

PENELOPE DAVIS

CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIAN ARTIST | WORKING WITH PHOTOGRAPHY AND
SCULPTURAL INSTALLATION

EDUCATION

2006-7

Master of Fine Art, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

1996-97

Post-Graduate Diploma in Fine Art, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

1988-9

Certificate of Illustrative Photography, Photography Studies College, Melbourne

1982-85

Bachelor of Arts, University of Melbourne

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 *Plastic*, MARS Gallery, Melbourne. *Sea-change* (site-specific 5th iteration), Gippsland Regional Gallery, Sale.
Sea-change (site-specific 6th iteration), Glass Cube, Frankston Arts centre, Melbourne

2018

Sea-change (site-specific 4th iteration) Arup Gallery, Arup offices, Sydney

2018

Sea-change (site-specific 3rd iteration) Installation Contemporary, Sydney Contemporary, Sydney

2018

Sea-change (site-specific 2nd iteration) Art Central Hong Kong, Hong Kong

2017

Reverse Photography, Rupert Bunny Fellowship Exhibition, St Kilda Town Hall Gallery, Melbourne

2017

Sea-change, MARS Gallery, Melbourne

2012

Phototropic, Academy Gallery, Uni of Tasmania, Launceston

2011

Smack, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne

2008

Fiction-Non-Fiction, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne

2008

Index, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne

2007

Index, Postgraduate Gallery, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

2005

Tissue Issue. Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne

2003

Heavy Light, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne

2000

Penumbra, Robert Lindsay Gallery, Melbourne

1998

Proof, Talk Gallery, Melbourne.

1996

Photoelastic, Temple Studios, Melbourne.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 *City of Wyndham Art Prize*, Wyndham Art gallery, Melbourne *Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize*, Gordon, NSW

2021 *Spring 1883 Art Fair*, online at MARS Gallery due to COVID restrictions, Melbourne *Telling Tales*, Glen Eira City Gallery, Melbourne *Four x Four*, McClelland Gallery, Melbourne *Christmas Exhibition*, MARS Gallery, Melbourne

2020. *Wyndham Art Prize*, Wyndham Art gallery, Melbourne

2019 *Drowning Not Waving*, Wyndham Art Gallery, Melbourne *Pop-up in a Penthouse*, Ovolo 1888, Sydney

2018

Recent Acquisitions: Port Phillip City Collection 2016-2018, Carlisle St Arts Space, Melbourne *Material Memories*, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston

Co-Curator (with Andy Dinan) *Staying Power*, MARS Gallery, Melbourne

Antipodean Emanations: cameraless photographs from Australia and New Zealand, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne

Speed: Mobility and Exchange, MonaFoma Festival, Academy Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania

2017

St Kevins Art Show, St Kevins College, Melbourne

2016

Divine Abstraction, Justin Art House Museum, Melbourne

2015

Unintended Refrains, George Paton Gallery, Melbourne

2014

Ex-libris – the book in contemporary art, Geelong Gallery, Victoria

Perceptions of Space: Justin Collection, Glen Eira City Gallery, Melbourne

2013

Missing Presumed Dead, Geraldton Regional Gallery, WA

2012

Missing Presumed Dead, Devonport Regional Gallery, & Cast Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania

Chromogenic, Fairfax Building, Melbourne

The Art of Collecting, George Paton Gallery, Melbourne

St Kilda Bowling Club Studio Artists, The Gallery: St Kilda Town Hall, Melbourne

A Hand Up: fundraising exhibition for Prahran Mission, Deutscher and Hackett, Melbourne

2011

Recent Acquisitions: City of Port Phillip, St Kilda Town Hall Gallery, Melbourne

2010

Interieur-Exterieur, Lumas Galleries, Paris

The Apple Project, AC Institute, New York, USA

St Kilda Bowling Club Studio Artists, The Gallery: St Kilda Town Hall, Melbourne

Nellie Castan Gallery @ the Depot Gallery, Sydney

2009

Josephine Ulrich and Wynn Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Gallery, Queensland

Selected Works, Lumas Galleries, Berlin, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Cologne, Munich, Stuttgart, London, Paris, Vienna, Zurich,

New York

Linking: St Kilda Bowling Club Studio Artists, The Gallery: St Kilda Town Hall, Melbourne

2008

Order & Disorder: Archives and Photography, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

When You Think About Art, George Paton Gallery, Melbourne

Artists for Kids Culture Annual Exhibition and Auction, Brightspace, Melbourne

2007

Penelope Davis, Stephen Haley, Joyce Kohl, LA Artcore, Los Angeles, USA

Josephine Ulrich and Wynn Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Gallery, Queensland

ANZ Visual Arts Award, VCA, Melbourne

Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle Arts Centre, Western Australia
William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, MGA, Melbourne

2006

Light Sensitive: Contemporary Australian Photography from the Loti Smorgan Fund, The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia,
Federation Square, Melbourne
20/20, 18th Street Centre for the Arts, Los Angeles, California, USA
Linden Postcard Show. Linden Gallery, Melbourne

2005

Julie Millowick Photography Award, Castlemaine, Victoria
Recent Acquisitions City of Port Phillip, Linden Gallery, Melbourne
Paper Chase, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne
A4 Art, Westspace, Melbourne
Fundraiser, Ocular Lab, Melbourne

2004

Floranova, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne
Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Foundation for the Arts Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Surfers Paradise
Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne Art Fair, Exhibition Buildings, Melbourne

2003

First Impressions, The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Federation Square, Melbourne
2nd Sight, The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Federation Square, Melbourne
Boogy, Jive and Bop, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Launceston

2002

White and Black Photography, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne

2001

31st Alice Art Prize, The Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
City of Hobart Art Prize, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
Salon Exhibition, Penthouse and Pavement, Melbourne

2000

The Hutchins Art Prize, The Long Gallery, Salamanca Place, Hobart
'F': Divergent Abstraction and the Photographic Project, Casula Powerhouse, Sydney
A4 Art 2000, Westspace, Melbourne

1999

Moet and Chandon Touring Exhibition, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; RMIT Gallery Storey Hall, Melbourne.

'F: Divergent Abstraction and the Photographic Project, Glen Eira City Gallery, Melbourne
BAab/ talk exchange, Hanover Gallery, Liverpool, Britain.

1998

Focus #4: Click, Robert Lindsay Gallery, Melbourne

Deacons Graham and James/ Arts 21 Award and Exhibition, The Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne
taken, Project Space, RMIT, Melbourne

Post-Postcard Show, Linden Gallery, Melbourne

Anniversary, Talk Gallery, Melbourne

taken, Project Space, RMIT, Melbourne

3rd Exhibition, Pin Oak Gallery, Melbourne

Talk Artist's Initiative @ Platform 2, Platform 2, Melbourne

'F: Divergent Abstraction and the Photographic Project, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart

1997

"Disclosure": new photo artists '97, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney

Introduction, talk artist's initiative, Melbourne

Christmas Fundraiser, talk artist's initiative, Melbourne

ANZ Fellowship Exhibition, ANZ Bank, Melbourne

Work, Westspace Gallery, Melbourne

Victorian Campus Art Prize and Exhibition, George Paton Gallery, Melbourne

Proud, VCA Student Union Exhibition and Award, VCA Gallery, Melbourne

A4 Art, Westspace Gallery, Melbourne

VCA Graduate Show, VCA Gallery, Melbourne

Ashton, Raggert, McDougal Exhibition, Ashton, Raggert, McDougal Studios, Melbourne

1996

times five, First Site, Storey Hall, Next Wave Festival, Melbourne

Some Slips Don't Show, VCA Gallery, Melbourne.

A4 Art, Westspace Gallery, Melbourne

Agfa Summer Salon, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne

1994

Four Photographers, Linden Gallery, St.Kilda, Melbourne

A4 Art, Westspace Gallery, Melbourne

Agfa Summer Salon, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne

1993

Graduate Show, Photography Studies College, Melbourne

AWARDS / GRANTS / RESIDENCIES

2017

Winner, Brother McCarthy Memorial Award, *St Kevin's Art Show*

2016

City of Melbourne studio residency, Carlton Connect Lab-14

2015

Winner, Rupert Bunny Foundation Visual Arts Fellowship, City of Port Phillip

2009-12

Studio residency, City of Port Phillip Shakespeare Grove Artist's Studios

2007

Winner, ANZ Fellowship Award

2005-07

Melbourne Research Scholarship, University of Melbourne

2001

Tokyo Studio Residency, Australia Council for the Arts (Feb-May 2003)

1999

Finalist, *Moet and Chandon Touring Exhibition*

1998

Finalist, *Deacons Graham and James/ Arts 21 Award and Exhibition*

1997

Victorian Campus Art Prize and Exhibition, Award for Innovation

VCA Student Union Exhibition and Award, VCA Student Union Award

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Victoria

Heide Museum of Modern Art

Artbank, ANZ Bank

City of Port Phillip

City of Wyndham. BHP Billiton

University of Melbourne Student Union

Victorian College of the Arts

Charles and Leah Justin Collection

Private collections within Australia, China, Europe, Japan and the USA

ASSOCIATED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

2007

Lecturer, Sculpture and Spatial Practice, Victorian College of the Arts

2004, 2008

Final Year Assessor, Photography Studies College, Melbourne

1997-2002

Founding Member, *Talk Artists Initiative*, artist-run space, located Melbourne CBD

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Sagrabb, Karl, "Exhibition review: Telling Tales, Glen Eira City Council Gallery", Arts Hub, https://www.artshub.com.au/news/reviews/exhibition-review-telling-tales-gen-eira-city-council-gallery-2527624/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Winning+memoir+about+racism%2C+best+tablet+games%2C+and+are+arts+boycotts+justifiable%3F&utm_campaign=AHAU-Weekly+Wrap-040222+-+newsletter. Leake, Rose of Sharon, "Previews", *Art Collector*, #98 Oct-Dec '21, pp.30-31
- Hoffman Fishman, Susan, "The Last Ones Standing", *Artists and Climate Change*, 30/08/2021, <https://artistsandclimatechange.com/2021/08/30/the-last-ones-standing/>
https://cms.gruene.de/uploads/documents/2019-03_Magazin_Gruene.pdf , pg 12
<http://artradarjournal.com/2018/04/06/seismic-surveys-art-basel-art-central-hong-kong-2018-fairs-round-up/>
- Jellyfish: Where art meets Science*, Pursuit by the University of Melbourne, May 2017, <https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/jellyfish-where-art-meets-science>
- Sea-change: Penelope Davis*, *Assemble Papers*, 21/4/2017, <http://assemblepapers.com.au/2017/04/21/sea-change-penelope-davis/>
- Interview with Penelope Davis, LAB-14 Artist-in-Residence*, *Creative Spaces Blog*, City of Melbourne Creative Spaces, <http://www.creativespaces.net.au/blog/669/creative-spaces-open-studios-in-december>
- MacDowell, Belinda, *Art + Climate = Change 2017*, *The Culture Concept Circle*, <https://www.thecultureconcept.com/artclimatechange-2017-belinda-mcdowall-reports>
- Vogue Living Australia*, May/June 2016, image, pg. 58
- Attridge, Derek, *The Work of Literature*, Oxford University Press, 2015, front and back cover image
- Stephens, Andrew, "[Inspiration by the book](#)", *The Saturday Age*, 8/2/14
- Gellatly, Kelly (ed.), *101 Contemporary Australian Artists*, National Gallery of Victoria, 2012, pp. 58-59
- Williamson, Geordie, *The Burning Library*, Text Publishing, Melbourne, 2012, image on front cover
- Machen, Mary, "A cutting-edge vision", *The Examiner*, Launceston, 5/5/2012
- Snell, Paul, Missing presumed dead (the loss of the referent?), catalogue essay *Le Monde Diplomatique*, No. 682-58, Paris, France, January 2011, image on front page
- Bunyan, Marcus, 'Penelope Davis: Smack at Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne', *Artblart*, 31/5/11, <http://artblart.com/tag/penelope-davis-fluther/>
- Fereday, Susan, "Stretched Skin", catalogue essay, March 2011, accompanying exhibition *Smack*, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne
- Marsh, Anne, *Look: Contemporary Australian Photography since 1980*, Macmillan, Melbourne, Australia, 2010, p. 197
- Dander, Heike, Heinemann, Julia and Ullrich, Marc, *Collecting Fine Art Photography, Volume 1: Highlights of the Lumas Portfolio*, teNeues Publishing Group, Kempen, Germany, 2008
- Finch, Maggie, *Order & Disorder: Archives and Photography*, National Gallery of Victoria, 2008, pp. 25-27, pls. 18-19, also front cover image
- For the exhibition, *Order & Disorder: Archives and Photography*, National Gallery of Victoria, work featured on exterior promotional banner and exhibition poster
- Haynes, Janet, "Stephen Haley and Penelope Davis: saturated visions", *Two Up, Australian Art Review*, Nov-Jan 2008/2009 Issue 17, pp. 56-59
- Crawford, Ashley, "Penelope Davis: Fiction-Non-Fiction", *Photofile* 84 Summer 08, p. 67

Stephens, Andrew, "Grasping the Past Imperfect", A2, *The Age*, 18/10/08

Universite du Luxembourg, Service de la biblioteque pamphlet, front cover image

Haley, Stephen, "Double Exposure: Post-photographic practice", *Photofile* 84 Summer 08, p.47

Crombie, Isobel, *Light Sensitive: Contemporary Australian Photography from the Loti Smorgan Fund*, National Gallery of Victoria, 2006, pp. 17, 107, pls. 2-3

McAuliffe, Chris, catalogue essay for *Recent Acquisitions, City of Port Phillip*, 2005

Nelson, Robert, "It's a Wrap", Sightlines Critical Guide, *The Age*, 2/9/05

Haley, Stephen, *Tissued*, exhibition essay for *Tissue Issue*, Nellie Castan Gallery

Crawford, Ashley, Preview, *Australian Art Collector*, #33, July-September 2005

Stephens, Tony, "Ulrick Schubert Photography Award", *Photofile*, #72, Spring 2004

Backhouse, Megan, "Camera-ready Artworks On Display", Around the Galleries, *The Age*, 4/10/03

Haley, Stephen, *Transparent Things*, Catalogue essay for *Heavy Light*, Nellie Castan Gallery

Van Wyke, Susan and Lindley, Paula, *Second Sight* Educational Resource, National Gallery of Victoria, 2003

Nelson, Robert, "Elusive signs of the real in primitive photography", *The Age*, 16/4/03

Day, Charlotte, First Impressions: Contemporary Australian Photograms, *Photofile*, #69, 8/03

Crombie, Isobel, *First Impressions Catalogue*, National Gallery of Victoria, 2003

Crombie, Isobel and Van Wyk, Susan, *2nd Sight: Australian Photography in the National Gallery of Victoria*, National Gallery of Victoria, 2002, p. 112, and front cover image

Ennis, Helen (ed), *Photofile* 66, September 2002, *Traces*, front cover image

Nelson, Robert, "A Strong Showing", *The Age*, 27/12/00

Nelson, Robert, "Unravelling Layers", *The Age*, 30/8/00

Nelson, Robert, "Pushing the right buttons", *The Age*, 5/4/00

Williamson, Claire, "Mirrors and Windows", *Art Monthly*, No.124, 10/99, pp.4-7, work reproduced

Nelson, Robert, "Focus on photographers who click as artists", *The Age*, 27/10/99

Brown, Scott, "Give Me Something to Believe In", *1999 Moet and Chandon Exhibition Catalogue*, 1999

Marie Claire Lifestyle, Marie Claire, April 1999, work reproduced

Artbank Promotional Pamphlet, 1998, work reproduced

Klaosen, Diana, "Divergant Abstraction and the Photographic Object", *Artlink*, Vol. 18, #4, December 1998, p.84

French, Blair, "Reticent thoughts on 'dumb' theory", *Photofile*, #55, November 1998, pp.28-31, work reproduced

Cuthbert, Simon, 'F': Divergent Abstraction and the Photographic Project, *exhibition catalogue*, September 1998

Kent, Rachel, *Deacons Graham and James/ Arts 21 Award*, finalists exhibition catalogue, 8/98

Cattapan, John, *Taken*, *exhibition catalogue*, July 1998

Clabburn, A., "Getting it together for a little showing off", *The Age*, 11/2/98

Parker, K. and French, B., "Disclosure", *Disclosure: new photo artists '97*, *exhibition catalogue*, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney

James, B., "Galleries", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 19/12/97, work reproduced

"Dress Circle: A Critical Guide to What's On", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 30/12/97

Bridie, Sandra, *Photoelastic*, interview accompanying exhibition, Temple Studios, 1996

Bridie, Sandra, *Penelope Davis*, interview accompanying exhibition, Fictional and Actual Artists Space, 199