



PRINTMAKER GALLERY

Arthur Boyd

Arthur (Merric Bloomfield) Boyd (1920 – 1999)

BIOGRAPHY

1920 Born Murrumbeena, Victoria

1935 Attends National Gallery Art School, Melbourne, Victoria

1936-38 Moves to grandfather Arthur Merric Boyd's (a painter) cottage on the Mornington Peninsula, where time is spent painting landscapes and portraits

1937 First solo exhibition, Westminster Gallery, Melbourne

1939 Attended influential Herald exhibition of French and British Contemporary Art

1940 First major exhibition, Athenaeum Gallery, Melbourne

1941 Conscripted into the army. Meets influential peers such as John Perceval, Noel Counihan, Joy Hester, Albert Tucker, Sidney Nolan, John and Sunday Reed

1942-46 Exhibits in Sydney and Melbourne with the Contemporary Art Society during this period

1945 Marries Yvonne Lennie

1945-47 Works on a series of biblical paintings

1946 Exhibits with Tucker and Nolan, Rowden White Library, University of Melbourne

1948 First commission – mural on uncle Martin Boyd's dining room wall at The Grange

1949 First ceramic tile paintings

1950 First retrospective exhibition, David Jones Art Gallery, Sydney. Begins work on Wimmera paintings

1951 Visit to Central Australia

1954-56 Works on commission for a ceramic pylon, Olympic Swimming Pool, Melbourne

1957 Begins series of 'half-caste bride' paintings

1958 Represents Australia (with Sir Arthur Streeton) at Venice Biennale

1959 Signs Antipodean Manifesto, along with David Boyd, Blackman, Brack, Dickerson, Perceval Pugh and Bernard Smith

1960 Beginning of a period of overseas travel and overseas exhibiting. First show at Zwemmer Gallery, London

1966 Starts Nebuchadnezzar paintings

1971 First visit to Bundanon (which he purchases in 1979). Bundanon is later declared a Wildlife Refuge, and subsequently donated by Boyd to the people of Australia

1979 Awarded the Order of Australia (AO) for services to art

1984 Begins Bather series of paintings

1986 Subject of a feature film made for London Weekend Television

1988 Represents Australia at 43rd Venice Biennale

1993-94 Major retrospective, AGNSW, Sydney

1995 Australian of the Year

1999 Named 'Australian Legend' by Australia Post. Dies in April

Exhibited paintings, prints, drawings and ceramics widely in Australia and internationally throughout his career, until his death in 1999

EXHIBITIONS

Has had more than 120 solo exhibitions in Australia and overseas, including representing Australia at Venice Biennale in 1958 and 1988

AWARDS

1963 Henry Caselli Richards Prize, Brisbane

1971 Britannica Australia Award

1971-72 Creative Art Fellowship, Australian National University (ANU), Canberra

1979 Order of Australia (OA) for services to art

1992 Companion of the Order of Australia

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia

Art Gallery of New South Wales

National Gallery of Victoria

Art Gallery of South Australia

Art Gallery of Western Australia

Museums & Art Galleries of the Northern Territory

Queensland Art Gallery

Tasmania Museum and Art Gallery

Other regional, university and public collections