, Etchings And Gouaches, Skinner Galleries, Perth
Inaugural Exhibition, Blaxland Gallery, Farmers, Sydney
Panorama Of Australian Painting, 1818–1968, Studley House, Kew Printmakers, National Gallery Of Victoria, Melbourne
Survey '68, White Studio Exhibition Gallery, Adelaide
White Studio Exhibition Gallery, Adelaide; *Grand Central Gallery*, Brisbane, Rudy Komon, Sydney
- 1967 *Archibald, Wynne And Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Australian Painters, 1964–66, Harold E. Mertz Collection, Corcoran Gallery Of Art, Washington, D.C., United States of America
Australian Printmaking Today, National Gallery Of Victoria, Melbourne
Fred Williams, Etchings, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
Fred Williams, Georges Gallery, Melbourne
Invitation Art Prize, Festival Of Perth, Skinner Galleries, Perth
John Brack And Fred Williams, Albert Hall, Canberra
Winner, Print Prize, First Prize 1967, Print Council Of Australia, National Gallery Of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1966 *Aspects Of Australian Painting*, Auckland City Art Gallery, New Zealand
Australian Prints Today, Museum Of History And Technology, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., United States of America
Contemporary Australian Painting, Australian Trade Display, Los Angeles, United States of America
Fred Williams - Etchings, Moomba Exhibition, Ower Town Hall, Melbourne
Fred Williams - Etchings, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
Fred Williams, 100 Etchings, Mildura Arts Centre, Victoria
Fred Williams, Etchings, Newcastle City Art Gallery, New South Wales
Fred Williams, Paintings, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
Internationale Biennale De La Gravure, Cracow, Poland
Melbourne Printmakers, Gallery A, Melbourne
Paintings From The Carnegie Collection, National Gallery Of Victoria
Winner, Georges Invitational Art Prize, Melbourne, February
Winner, John Mccaughey Art Prize 1966, Trustees Award, Art Gallery New South Wales, Sydney
Winner, W.D. & H.O. Wills Invitational Prize, David Jones Art Gallery, Sydney
Winner, Wynne Landscape Prize & Trustees Watercolour Prize, Archibald Prize, Art Gallery Of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1965 *Australian Art In The 1960's*, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney, & Georges Gallery, Melbourne.
New Trends In Australian Art, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
The Private Collector, Darlinghurst Galleries, Sydney, September
W.D. & H.O. Wills, Invitational Prize, Sydney
Young Australian Painters, Tokyo And Kyoto, Japan, Art Gallery Of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1964 *Australian Landscape Painting*, National Gallery Of Victoria, Melbourne
Australian Print Survey, touring; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth; City Galleries, Victoria;

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; City Art Gallery New South Wales; Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art Brisbane; Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart; Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

Fred Williams, Farewell Exhibition, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney

Fred Williams, Georges Gallery, Melbourne

Fred Williams, Graphic Works, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney

Group Show, South Yarra Galleries, Melbourne

W.D & H.O. Wills, *Invitational Art Prize*, Sydney

Winner, \$1000 *Transfield Art Prize*, Sydney

1963 *Australian Painting Today*, Commonwealth Art Advisory Board, touring; all major state galleries, Australia and Europe throughout 1963-65

Paintings From The Kym Bonython Collection, Museum Of Modern Art And Design, Melbourne

Perth Prize, Art Gallery Of Western Australia, Perth

Prints '63, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, touring; Newcastle City Art Gallery, New South Wales; Castlemaine Art

Gallery, New South Wales; Rudy Komon, Sydney; Douglas Gallery, Queensland; Bonython Gallery, Sydney; Skinner

Galleries, Perth; Yosheido Gallery, Japan

Rudy Komon 4th Anniversary Show, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney.

The Viscount Collection, Australian Galleries, Melbourne & Clunes Gallery, Sydney

Winner, 2nd Prize, *Georges Invitational Art Prize*, Melbourne

Winner, *Helena Rubenstein Travelling Art Scholarship*, (By Invitation), Art Gallery Of New South Wales, Sydney

1962 *Four Arts In Australia*, Travelling Exhibition To South East Asia

Fred Williams, Paintings, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney

The Australian Vision, National Gallery Of Victoria And The Council Of Adult Education, Travelling Exhibition Of Pictures From

The National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

Wynne Prize, Art Gallery Of New South Wales, Sydney

1961 *A Group Of Melbourne Artists*, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney

Australian Artists, Raymond Burr Galleries, Beverley Hills, United States of America

Fred Williams, Paintings, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

Fred Williams, The Bonython Art Gallery, Adelaide

Mccaughey Memorial Prize, National Gallery Of Victoria, Melbourne

Recent Australian Painting, Whitechapel Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Sydney And Melbourne Painters, South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne

Wynne Prize, Art Gallery Of New South Wales, Sydney

1960 *1960 Perth Art Prize*, Art Gallery Society Western Australia, Art Gallery Of Western Australia, Perth

Drawings And Prints, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

Drawings, Paintings And Prints Up To 45 Gns, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

Fred Williams, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

Helena Rubenstein Travelling Art Scholarship, (By Invitation), National Gallery Of Victoria, Melbourne

Mccaughey Memorial Art Prize, National Gallery Of Victoria, Melbourne

1959 *18 Recent Acquisitions...*, Museum Of Modern Art, Melbourne

Fred Williams, *Recent Landscapes And Still Life*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

1958 *2nd Anniversary Exhibition*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

A Critic's Choice, Selected By Alan Mcculloch, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

Crouch Prize, Ballarat Art Gallery, Victoria

Fred Williams - Etchings, Gallery Of Contemporary Art, Melbourne

Fred Williams, *Landscapes*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

May Day Art Show, Lower Town Hall, Melbourne

1957 *Fred Williams*, *Etchings*, Gallery Of Contemporary Art, Melbourne

Fred Williams, *Oil Painting And Gouache*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne

1952 *Group Exhibition*, Australian Artists' Association, Sydney

1951 *Australian Arts Association Exhibition*, Royal Watercolour Society Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Ian Armstrong, *Fred Williams*, *Harry Rosengrave*, Stanley Coe Galleries, Melbourne

1947 *Figure And Portrait Exhibition*, Victorian Artists Society, Melbourne

Collections

Adelaide Festival Theatre, Adelaide

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth

British Museum, London, United Kingdom

Centre for Contemporary Art, Hamilton, New Zealand

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, United States of America

Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin

Museum of Modern Art, New York, United States of America

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra



National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Parliament House, Canberra
Queen Elizabeth II Collection, United Kingdom
Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane
Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C., United States of America
Sydney Opera House Trust, Sydney
Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
Tate Gallery, London, United Kingdom
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom

Many major university collections throughout Australia
All major regional galleries throughout Australia