

Stanley Street gallery

December 2017

Robin Lawrence - OAM

Represented by Stanley Street Gallery

Born 1935 Sydney Australia: currently lives and works in Glebe, Sydney, NSW

1950-55 Studied at the National Art School, Sydney (Teachers: Godfrey Miller, Ralph Balso, Jean Appleton and James Cook)

1958 Moved to London studying at St Martin's School of Art

1959 Attended Oskar Kokoschka's Summer School in Salzburg, Austria

1959-63 Living and painting in Florence, Italy

1963-64 Living in Auckland, New Zealand painting full time

1965 Moved to New York City

1967-86 Head of the Art Dept, Rudolf Steiner School, NYC, NY

1986 Returned and resettled in Sydney

1997 Established the annual Glebe Art Prize

Solo Exhibitions

2012 *Paintings*, Stanley Street Gallery

2008 *Studio Paintings*, Depot Gallery, Danks St, Sydney

2006 *In and Out*, James Harvey Gallery, Clovelly, Sydney

2003 *Paintings*, James Harvey Gallery, Clovelly, Sydney

2001 *Paintings*, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1999 *Paintings*, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1997 *Painting Class*, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1995 *The Prescence of Objects*, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1993 *Back of Vision*, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1991 *Angles and Light*, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

Paintings, Burnie Street Gallery, Clovelly Sydney

1976 *Watercolours on fabric*, Surroundings Gallery, New York City

Selected Group Exhibitions

2015 *Salon of Infectious Ideas*, Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst

2007 *Eutick Memorial Still Life Award*, Coff's Harbur Regional Gallery, NSW

2005 *Portia Geach Protrait Prize*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney

2003 *Fishers Ghost Prize*, Campelltown City Bicentennial Art Galley

2002 *Pocketsized*, James Harvey Gallery, Clovelly, Sydney

2000 *The Archibald Portrait Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

1999 *Camden Prize*, Camden, NSW

1998 *Smalls*, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1997 *Three Wise Women*, Southern Highlands Regional Gallery, Moss Vale, NSW

1996 *Portia Geach Portrait Prize*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney

1995 *Mary Mckillip Memorial Exhibition*, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney

Figure It Out, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1994 *Salon Des Refuses*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney

Portia Geach Portrait Prize, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney

A Joy Forever, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

Trimmings, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1993 *Simple Pleasures*, James Harvey Gallery, Balmain, Sydney

1992 *Portia Geach Portrait Prize*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney

Stanley Street Gallery Opening hours Wed – Fri 11am – 6pm; Sat 11am – 5pm

1/52-54 Stanley Street Darlinghurst NSW 2010 P:0293681142 W:stanleystreetgallery.com.au

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Robin Lawrence

Robin grew up in the western suburbs of Sydney in Merrylands. She attended Parramatta Girls School up to the Intermediate Certificate (Year 9), she was encouraged in her ability and gained a scholarship to East Sydney Technical which then became the National Art School. She was 15 years old when she started. After the introductory 2 years Robin chose her specialisation, which was painting. She then spent the next 3 years specialising in painting.

After graduating in 1955 Robin taught firstly at Sceggs in Darlinghurst until 1958. The expectation after graduating NAS was to travel to Europe to experience first hand the grand tradition of painting. Robin left Australia and went to England and then finally ended up in Italy, spending 4 years soaking up the sun and all that Italy could give her. Robin left for New Zealand with her husband Arthur Lawrence, who she had met in Italy. Painting was still paramount and quickly established her studio to paint. Robin spent time painting portraits.

In 1965, New York was the next destination for Robin, where she spent 21 years painting and 19 years teaching at the Rudolf Steiner School Manhattan. These were special times for Robin.

"Hard and challenging in every way, but also stimulating and exciting".

Robin combined teaching with the birth of her son, whilst also consistently maintaining her painting practice.

"My journey, at a certain point, went through a fiercely expressionistic phase and then I realised that my deep personal expression was not enough, you have to go beyond. If you are in it for the long haul, there has to be an awareness of the classical tradition of relationships - for me they provide the foundation and building blocks."

Sydney

Coming back to Sydney in 1986 gave Robin the opportunity for the first time to actually concentrate solely on painting. Portraits were a particular joy, and she gained some exposure with work hung in various exhibitions and the Archibald in 2000.

Robin moved to Glebe 1986 to the house she still lives in, in the Toxteth estate.

Robin was awarded an OAM in 2010 for her contribution to the arts.