

VERNON AH KEE

Lives and works in Innisfail, Australia | Born: 1967

Vernon Ah Kee is a member of the Kuku Yalandji, Waanji, Yidinji and Gugu Yimithirr peoples. Ah Kee creates work dealing with issues facing Australian Indigenous culture in a post-colonial society. He is best known for pencil portraits of Aboriginal family members. These portraits draw upon anthropological imagery gathered in the 1930s when it was widely believed that Aboriginal people would become extinct. Ah Kee represented Australia at the 2009 Venice Biennale.

Education

2007 Doctorate of Visual Arts (Fine Art), Queensland College of Art.

2000 Bachelor of Visual Arts with Honours (Fine Art), Queensland College of Art.

1998 Bachelor of Visual Arts, Contemporary Indigenous Australian Art, Queensland College of Art.

Selected Solo & Group Exhibitions

2013 *Sakahàn: 1st International Quinquennial of New Indigenous Art*, National Gallery of Canada.

2012 – 13 *The Future's Not What it Used to Be*, touring Chapter Gallery, Cardiff; Newlyn Art Gallery & Exchange, Cornwall.

2012 *Hallmarks of the Hungry*, Milani Gallery, Brisbane.

2012 *Negotiating This World: Contemporary Australian Art*, National Gallery of Victoria.

2011 *Counting Coup*, Museum of Contemporary Native Art, New Mexico, USA.

2011 *Erased: Contemporary Australian Drawing*, Asialink International touring exhibition: Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts Gallery (NAFA), Singapore; PSG Art Gallery, Silpakorn University, Bangkok; Chiang Mai University Faculty of Fine Art Gallery, Chiang Mai; Khon Kaen University Art Gallery, Thailand; National Art School Sydney, Australia. Touring 2009 - 11.

2010 *Vernon Ah Kee*, City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand.

2009 *Once Removed*, 53rd Venice Biennale of Art, Venice Italy.

2009 *Terra Nullius: Contemporary Art from Australia*, ACC Galerie, Weimar, Germany.

2009 *I walk the line: new Australian drawing*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney.

2009 *Blow your house in*, Mackenzie Art Gallery, Regina, Canada.

Selected Collections

National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane

Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth

Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney

Museum of Old and New Art, Hobart, Tasmania

Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, U.S.A.

David Teplitzky and Peggy Scott Collection, Hong Kong

Kluge-ruhe Collection, University of Virginia, U.S.A