

THE COMMERCIAL

GUNTER CHRISTMANN

b. 1936, Berlin
d. 2013, Sydney

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022 *Gunter Christmann*, The Commercial, Sydney
2021 *Gunter Christmann*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2015 *Gunter Christmann*, The Commercial, Sydney
2014 *Gunter Christmann: Now and Then*, curated by Lesley Harding, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
Gunter Christmann, The Commercial, Sydney
BEFORE, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2013 *Gunter Christmann*, The Commercial, Sydney
flexicuffstreet.com, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2012 *Eyes and Mind*, organised by George Hubbard and Robert Lake, East Sydney Doctors, Sydney
AVEAGOYAMUG: Thus spoke Epimetheus, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2011 *AVAGOYAMUG*, curated by Susan Gibb, Society, Sydney
SIDE SHOW MAX, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2010 *KOZMIX*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2008 *Encore*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2007 *Portrait d'Amour: Recent and Not So Recent Paintings*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2006 *AXION JENNY 2006*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
2005 *AUTOMONTAGE*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2004 *10gm OZKAR*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2003 *T.O. Tranceporter*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
2002 *Christmann 2002*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2000 *WYSIWYG @ niagara Y2K*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1999 *OZKAR*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1997 *G.C. REMIX: Acid House and Garage*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1996 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1995 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1994 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1993 *Pleasures of the Mind*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1992 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1991 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1988-90 Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
1988 Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
1984-92 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1982-87 Yuill/Crowley, Sydney
1980 Solander Gallery, Canberra
1978 Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane
1977 Ray Hughes gallery, Brisbane
Riverina College of Advanced Education, Wagga Wagga, NSW
1976 Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne
Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
1975 Barrington Gallery, Auckland (NZ)
Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane
1974-81 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1973 Haus am Lutzowplatz, Berliner Künstlerprogramm des Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienstes (DAAD), Berlin (DE)
Albert Hall, Canberra

1972 South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne
 Inhibodress, Sydney
 1971-73 38 Hargrave Street, Sydney
 1970 John Gould Gallery, Perth
 1967 J.Walter Thompson, Sydney
 1966-70 Central Street Gallery, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 *The Commercial – Gunter Christmann, Patrick Hartigan, Yasmin Smith, Amanda Williams*, Melbourne Art Fair, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (Booth E2), Melbourne

2021 *The Humanity: Gunter Christmann, Diena Georgetti, Patrick Hartigan, Oscar Perry, Jude Rae, Yasmin Smith*, The Commercial, Sydney

2018 *The Field Revisited*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

2017 *Call of the Avant-Garde: Constructivism and Australian Art*, curated by Sue Cramer and Lesley Harding, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
Crusted Heat, with Hossein Ghaemi and Clare Milledge, The Commercial, Sydney
Niagara Galleries, Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney
Blue Chip XIX: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
SNO 131, SNO Contemporary Art Projects, Sydney

2016 *MONS*, curated by Mitchel Cumming, Knulp, Sydney
Borders, barriers, walls, curated by Francis E. Parker, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne
Blue Chip XVIII: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
From Then to Now, NKN Gallery, Melbourne
The Commercial, Auckland Art Fair, the Cloud, Auckland (NZ)

2015 *Blue Chip XVII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Writing Art, curated by Scott Donovan, Artspace, Sydney
21st Century Heide: The Collection since 2000, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne

2014 *The Art of Wool*, New England Regional Art Museum, NSW
The Commercial, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
OUI we, The Commercial, Sydney
Niagara Galleries, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
Blue Chip XVI: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Returning to the field, SNO Contemporary Art Projects, Sydney

2013 *Blue Chip XV: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

2012 *Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
White Paintings, curated by John Nixon, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne
Hello Dollies, Penrith Regional Gallery, NSW

2011 *Forever Young: 30 Years of the Heide Collection*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
Niagara Galleries, Auckland Art Fair, Viaduct Events Centre, Auckland (NZ)
Artist Artists, Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria
Blue Chip XIII: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

2010 *Muster: A Round Up of Works from the Stockroom*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Abstraction 9, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne
Niagara Galleries, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Blue Chip: The Collectors' Exhibition, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney

2009 *Song of Sirens*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne, Melbourne
3 x 2 x 2 x 3, curated by Barbara Flynn, Deloitte, Sydney
Summer Exhibition, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney

2008 *Rimbaud/Rambo*, curated by Geoff Newton, Neon Parc, Melbourne
Blue Chip X: The Collectors' Exhibition, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Summer Exhibition, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney

- 2007 *Summer Exhibition*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2006 *Warning: Smoking has been linked to some of the most powerful images of the twentieth century*, curated by Rodney James, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria
- The Summer Show*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2005 *Blue Chip VII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- Summer Exhibition*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2004 *Collection Focus: Gunter Christmann, Dick Watkins and Jenny Watson*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- Blue Chip: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2003 *Act XII: New Works on Paper*, curated by Lesley Harding, George Adams Gallery, Melbourne and touring
- Blue Chip V: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2002 *Good Vibrations: The Legacy of Op Art in Australia*, curated by Zara Stanhope, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
- Blue Chip IV: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 2001 *Australian Art: The 60s till Now*, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney
- 2000 *Art Project 2/2000 – Agents of Change*, Sir Hermann Black Gallery, University of Sydney, Sydney
- Not The Done Thing!*, Niagara Galleries at Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
- 1999 *Blue Chip II: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1998 *Niagara Galleries*, Sixth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- Blue Chip Choice*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1997 *Geometric Painting in Australia 1947-1997 (Part One)*, curated by David Pestorius, University Art Museum, University of Queensland, Brisbane
- 1996 *Joan and Peter Clemenger Triennial Exhibition of Contemporary Australian Art 2*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- In and Out of Abstraction*, with Richard Larter, Dick Watkins and Howard Arkley, curated by John McPhee, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- Niagara Galleries*, Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1995 *Victor and Loti Smorgon Collection*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 1994 *Fourth Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1992 *Third Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1991 *One*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- Christmas Show*, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
- 1990 *Niagara Galleries at Hill-Smith Fine Art Gallery*, Hill-Smith Fine Art Gallery, Adelaide
- Second Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1988 *First Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- Something Old, Something New*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1987 *Field to Figuration*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- Surface and Reflection*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- In Print Vol. 1 Artists Books*, Power Gallery, Sydney
- 1986 *Recession Art and Other Strategies*, curated by Peter Cripps, Artspace, Sydney
- Gallery Painters*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1985 *Recession Art and Other Strategies*, curated by Peter Cripps, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1984 *Apocalypse and Utopia*, Melbourne University Art Gallery, Melbourne
- Form, Image, Sign*, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
- The Field Now*, Heide Park and Art Gallery, Melbourne
- 1983 *Vox Pop*, curated by Robert Lindsay, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- Romanticism and Classicism in Contemporary Australian Painting*, Geelong Art Gallery, Victoria and touring
- The First Show*, New England Regional Art Museum, NSW

- 1982
 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
Fourth Sydney Biennale, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Works on Paper by Gunter Christmann, Sandy Healey, Polly MacCallum,
 Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
Christmann, Hall, Lethbridge, Sheehan, Watkins, Yuill/Crowley, Sydney
The Phillip Morris Arts Grant: Australian Art of the Last Ten Years, Melville
 Hall, Australian National University, Canberra
- 1981
Perspecta '81, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Gallery Artists Group Show – New Works, Coventry Gallery, Sydney
- 1980
Der Baum Bist Du, Ben Wargin Gallerie, Berlin (DE); Institute of Modern Art,
 Brisbane
- 1979
Kunst in Berlin 1960 Bis Heute, Berlinsche Gallerie, Berlin (DE)
European Beginnings, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
Works on Paper, Australian Embassy, Paris (FR)
- 1978
The Work and Its Context: Six Attitudes in Australian Art, San Francisco
 Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco (US)
The 1960s into the 70s: Selections from the Chandler Coventry Collection,
 Monash University, Melbourne
Exhibition 2: Works on Paper, Australian Council Visual Arts Board Regional
 Development Program, regional touring exhibition
USA Visual Arts Board, Travelling Roadshow No 2
- 1977
Australian Colourists, Western Australian Institute of Technology, Perth
- 1976
Sixth Freie Berliner Kunstausstellung (FBK), Funkturm Berlin, Berlin (DE)
Soundsculpture, The Sculpture Centre, Sydney
Coventry Collection 1966-76, Armidale, Melbourne and Brisbane
- 1975
Gene Davis – Lithographs, Gunter Christmann – Watercolours, Coventry
 Gallery, Sydney
- 1974
Overback Gassellschaft: Two-Man Show, with Hans Sperschneider, Lubeck
 (DE)
Fourth Freie Berliner Kunstausstellung (FBK), Funkturm Berlin, Berlin (DE)
- 1973
First Biennale of Sydney, Australian Painting Now, Art Gallery of New South
 Wales, Sydney
Third Freie Berliner Kunstausstellung (FBK), Funkturm Berlin, Berlin (DE)
30 International Artists in Berlin, Bonn (DE)
 38 Hargrave Street, Sydney
- 1972
20 Years of Australian Painting, New South Wales House, London (UK)
- 1971
John Kaldor Art Project 2, curated by Harald Szeeman, Bonython Gallery,
 Sydney; and the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
XI Bienal de São Paulo, Ciccillo Matarazzo Pavilion, São Paulo (BR)
 38 Hargrave Street, Sydney
- 1970
 Central Street Gallery, Sydney
International Miniaturen 70, Galerie 66, Hofheim am Taunus and Munich
 (DE)
Contemporary Art Society Prize, Blaxland Gallery, Sydney
- 1969
 South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne
Fifth International Young Artists Exhibition, Tokyo (JP)
 Central Street Gallery, Sydney
 Contemporary Art Society, Sydney
- 1968
The Field, curated by Brian Finemore and John Stringer, National Gallery of
 Victoria, Melbourne; and Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
21st Show, Central Street Gallery, Sydney
 Contemporary Art Society, Sydney
- 1967
Black and White, Central Street Gallery, Sydney
 Contemporary Art Society, Sydney
- 1966
Works on Paper, Central Street Gallery, Sydney
 Contemporary Art Society, Sydney
- 1965
25 Young Painters, Argus Gallery, Melbourne
 Contemporary Art Society, Sydney

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2021 *Gunter Christmann: paintings 1979-1982*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 2021
- 2017 Sue Cramer, Lesley Harding, *Call of the Avant-Garde: Constructivism and Australian Art*, exh. cat., Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, 2017
- 2016 *Borders, barriers, walls*, exh. cat., Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne, 2016
- 2014 Simon Barney, 'Gunter Christmann 1936-2013', *Art Monthly Australia*, no. 267, Mar 2014, p. 62
Gunter Christmann: Now and Then, exh. cat., Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, 2014
- 2013 John McPhee, 'Gunter Christmann: Abstract painter embraced realism', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 December 2013
Meredith Morse, 'Time underfoot: Gunter Christmann's recent paintings' *Art & Australia*, vol 50. no.4, Autumn, 2013
Michael Fitzgerald, 'Open Gallery: Gunter Christmann', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 March 2013
- 2011 Gina Lee, Afterword, *SIDE SHOW MAX*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2011
Blue Chip XIII: The Collectors' Exhibition, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, 2011
- 2010 *Abstraction 9*, exhibition catalogue, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne, 2010
Gina Lee, 'Eyes on the ground. Heart in the stars.', Gunter Christmann, 'Terra subpede (The Earth Underfoot)', *KOZMIX*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2010
- 2009 Harbant Gill, 'Uncontrollable delights', *Herald Sun*, 1 April 2009
Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2009
- 2007 *Portrait d'Amour: Recent and Not So Recent Paintings*, exh. cat., Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2007
- 2006 Ingrid Periz, 'The Unexplained', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue 41, 2007
Simon Barney, 'The life of ephemera', *AXION JENNY 2006*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2006
Sebastian Smee, 'Smoking thrills', *The Australian*, 13 May 2006
- 2004 John McPhee, 'MFCs and Gunter Christmann', *Artlink*, vol. 24, Issue 3, 2004
Patrick Hutchings, 'Gunter Christmann', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue 29, 2004
- 2003 *T.O. Tranceporter*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2003
S. Barney, *Act XII: New Works on Paper*, (catalogue essay), Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne, 2003
Anne Loxley, 'Cottier closing and cult hero', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 December, 2003
Jeff Makin, 'The many hues of blue', *Herald Sun*, 10 March 2003
- 2002 *Gunter Christmann*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2002
A. Pilmer, 'Just what the doctor ordered', *The Age*, 1 May 2002
'Gunter Christmann at Niagara', *Monument*, April 2002
Jeff Makin, 'Critic's choice: Gunter Christmann', *Herald Sun*, May 2002
- 2001 C. Heathcote, B. Smith & T. Smith, *Australian Painting 1788-2000*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 2001
- 2000 Jeff Makin, 'Fashion meets art', *Herald Sun*, 14 February 2000
Peter Timms, 'Abstract appeal a matter of interest', *The Age*, 9 February 2000
- 1996 *Joan & Peter Clemenger Triennial Exhibition of Contemporary Australian Art* (TECAA), National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 1996
Robert Rooney, 'Melbourne art: Gunter Christmann', *The Australian*, 4 April 1996

- 1995 Felicity Fenner, 'Haunting images from the other side of the social self', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12 May 1995
- 1993 Gunter Christmann – *Pleasures of the Mind*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1993
Christopher Heathcote, 'Dearth of imagination mars artists' shows', *The Age*, 22 October 1993
- 1992 Gunter Christmann, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1992
L. Fern, 'Harlequin gives the sign', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 May 1992
- 1991 Gunter Christmann, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1991
Daniel Thomas, *Outlines in Australian Art – The Joseph Brown Collection*, Macmillan, 1991
- 1990 C. Allen, 'A decade's optimism and pathos', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 31 August 1990
The Monash Quarterly (cover), Melbourne, Winter 1990
Gary Catalano, 'Review', *The Age*, 18 July 1990
Tension, vol. 19, December 1990
- 1989 Neville Drury, *New Art Three*, Craftsman Press, 1989
C. Allen, 'Janus up against a wall', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 September 1989
E. Cross, 'Inner calm to anxiety', *The Age*, 18 October 1989
Art Almanac (cover), October 1989
- 1988 G. Catalano, 'Review', *The Age*, 12 October 1988
'Review', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 July 1988
'Review', *The Weekend Australian*, 25 June 1988
C. Marando, 'Man and his environment seen through different eyes', *The Eastern Herald*, 23 June 1988
- 1987 *Surface for Reflexion*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 1987
J. McDonald, 'An ocean of art in waves of old and new', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 February 1987
- 1986 Robert Lindsay, *Field to Figuration: Australian Art 1960 – 1986 Works from the National Gallery of Victoria*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 1986
R. Millar, 'Art', *The Age*, 30 October 1986
G. Catalano, 'A display of perplexity', *The Age*, 22 October 1986
S. Cramer, 'Paintings of unnerving presence, power', *The Age*, 16 May 1986
R. Carmichael, 'Artscene', *Herald Sun*, 16 May 1986
- 1981 *Australian Perspecta*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 1981
- 1978 *The Work and Its Context: Six Attitudes in Australian Art*, exh. cat., San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco (US), 1978
- 1973 *Licht in der Farbe*, catalogue essay by K. Ruhrberg, Berlin, Germany, 1973
E. Lynn, 'Gunter Christmann', *Art & Australia*, vol. 10, No. 3, 1973
T. Smith, 'The Painting of Gunter Christmann', *Art International*, vol. XV/3, 1973
- 1971 B. Smith, *Australian Painting: 1788–1970*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1971
- 1970 T. Smith, 'Colour-Form Painting: Sydney 1965-70', *Other Voices*, vol. 1, 1970
- 1969 M. Horton, *Present Day Art in Australia*, Ure Smith, 1969
- 1968 *The Field*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 1968

COLLECTIONS

Armidale City Art Gallery, New South Wales
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland (NZ)
Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria
Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria
Berlinische Galerie, Berlin (DE)
British Museum, London (UK)

Curtin University of Technology Art Collection, Perth
D.A.A.D. (German Academic Exchange Service), Berlin (DE)
Department of Education and Training Victoria, Melbourne
Geelong Regional Art Gallery, Victoria
Hamilton Gallery, Victoria
Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
High Court of Australia, Canberra
Holmes à Court Collection, WA
H.R.M. Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands Collection, Amsterdam (NL)
La Trobe University Collection, Melbourne
McClelland Sculpture Park and Gallery, Victoria
Monash University Collection, Victoria
Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade (Serbia)
Myer Collection, Melbourne
National Bank of Australia
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Victoria, Victoria
New England Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
Parliament House, Canberra
Philip Morris Collection
Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane
Riddoch Art Gallery, South Australia
Sylvester Stallone Collection (US)
Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
University of Melbourne, Melbourne
University of New England, New South Wales
Victor and Loti Smorgon Collection
Wollongong Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales