
John Olsen

Biography

Born in Newcastle, 1928.

Dr John Olsen received an Order of Australia (A.O.) in 2001. In 1977 he was awarded the O.B.E. for services to the Arts and in 1993 he was awarded an Australian Creative Fellowship. He was also awarded the Wynne Prize in 1969 and 1985 and the Archibald Prize in 2005 amongst many other awards throughout his career.

He has also received an honorary doctorate of letters from both the University of NSW (2003) and the University of Newcastle (2011).

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2016 John Olsen, Olsen Irwin, Sydney
John Olsen: The You Beaut Country, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 2015 Destination Sydney, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 2014 Myself and other Animals, Metro Gallery, Melbourne
- 2013-14 John Olsen: New Work, Olsen Irwin, Sydney
- 2013 John Olsen: An Exhibition of New Work, Osborne Samuel, London in conjunction with Olsen Irwin, Sydney
- 2012 Lake Eyre: The Desert Sea. Metro Gallery, Melbourne
- 2011 John Olsen, Lake Eyre – The Desert Sea, Ruminations on an empty landscape, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
John Olsen, Lake Eyre – The Desert Sea, Ruminations on an empty landscape, Tim Olsen Gallery at the Hong Kong Art Fair
- 2010 John Olsen, Culinaria; The Cuisine of the Sun, Tim Olsen Gallery
- 2009 Olsen: Paintings & Drawings, Metro Gallery, Melbourne
- 2007 John Olsen, A Salute to Sydney, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
- 2006 The Coorong: Unfinished Journey, Metro 5 Gallery, Melbourne
Selected works, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
John Olsen: His Complete Graphics, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
John Olsen, Selection of Graphics, Eastgate and Holst Gallery, Melbourne
- 2005 The Flight to Broome, Tim Olsen Gallery Annex, Sydney.
Pulse, Tarrawarra Museum of Art, Victoria
Teeming with Life, His Complete Graphics 1957-2005, Book launch and exhibition of selected etchings, Cosa Gallery, London
The Coorong Suite, New Releases, Print Survey. Port Jackson Press Gallery, Melbourne

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- 2004 A selection of recent etchings by John Olsen, Impressions on Paper Gallery, Canberra
John Olsen, Recent Works, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
- 2003 John Olsen, Metro 5 Gallery, Melbourne
Sydney Harbour, Seaport of Desire, a survey of prints and drawings, Port Jackson Press, Melbourne
- 2002 Seaport of Desire, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
- 2001 Recent works on paper, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
- 2000 John Olsen: Past & Present, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney
- 1998 John Olsen: Recent Paintings 1995 - 1998, Olsen Carr Art Dealers, Sydney
'New York Nowhere', recent paintings and works on paper, Olsen Carr Art Dealers, Sydney
- 1995 John Olsen: Recent Works, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
- 1994 John Olsen: Recent Work 1992-1994, Deutscher Fine Art, Melbourne
- 1993 John Olsen: Recent Works, Sherman Galleries Goodhope, Sydney
John Olsen: Recent Etchings, Olsen Carr Art Dealers, Sydney
- 1992 John Olsen Retrospective, Art Gallery of New South Wales,
John Olsen Retrospective, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1991 John Olsen, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1990 John Olsen, Australian Galleries, Sydney
- 1989 John Olsen, Greenhill Gallery, Perth
The Land Beyond Time, works from the Christensen Fund Collection, touring exhibition
Manly Art Gallery, Sydney; Nolan Gallery, Canberra; The Centre Gallery, Gold Coast
- 1988 John Olsen - Encounters with Drawing, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1987-8 John Olsen - Encounters with Drawing, Wollongong City Gallery
- 1986 Paintings and Drawings by John Olsen from the permanent collection,
John Olsen - In Search of the Open Country 1961-1986, Heide, Melbourne
John Olsen: Gold, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
John Olsen, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1985 John Olsen, Tynte Gallery, Adelaide
- 1984 John Olsen, Tynte Gallery, Adelaide Festival, Adelaide
- 1983 John Olsen: Selected Graphics, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
John Olsen - The Land Beyond Time, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
- 1982 John Olsen 81-82 and Noela Hjorth, Bortignon's Kalamunda Gallery of Man,
John Olsen, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1981 John Olsen: A Sliver of Time, Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney
- 1980 John Olsen: Exhibition of Recent Paintings, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
John Olsen: Paintings and Drawings 77-80 Lister Gallery, Festival of Perth, Perth
John Olsen: My Complete Graphics, David Reid Gallery, Sydney
- 1979 John Olsen: Earth Hold etchings, Cintra House, Brisbane

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- 1978 John Olsen: Paintings and Drawings 77-78, Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney
- 1977 John Olsen: Recent Paintings, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1976 John Olsen: Recent oil paintings, gouaches, drawings and etchings, Ray The Child in us All, St John's Anglican Cathedral, Brisbane
- 1975 John Olsen: Edge of the Void, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
 John Olsen 74-75: Edge of the Void and Opera House Mural Studies, Australian Edge of the Void: Paintings, Drawings, Etchings and Lithographs by John Olsen, Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide
 John Olsen: Etchings, Gallery Huntly, Canberra
- 1974 John Olsen, Atelier 72 Gallery, Adelaide
- 1973 John Olsen, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
- 1972 John Olsen, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1971 John Olsen, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
- 1970 John Olsen, Reid Gallery, Brisbane
- 1969 The Dunmoochin Summer: John Olsen '69, Rudy Komon Gallery, Sydney
 John Olsen '69- Exhibition of Gouches and Oil Paintings, White Studio, Adelaide
- 1967 Entrance to the Castle of Life: John Olsen 66-67, Clune Galleries, Sydney
 Entrance to the Castle of Life: John Olsen 66-67, South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne
- 1965 John Olsen, Clune Galleries, Sydney
 John Olsen, South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne
- 1963 An Exhibition of Recent Paintings, Gouaches & Drawings by John Olsen,
 John Olsen: Recent Paintings, Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1960 Olsen, Galerie Lambert, Paris John Olsen, Terry Clune Galleries, Sydney
- 1958 John Olsen, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
- 1955 John Olsen, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney

COLLECTIONS:

John Olsen's work is represented in all Australian state gallery collections, the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra and regional galleries Australia wide. He is also represented in institutional, corporate and private collections in Australasia, United Kingdom, Europe and the United States of America.

SELECTED BIOGRAPHY:

Virginia Spate, John Olsen, Georgian House, Melbourne, 1973

John Olsen, Salute to Five Bells: John Olsen's Opera House Journal, Angus and Robertson, Sydney, 1973

John Olsen, My Complete Graphics, 1957-79, Gryphon Books, Melbourne, 1980

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Sandra McGrath and John Olsen, *The Artist and the Desert*, Bay Books, Sydney and London, 1981
John Olsen: *Gold*, exhibition catalogue, introduction by Edmund Capon, essay by John Olsen,
AGNSW, Sydney, 1986
Deborah Hart, John Olsen, *Craftsman House*, 1991
John Olsen, *Drawn from Life*, D&S, Sydney, 1997

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