



Vespa It is my insurance for a rock-star park. It reflects my eco-consciousness and, when one gets older, it gives you a renewed sense of freedom. I love it.

Jacket This is my Shanghai Tang jacket. It's modelled on a Chinese opium jacket. It's eccentric. I don't like to dress like a businessman. I wear it to all my openings.



FAVOURITE THINGS

Larousse Gastronomique It's like the cook's bible. I love to cook. Like an old watch, it was passed down to me from my father.

Baudelaire Charles Baudelaire is my favourite poet. *Correspondances* is my favourite poem. It's about understanding life and our interaction with nature. It's very wise and magical.

Sculpture To me it is a lovely object to hold. It's like a large worry bead. It has all the voluptuousness of the female form that fits into your palm, just like a good woman should.

Drawing This is a drawing my father did when I was about 5. It's about how I was so into life and my wonderment at everything. It's also an expression of his love for me.

Fred Williams painting

I knew Fred as a little boy. I love the way he reduces the landscape to the most minimal point. In this one I like the poignancy of the tonality of the bush scene after a fire.



Aftershave Because I am a sensory person, unless I have a scent on I don't feel good. It's Magot by the designer Etro. This is the one that hits me. In my dangerous days people called it my sex water.



Cap Living up the road from the Sydney Football Stadium and growing up in Watsons Bay when the first-grade players used to be garbologists, I can't help but be a fan of the Roosters.

Okanui shorts Like a good pair of jeans—they get better as they get older. They're an item for a person that grew up as a child of the sun. I wear them until they fall apart.



Following his art

Tim Olsen's life was mapped out from birth

Tim Olsen is one of Australia's best known art gallery owners; he is also the son of one of Australia's most celebrated living artists, John Olsen. Given his artistic heritage, Tim always knew his life would be intertwined in the art world; it was just a question of how.

"I went to art school, but I was intimidated by having a famous father," he says.

"I did a degree in art education to teach children and the art gallery thing evolved. I like the lifestyle of dealing with artists, who are like second nature to me."

For Tim, opening the eyes of new clients to the world of art is one of the best parts of his job.

"I say to people, only buy what you like," he says.

"I hope to reveal the artwork to people so that it reveals something about them they didn't know."

Tim's taste lies in landscape and he names Ian Fairweather as his favourite artist for what he says is the most spiritual art to come out of our country.

"I look for the ability to draw, to have an eye for colour and tone," he says.

"I like an element of nature; unless we have nature we die."

Given his busiest days in the gallery are on the weekends, Mondays, which used to be dedicated to long lunches, now consist of a round of golf.

"On Mondays a few gallery owners play golf; we call ourselves the Fine Arts Golf Society," he says.

"I also walk to Bronte most mornings. I've lost a lot of weight this year as a result."

Tim lives in a Woollahra terrace with his wife Dominique and son James, 5. He is surrounded by beautiful material objects, but it is his family he holds most dear.

"Can I say my son is my favourite thing?" ■ Jenny Ringland