

NIAGARA

SAVANHDARY VONGPOOTHORN

Born in Laos, 1971, Vongpoothorn came to Australia in 1979. She completed a Bachelor of Visual Arts at the University of Western Sydney and a Masters of Fine Arts at UNSW College of Fine Arts. She has undertaken numerous residencies in Australia and overseas including in Scotland, Japan, Singapore, Vietnam and India. In 2006, Vongpoothorn was commissioned to create a major new work for the 15th Biennale of Sydney, she was a finalist in the 2016 Sir John Sulman Prize and in 2019 The Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra will stage a survey exhibition of her work. Vongpoothorn's work is included in many important public, private and corporate collections, including the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; World Bank, New York; Artbank, Sydney; Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; and the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne.

She currently lives and works in Canberra.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Pali Sound*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2016 *Ramayana on the Mekong*, Martin Browne Contemporary, Sydney
- 2014 *All Is Burning*, Martin Browne Contemporary, Sydney
- 2013 *The Beautiful as Force*, Martin Brown Contemporary, Sydney
- 2011 *Stone Down a Well*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2008 *Re-enchantment*, Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney
- 2005 *Incantation*, Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney
- 2004 *A Certain Distance*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2003 Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney
- 2002 *bindi dot tartan zen*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2000 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
King Street Gallery on Burton, Sydney
- 1998 King Street Gallery, Sydney
Holy Threads - Lao Tradition and Inspiration, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, NSW
- 1997 *Tradition and Interpretation*, King Street Gallery, Sydney
- 1996 King Street Gallery on Burton, Sydney
- 1995 King Street Gallery on Burton, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *Ties of History: Art in Southeast Asia*, Metropolitan Museum of Manila, University of the Philippines Vargas Museum and Yuchengco Museum, Manila, Philippines
- 2017 *Hurry Cola Meets Wizard of Oz*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Artist Profile: Australasian Painters 2007-2017, Orange Regional Gallery, NSW
Blue Chip XIX: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Abstraction: Celebrating Australian women abstract artists, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra and touring
- 2016 *2016 Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2013 *Crossing Paths III*, RAFT artspace, Alice Springs
Vibrant Matter, Tarra Warra Museum of Art, VIC
The Imperceptible Something, Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, QLD
- 2012 *Korea International Art Fair*, Niagara Galleries, COEX, Seoul, South Korea
Melbourne Art Fair, Niagara Galleries, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 2011 *Korea International Art Fair*, Niagara Galleries, COEX, Seoul, South Korea
Artist Artists, Benalla Art Gallery, VIC
- 2010 *Muster: A Round Up of Works from the Stockroom*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
M16 House, M16 Artspace, Canberra

- 2010 *Melbourne Art Fair*, Niagara Galleries, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
Audible Surface, M16 Artspace, Canberra
Fletcher Jones Art Prize Finalists' Exhibition, Geelong Gallery, VIC
Ephemeral but Eternal Words: Traces of Asia, the Australian National University School of Art Gallery, Canberra
Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2006 *Crossing Paths II*, Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney
Melbourne Art Fair, Niagara Galleries, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
Zones of Contact, 15th Biennale of Sydney, Sydney
- 2005 *This and Other Worlds: Contemporary Australian Drawing*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 2004 *Echoes of Home: memory and mobility in recent austral-asian art*, Museum of Brisbane, Brisbane and RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
- 2003 *Four*, Holmes à Court Gallery, Perth
Crossing Paths, Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney
Isles of Refuge, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
FUSION exhibition #4, Abstraction, Drill Hall Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra
NGA Lift project 2, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 2002 *Indecorous Abstraction*, The Jam Factory, Adelaide
- 2001 *Royal Overseas League Scholars Exhibition*, ROSL House Gallery, London, UK
- 2000 *The Return of Beauty*, The Jam Factory, Adelaide and Object Galleries, Sydney
Westpac Art Prize Exhibition, Mosman Regional Art Gallery, Sydney
Focus #6: Gang of 4, Robert Lindsay Gallery, Melbourne
Uncommon Worlds: Aspects of Contemporary Australian Art, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 1999 *Gang of 4*, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Project Centre for Contemporary Art, Wollongong and touring: Hazelhurst Art Gallery, NSW; Penrith Regional Art Gallery and Lewers Bequest, NSW; Gallery 4A, Sydney; and Hastings Art Gallery, Port Macquarie, NSW
Rose Crossing, Brisbane City Gallery, Queensland and touring Hong Kong Arts Centre, Hong Kong; Singapore Art Museum, Singapore; S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney; and Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, NSW
Contemporary, UTS Gallery, Sydney
Cinderella's Gems – Art and the Intellectual Mission, Macquarie University Art Gallery, Sydney and touring
Bright and Shining, Gallery 4A, Sydney
- 1998 *Moët & Chandon Touring Exhibition*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney and touring
Transit, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Ways of Being, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney and touring
- 1997 Gallery 4A, Sydney
Mori Gallery, Sydney
Bronze, Utopia Art Sydney, Sydney
- 1996 *Spirit and Place – Art in Australia 1861–1996*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 1995 *Gallery Artists*, King Street Gallery on Burton, Sydney
Still Life, Performance Space, Sydney
Heirloom, part of the *Next Wave Festival*, Monash University Gallery, Melbourne
Fresh Art II, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1994 *New South Wales Travelling Art Scholarship*, University of New South Wales College of Fine Art Gallery, Sydney
Recognizing the Republic, Michael Nagy Fine Art, Sydney
Circle, Line and Square – Aspects of Geometry, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery; Newcastle Region Art Gallery; Albury Regional Art Gallery; New England Regional Art Gallery, NSW
- 1993 *Mary Alice Evatt Art Award*, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, NSW
- 1993 *New South Wales Travelling Art Scholarship*, University of New South Wales College of Fine Art Gallery, Sydney
Periodic Tables, The Performance Space, Sydney
- 1992 *Untitled 92*, The Performance Space, Sydney
Connection, Penrith Regional Gallery and The Lewers Bequest, NSW

AWARDS, GRANTS AND RESIDENCIES

- 2016 Sir John Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney (finalist)
2015 Australia Council for the Arts - Professional Development Grant
2013 Artists' Retreat – Australia India Institute, University of Melbourne, Jaipur, India
2012 National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA) The Australian Artists' Grant (Janet Holmes à Court Artist's Grant), New South Wales
2011 National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA) The Australian Artists' Grant (Janet Holmes à Court Artist's Grant), New South Wales
2005 Artist in residence, print media workshop, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University, Australian Capital Territory
2004 Australia Council New Work Grant
2003 Artist in residence, painting workshop, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University, Australian Capital Territory
2001 Australia Council Tokyo Studio Residency, Tokyo
2000 Royal Overseas League Studio Residency, Scotland
Sceggs Redlands Westpac Art Prize 2000
1997 Australia Council New Work Grant
1996 34th Fisher's Ghost Art Award (Youth Encouragement Award), Campbelltown, New South Wales
1995 St Gregory's College Art Award, Campbelltown, New South Wales
33rd Fisher's Ghost Art Award (Open Local and Youth Encouragement Award), Campbelltown, New South Wales
1994 32nd Fisher's Ghost Art Award (Youth Encouragement Award), Campbelltown
1993 Mary Alice Evatt Art Award, New South Wales
1992 William Fletcher Trust Grant

COMMISSIONS

- 2006 *The 15th Biennale of Sydney*, Sydney
1999 *Braided Channels*, commissioned by Macquarie Bank, Sydney
1997 *Rice Line*, commissioned by Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, New South Wales

COLLECTIONS

Allen, Allen and Hemsley, Sydney
Artbank, Sydney
Atanaskovic Hartnell, Sydney
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, New South Wales
Holmes à Court Collection, Perth
Jackson Smith Solicitors, Sydney
Jim Wolfensohn World Bank, New York
Lady Cruthers Collection, Western Australia
Macquarie Bank, Sydney
Macquarie University, Sydney
Monash University, Melbourne
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
Sherman Foundation
Sceggs Redlands, Sydney
University of Melbourne, Melbourne
University of Western Sydney, New South Wales
University of Wollongong, New South Wales
World Bank, New York
Private collections Australian and overseas

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Michelle Anne P. Soliman, 'ASEAN artists come together in a 3-part show', *Business World*, 15 August 2018
'Connecting the ties of history', *Manila Standard*, 19 July 2018
Kon Gouriotis & Lucy Stranger, *Artist Profile, Australasian Painters 2007-2017*, exhibition catalogue, Orange Regional Gallery, New South Wales, 2017

Robert Nelson, 'Abstraction review: A glorious trip through op art and minimalist mind games', *The Age*, 15 March 2017

Blue Chip XIX: The Collectors' Exhibition, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2017

Abstraction: Celebrating women abstract artists, exhibition catalogue, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, 2017

Kon Gouriotis, 'Savandhary Vongpoothorn', *Artist Profile*, no. 37, 2016, pp.58-67

Prue Gibson, 'Savandhary Vongpoothorn: The Beautiful as Force', *Artlink*, June 2013

Kelly Gellatly (ed.), *101 Contemporary Australian Artists*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 2012

Chaitanya Sambrani, 'Piercing time: Savandhary Vongpoothorn's Stone Down a Well', *Stone Down a Well*, exhibition brochure, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2011

Chaitanya Sambrani, 'Savandhary Vongpoothorn: Words across Worlds', *Ephemeral but Eternal Words: Traces of Asia*, exhibition catalogue, Australian National University, Canberra, 2010

Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2010

R. Ian Lloyd, *Studio: Australian Painters on the Nature of Creativity*, R. Ian Lloyd Productions, Sydney, 2007

Joanna Mendelssohn, 'Charles Merewether: Director of 15th Biennale of Sydney', *Artlink*, June 2006

Elizabeth Colman, 'The Face', *The Weekend Australian*, 11 February 2006

Max Delany and Kirrily Hammond (eds.), *Extra-Aesthetic: 25 Views of the Monash University Collection*, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne, 2005

John McDonald, 'Holey rituals', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 June 2005

'Warm recollection of Laos life', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 31 May 2005

Christine Clarke, *Echoes of home: memory and mobility in recent Austral-Asian art*, exhibition catalogue, Museum of Brisbane, Brisbane, 2005

Tanya Paterson, 'Liquid Light', *Art and Australia*, vol. 40, no. 3, 2003

Felicity Allen, 'Put plaid to work', *The Herald Sun*, October 15, 2002

Michael Newell, 'Indecorous Abstraction: Contemporary Women Painters', *Artlink*, December 2002

Ashley Carruthers, 'The Art of Savandhary Vongpoothorn as Métissage', *bindi dot tartan zen*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2002

Ewan McDonald, *Points of View: University of Technology Sydney Art Collection*, University of Technology Sydney, New South Wales, 2002

Margaret Osbourne, *Indecorous Abstraction*, Light Square Gallery, Adelaide, 2002

Melissa Chiu, 'Shifting Frames of Reference: Asian Australian Women Artists', *Text and Subtext: Contemporary Art Asia Women*, LaSalle-SIA, Singapore, 2000

Ashley Carruthers, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, Project Centre for Contemporary Arts, Wollongong, 2000

Marr Phillips, 'Guess Who's coming to Dinner', *ART AsiaPacific*, no. 28, 2000

Deborah Hart, *Uncommon World: Aspects of Contemporary Australian Art*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, 2000

Neville Drury and Laura Murray Cree (eds.), *Australian Painting Now*, Craftsman House, Sydney, 2000

Ben Holgate, 'Young Arts – The new generation of Australian prodigies', *The Weekend Australian*, 1 January 2000

Tony Geddes and Belinda Allen, *Cinderella's Gems - Art and the Intellectual Mission*, exhibition catalogue, Macquarie University, Sydney, 1999

John Clark and William Wright, *The Rose Crossing*, exhibition catalogue, Brisbane City Art Gallery, Queensland, 1999

Jennifer Hardy and Amanda Weate, *Ways of Being*, exhibition catalogue, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney, 1999

Hannah Fink, 'Rhythmic Air: The fine art of Savandhary Vongpoothorn', *Art Asia Pacific*, September, 1999

Sioux Garside and Benjamin Genocchio, *Holy Threads - Lao Tradition and Inspiration*, exhibition catalogue, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, New South Wales, 1998

Michael Wardell, 'Art in the Age of Lost Innocence', *Moët & Chandon*, exhibition catalogue, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, 1998

Benjamin Genocchio, 'Elizabeth Pulie and Savandhary Vongpoothorn', *Eyeline*, Spring, 1997

Robert Rooney, 'Heirloom, Nostalgic', *The Australian*, 7 June 1997

Nick Waterlow, *Spirit and Place - Art in Australia 1861-1996*, exhibition catalogue, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, 1996

Sioux Garside and Jenny Zimmer, *Circle, Line and Square - Aspects of Geometry*, exhibition catalogue, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, New South Wales, 1994

Mary Alice Evatt Art Award, exhibition catalogue, Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, New South Wales, 1993