



Amy Dynan

Artist Statement

My contemporary drawing practice merges photorealism with abstract sensibilities to explore the beauty and brevity of everyday life. My art practice rationale is to apply drawing to everyday subjects, symbols and still life objects that represent the full spectrum of life. My work is a celebration of everyday majesty.

Bio

I am a graduate of a Master of Contemporary Art and Master of Fine Art from Sydney College of the Arts (University of Sydney). The basis for my practice is drawing as a meditative and experiential state of Being. I feel most alive when drawing. For me, the drawing process is deeply calming. The repetitive, labour intensive and time-consuming method forces me to be still—a repetition of tiny movements through which the pace of my mind slows to meet the rhythm of my body.

My practice currently centers on the still life, one of the most enduring forms in art that typically depicts objects carrying symbolic and allegorical themes that poignantly speak to the transience of life. Of particular enamour is Vanitas painting—a visual commentary of motifs that capture the fragility and fullness of being alive. Of fascination to me is the performative level to which the message is inverted through the symbolism. I endeavour to bring the vanitas still life into the contemporary through a sumptuous feast of imagery, merging abstract sensibilities with photorealism—the intention for my work is always a celebration of the everyday majesty around us.

CV

EDUCATION

2015-2016 Master of Fine Arts - Research Painting, University of Sydney, Sydney College of the Art
Academic Supervisors: Lindy Lee, Debra Dawes Academic Examiners: Anthony Bond, Ann Elias

2014 Master of Contemporary Art - Painting, University of Sydney, Sydney College of the Art
Academic Supervisors: Debra Dawes, Robyn Backen, Tom Loveday

2010 The Julian Ashton Art School, Sydney NSW

2008 Bachelor of Arts - Art History & Theory, French, University of Sydney

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2017 Draw the Light, Solo Exhibition, Bondi Pavilion Gallery, 5-17 Sept

2013 Displacement, Solo Exhibition, E3 Artspace, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery

2012 Solitude, Solo Exhibition, Docker St Gallery, Wagga Wagga

Stanley Street gallery

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize, Exhibition of finalists
- 2017 Stanley Street Gallery, Group Exhibition
- 2017 SCA Postgraduate Degree Exhibition, MFA, Sydney College of the Arts, NSW
- 2016 Myself Art Prize, Exhibition of Finalists, Jugglers Art Space QLD
- 2016 Hornsby Art Prize, Exhibition of Finalists, NSW
- 2016 Marie Ellis OAM Prize for Drawing, Jugglers Art Space QLD
- 2016 Warringah Art Prize, Exhibition of Finalists, NSW
- 2016 Salon of Infectious Ideas, The Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
- 2016 Swan Hill Print & Drawing Acquisitive Awards, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery
- 2015 Portraits, The Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
- 2015 We Get By, Cooks Hill Gallery, Newcastle, NSW
- 2015 Inspired, HVGS Art Prize Exhibition, NSW
- 2014 Works on Paper, The Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
- 2014 St George Art Awards, Exhibition of Finalists, NSW
- 2014 Postgraduate Degree Exhibition, Sydney College of the Arts, NSW
- 2013 Black Swan Prize for Portraiture Linton & Kay Gallery, Perth, WA
- 2013 Mortimore Art Prize, Exhibition of Finalists, Australia-wide
- 2013 Wagga Wagga Art Prize, NSW
- 2012 Mortimore Art Prize, Exhibition of Finalists, Australia-wide
- 2012 Wagga Wagga Art Prize, NSW
- 2012 Raw, Art Lounge Gallery, Wagga Wagga, NSW

RESIDENCIES & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2017 Hill End Artist in Residence Program, Hill End, December
- 2015 Winner, Zelda Stedman Young Artist Scholarship 2015, University of Sydney
- 2016 Winner, Zelda Stedman Young Artist Scholarship 2016, University of Sydney

AWARDS & PRIZES

- 2017 Finalist, Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize
- 2016 Winner, Myself Art Prize, Jugglers Art Space
- 2016 Finalist Hornsby Art Prize
- 2016 Finalist, Marie Ellis OAM Prize for Drawing
- 2016 Finalist, Swan Hill Print & Drawing Acquisitive Awards
- 2014 Finalist St George Art Awards
- 2013 Semi-Finalist, Doug Moran National Portrait Prize
- 2013 Finalist, Black Swan Prize for Portraiture
- 2013 Finalist, Mortimore Art Prize
- 2012 Winner, Wagga Wagga Art Prize
- 2012 Winner, Drawing Section, Wagga Wagga Art Prize
- 2012 Finalist, Mortimore Art Prize