

Stanley Street gallery

Leslie Oliver

Artist Statement

As a sculptor, I am thinking more and more in the same way as I do about my films, though my characters are seemingly static, they need to have a narrative to generate a sense of life and engage the viewer.

A sculptor works alone so the processes appear less apparent however they remain the same; a sketch or thought (a script); collecting and capturing material/s (shoot); assembling them (edit); seeking a narrative, a struggle, a test of character, a story.

I want the viewer to connect emotionally with my sculptures and then discover the other ideas within them.

CV

Selected Biography

2017 Lecturer, Doco Film & Production, Thesis Supervisor, Mahidol University, International College, Bangkok, Thailand.
2004 -16 Co - Founder/Part Owner/Board Director of Sydney Film School
2016 Lecturer, Listening to Film, Australian Institute of Music.
2004 -15 Head of Studies/Production Sydney Film School.
2015 Lecturer, Doco Film Production, Mahidol University, International College, Bangkok, Thailand.
2001- 3 Lecturer, Screen Language/Writing/Directing, Faculty of Architecture, Post Grad, University of Sydney.
1994 - 03 Co-Founder/Course Coordinator/UBS Film School, University of Sydney Union.
1997-8 Guest Speaker, (Sculpture) University of Sydney/Newcastle University.
1993 Guest of Mannheim -Heidelberg International Film Festival.
1992-3 Awarded Film Production Grant, Australian Film Commission.
1991 Tutor, Sculpture, Waverley/Woollahra Art Centre, Sydney.
1990 Lecturer, Sculpture, Australian Catholic University.
1987-9 Art Teacher, (Sculpture/Film) St Aloysius College, Sydney.
1984 Guest Lecturer, Sculpture, Gloucestershire Institute of Art & Technology, UK.
1983 Produced/Directed Films for Prints Dept, ANG, Canberra.
1982- 5 BA (Film & Television Directing), AFTRS.
1977-81 Diploma in Art, (Major Sculpture & Electromedia), Alexander Mackie CAE, [University of NSW / Art and Design, Sydney.
1973-76 Apprentice Architectural/Mechanical Design Draftsman, Howard Homes, Albury, NSW & Sunwhite Rice, Leeton, NSW.
1954 Born Leeton, NSW.

Solo Exhibitions

2016 Now and Then, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
2014 Walking Sticks – Crooks, Staves and Scepters, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2012 Love Stories, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2010 Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2009 Narrative Objects and Surfaces, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2006 The Punctured Plane, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2004 Collaboration with Sokquon Tran, Brenda May Gallery, Syd.
2003 Collaboration with Sokquon Tran, Brenda May Gallery, Syd.
2002 Beaver Galleries, Canberra.
2000 Port Jackson Gallery, Los Angeles, USA. Collaboration with Sokquon Tran, Access Contemporary Art Gallery
1999 100 Abstract Moments, Access Contemporary Art Gallery.
1998 Beaver Galleries, Canberra (in conjunction with The Canberra National Sculpture Forum).
1997 Gesture Here, Gesture Now, Access Contemporary Art Gallery.
1996 Posturing, Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney.

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Sculptures-New Work, BMG Fine Art Gallery, Adelaide, South Australia.
1994 Still, Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney.
1993 A Silent Frontier, Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney.
1991 ThePivotal Surface, Access Contemporary Art Gallery.
1990 Careful Toys, Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney.

Mixed Exhibitions

2017 MAY SPACE: FOURTEEN, MAY SPACE, Sydney
2016 "Yeah. Cheers. Thanks a lot", Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
Sculpture 2016: Bronze, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2015 30 Years | 30 Artists | 30 Works, Brenda May Gallery, Syd.
Untitled Show, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
Love. Lament. Loss. Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
20th Annual Miniature Sculpture Exhibition -Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2014 Christmas Show, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
In Tandem, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
Group, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
MINUMENTAL - 6" Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
Sculpture 2014, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2013 Mighty Small, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
Please Be Seated, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
MAXIMUS MINIMUS - 6" Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
Sculpture 2013, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
2012 Major Artists, Major Works, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
Sculpture 2012, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
Tiny Titans & Miniliths - 6" Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2011 Five Easy Pieces, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
Mini Majors - 6" Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2010 Defiant Little Devils - 6" Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2009 Sculpture 2009 - Animal Farm, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
14th Annual 6" Sculpture Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2008 Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
13th Annual 6" Sculpture Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2007 Art + Humour Too, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
12th Annual 6" Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
Birthday Show, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2006 SMALL, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
11th Annual 6" Sculpture Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2005 Colour in Abstraction, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
10th Annual 6" Sculpture Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
Couples, Collaborators + Other Partnerships, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
Object Show, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2004 Sculpture 2004 -Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
The Frank Saxby Bequest Invitational Art Acquisitions Prize,
Manning Regional Art Gallery, Taree [collaborative work].
9th Annual 6" Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2003 Sculpture 2003 - Dangerous Toys, Brenda May Gallery, Syd.
8th Annual 6" Sculpture Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
2002 New Objects/New Things Pt.1, Brenda May Gallery.
Woollahra Sculpture Prize, [finalist] Woollahra Redleaf Gallery.
1st Birthday Show, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.
2001 Small Wonders -6" Show, King Street Gallery/Defiance Gallery.
Fishers' Ghost Art Prize, Campbelltown Regional Gallery.

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2000 Artfair 2000, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
Sculpture 2000, Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney.
Contemporary Sculpture by Leslie Oliver and Peter Tilley, Penrith Regional Gallery, Emu Plains, NSW
Importance of Being Small-6" Show, King Street Gallery & Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
1999 Five Easy Pieces, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
Big Thoughts Small Works-6" Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
1998 Figure in the Landscape, King Street Gallery, Sydney.
Bloom, Open House Gallery, Sydney.
Toys by Artists, Touring, Faculty of Art & Design Gallery, Uni of Newcastle, NSW.
ACAF-6, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
4th Annual 6" Sculpture Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
1997 3rd Annual 6" Sculpture Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney.
1996 ACAF-5, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
1994 ACAF-4, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
1993 New Art Eight, Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney.
1992 ACAF-3, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
Access to Adelaide, Sculpture Exhibition, BMG Fine Art, Adelaide, South Australia.
1990-9 Birthday/Survey Exhibition, Access Contemporary Art Gallery.
1990 ACAF-2, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
1984 Four in Hand, The Gallery, NSW House, The Strand, London, UK.
1983 NSW Travelling Art Scholarship, [H. Commended], Blaxland Gallery, Sydney.
1982 Christmas Show, Irving Sculpture Gallery, Sydney.
1981 To Surface, Sculpture with Bronwyn Oliver, War Memorial Gallery, University of Sydney.
A Survey of Australian Sculptors, Irving Sculpture Gallery, Syd
Macquarie Art Award, [2nd Prize, Sculpture] Sydney.
1980 NSW Travelling Art Scholarship Exhibition, Blaxland Gallery.
1978 Selected, Student Exhibitor, First Australian Sculpture Triennial, Melb.
1976 Leeton Artisans Community Open Art Exhibition, Leeton, NSW.
1973 Two Artists, [Paintings], The Gallery, Albury, NSW.

Published/Reproduced

2017 Clement, Tracey. "Fourteen", Art Guide Australia, March/April, p.47.
2014 "Exhibition Brief: In Tandem", Art Almanac, May, p.57.
Welch, Olivia. "Rescue, Gather and Collect: Leslie Oliver + Melinda Le Guay", Framework [digital], issue 5 Spectacle, p.24-27.
2013 Kellahan, Kristie, 'The Power of Screen Language', SMH, Feb 16-17.
2012 Gorman, J. "Putting the Focus on Love", Central Magazine, 4 May.
Adams, Nick. "Love Story", Film Ink, website, 2 May.
Chant, Rachel. "Interview", Time Out Sydney website, April.
2009 Sydney Film School News, 16 Feb, p.6
2004 TV Feature, "Sculpture 2004", 'Today' show, TCN9, Jan 28.
2003 Hynes, Victoria. "Critic's Picks", SMH, p23, May 23-29.
'Sculptor's Magic', The Glebe + Inner Western Weekly, Aug 27, p25.
2002 Barron, Sonia. Canberra Times, June 5.
2001 Fusions, SBS Television, featured artist, April 4, 18:15.
2000 Hynes, Victoria. "Art Market", Art & Australia, Vol 37 No 4.
Kidd, Courtney. "Shared Loss", SMH Galleries, Nov 29.
Barouch, Judy. SMH Domain, Nov. 2-8.
1999 Hynes, Victoria. World Sculpture News, Vol. 5, No. 4, Fall.
Harris, Peter. World Sculpture News, Vol. 6, No. 2, Spring.
1998 Grishin, Sasha. Canberra Times, April 8.
Reproduction, Snapshot, Object, March, p59.
1997 James, Bruce. SMH, Aug 22. Drury, Neville.
New Sculpture, Craftsman House.
1996 McDonald, John. SMH, April 27.

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Reproduction, Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, State of the Arts, Mar-Jul, p24.
1995 TAS, The Architecture Show Magazine, Brothers and Sisters, Summer Issue, pp33-36.
Thorpe, DW. Who's Who of Australian Visual Artists, (in association with NAVA).
1993 Drury, Nevill. "New Art Eight", Profiles in Contemporary Australian Art, Craftsman House.
Drury, Nevill. "New Sculpture", Profiles in Contemporary Australian Sculpture, Craftsman House.
1992 Ioannou, Noris. Adelaide Advertiser, Feb 5.
1991 Reproduction, Belle Magazine, Nov, p10.
Fern, Lynette. SMH, November 29.
Lynn. Elwyn. Australian, Nov 30.
Kidd, Courtney. State of the Art, Issue No.1, Nov/Mar, p9.
1990 Exhibition Commentary, Art & Australia, Vol.28 No.2, p246.

Film Festivals

1993 Brisbane International Film Festival. Australia
Mannheim-Heidelberg International Film Festival, (in competition), Germany.
Dublin Film Festival, Ireland.
The Pan Celtic Film Festival, Cork, Ireland.
1992-3 You Can't Push the River, 75min Feature Film, Writer/Director.
1986 Australian Film Week, Tel-Aviv, Israel.
American Academy Award, (Australian Student Film) USA.
35th Melbourne Film Festival.
St Kilda Film Festival, Melbourne.
1985-6 Tennis Court Opera, Writer/Producer/Director, 16mm, 24 min, colour drama.

Commissions

2001-2 11 works, in collaboration with Sokquon Tran for Qantas
International Business and First Class Lounges, Sydney.
1999 Sculpture -
Qantas Airlines, Hong Kong international Airport.

Represented

Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, NSW; College of Fine Art, University of
NSW; Artbank; Hong Kong International Airport; Qantas First Class
Lounge (major commission with Sokquon Tran), Sydney International
Airport.