

# Bernard Ollis Biography

## Dip AD (BA Hons) MA Royal College of Art (Painting) London

1951 Born in Bath, England

### Studies

1973 – 1976 Master of Art (Painting), the Royal College of Art, London UK (MA RCA London)  
1970 – 1973 Diploma of Art and Design, Cardiff College of Art and Design, Wales UK (Dip AD)  
1969 – 1970 Foundation Studies Cardiff College of Art and Design, Wales UK (BA Hons)

### Lecturing and Administrative Experience

1998 – 2009 Director  
National Art School (Sydney)

1997 – 1998 Head of Studies  
National Art School (Sydney)

1996 – 1997 Head of Painting Department  
National Art School (Sydney)

1994 – 1996 Senior Lecturer/Head of Fine Art  
La Trobe University (Victoria)

1982 – 1994 Head of Painting  
La Trobe University (Victoria)

1982 Acting Head of Visual Art Department  
Darwin Community College (University Northern Territory)

1978 – 1982 Head of Painting, Drawing and Sculpture Section  
Darwin Community College (University Northern Territory)

1977 – 1978 Lecturer Fine Art  
Darwin Community College (University Northern Territory)

1974 – 1976 Visiting Lecturer  
Various British Art Schools

### Solo Exhibitions

2019 *Recent works*, Linton & Kay Galleries, Perth, WA

2019 *A Tale of Two Cities*, Victoria Art Gallery, Bath, UK

2019 *Departures*, Aarwun Gallery, Canberra, ACT

2018 *Being There*, Harvey Galleries, Sydney, NSW

2018 *Traveller's Tails - Paris and Morocco*, Linton and Kay, Perth, WA

2017 *Paris and Other Stories*, Aarwun Gallery, Canberra, ACT

2017 *Observations*, Mitchell Galleries Brisbane, QLD

2017 *Favourite Places*, Harvey Galleries Seaforth and Mosman, Sydney, NSW

2016 Run Ya Artspace Linyi, China

2016 *Cultural Exchange of Australia and China*, Linyi Arts Centre Shandong, China

2016 *Storytelling about China* - Shanghai Cultural Centre & Art Gallery, China

2016 *Open Studio – Travel Paintings*, Linton & Kay Galleries, Perth WA

2016 *Travels to Paris*, Trevor Victor Harvey Gallery, Seaforth, Sydney NSW

2015 *Brisbane and Beyond*, Mike Mitchell Fine Art Gallery, Brisbane, QLD

2015 *Bernard Ollis: 54 Works* at Michael Reid Gallery, Berlin, Germany

2015 *Observations of Paris*, NG Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2015 *Theatre of Life*, Buratti Fine Art, Perth, WA

2015 *Antarctica- Shackleton*, The Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney, NSW

- 2014 *Bernard Ollis*, Kenthurst Galleries, NSW
- 2014 *Le Regard de deux Australiens*, L'Espace Beaujon, Paris, France
- 2014 *Traveller's Tales*, Tweed River Regional Gallery, NSW
- 2013 *A Town Like Paris*, Muk Muk Fine Art, travelling show to Alice Springs, Darwin, Brisbane
- 2013 *Paris Work*, Buratti Fine Art, Perth, WA
- 2012 – 13 *Modern Living: Bernard Ollis*. A survey of the work of Bernard Ollis, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney, NSW
- 2012 *Paris Considered*, NG Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2012 *Parisian Reflections*, Letham Galleries, Auckland, NZ
- 2011 *Paris Revisited*, NG Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2011 *Major Works*, Buratti Fine Art, Perth, WA
- 2010 *Italy 19*Karen Contemporary Artspace Gold Coast, QLD
- 2009 *The Grand Tour*, United Galleries Perth WA
- 2009 *Journeys through Italy and Egypt*, NG Art Sydney, NSW
- 2008 *Urban Myth*, United Galleries Perth, WA
- 2008 *Incognito* NG Art, Chippendale Sydney, NSW
- 2006 *The St Peters Suite* Michael Nagy Fine Art, Sydney, NSW
- 2002 Stella Downer Galleries, Sydney, NSW
- 2001 Michael Nagy Fine Art, Sydney, NSW
- 2000 Michael Nagy Fine Art, Sydney, NSW
- 1998 Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, NSW  
Sydney Theatre Company, Sydney, NSW
- 1997 Hot Bath Gallery, Bath, UK
- 1996 Australian Galleries, Melbourne, VIC
- 1994 Bendigo Art Gallery, VIC
- 1993 Botanical Gallery, South Yarra, VIC
- 1992 Retrospective Paintings and Pastels, Macquarie Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 1991 Powell Street Gallery, South Yarra, VIC
- 1990 Macquarie Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 1989 Macquarie Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 1988 Macquarie Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 1988 Roz McAllen Gallery, Brisbane, QLD
- 1987 Macquarie Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 1986 Powell Street Gallery, South Yarra, VIC
- 1984 – 1986 Visual Arts Board, "Bernard Ollis" The Australian Tour; exhibited at:
- Undercroft Gallery for the Perth Festival University of Western Australia
  - Hawthorn City Art Gallery, Victoria
  - Warrnambool Art Gallery, Victoria
  - Ararat Gallery, Victoria
  - Mildura Arts Centre, Victoria
  - Shepparton Regional Art Gallery, Victoria
  - Muswellbrook Art Gallery, NSW
  - Bathurst Regional Gallery, NSW
  - Orange Art Gallery, NSW
  - Benalla Art Gallery Victoria
  - Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, NSW
  - Bendigo Art Gallery, VIC (extended survey exhibition)
- 1984 Macquarie Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 1982 Macquarie Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 1981 Macquarie Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 1978 Warehouse Galleries, South Melbourne, VIC
- 1976 The Africa Centre, Covent Garden, London, UK
- 1976 The Royal Commonwealth Society, London, UK
- 1974 – 1975 Commonwealth Institute Gallery, London, UK
- 1972 – 1973 College of Art Gallery, Cardiff, Wales

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2019/20 *Elsewhere: Travels through Morocco, Egypt, Syria, Iran & Central Asia*, (2 person, with Wendy Sharpe) Touring Regional Galleries in NSW
- 2019 *Connections: Art & Collaboration*, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, NSW
- 2018 *The Art of Friendship*, Gallery Lane Cove, Sydney NSW
- 2017 *Salon des Refuses*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2016 Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, NSW
- 2015 *Three Australians*, Gallery 12, Auckland, NZ
- 2015 *New Romantics* (3 person with Wendy Sharpe and Johnny Romeo), Penny Contemporary Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2015 *Private Lives: Collections*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2014 *Le Regard de Deux Australiens*, (2 person with Wendy Sharpe) L'Espace Beaujon, Paris, France
- 2011 *Dobell Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW
- 2011 *IN[TWO]ART*, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, touring exhibition
- 2010 *Salon des Refuses*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2010 *Tales from the City*, (2 person exhibition with Wendy Sharpe), Orange Regional Art Gallery, NSW
- 2009 *Every Dog has its Day*, Letham Gallery Auckland NZ
- 2008 United Galleries, Perth WA
- 2008 *Contemporary Drawing*, London University of the Arts, Wimbledon Art Col, UK
- 2008 *Vernissage* Oxford Street Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2008 *Drawcard*, National Art School Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2007 *Fragile Planet*, NG Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2007 *Salon des Refuses*, SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2007 SCEGGS Redlands Art Prize, NSW
- 2007 Mosman Art Prize, NSW
- 2007 *There is no place like home* NG Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2006 Hong Ik University Gallery, Seoul, South Korea
- 2005 *Drawcard*, Cell Block Theatre National Art School, Sydney, NSW
- 2005 *Dog Trumpet*, Michael Nagy Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2005 *Drawing the Line*, Cell Block Theatre National Art School (academic staff), Sydney NSW
- 2005 Art Space, Bendigo, VIC
- 2005 *Lake Macquarie Invitation Prize*, University Gallery Sydney NSW

## Awards and Prizes

- 2015 Artist Residency in Zhouzhang, China
- 2014 Mawson's Hut Foundation artist-in-residence, Antarctica voyage
- 2008 Australian Embassy, Artist-in-Residence Studio, Cairo Egypt
- 2005 Conrad Jupiter Art Prize Gold Coast City Art Gallery Queensland
- 2000 Olympic Arts Festival
- 1992 Selected by Melbourne Theatre Company for season's brochure
- 1989 Selected for Sydney Children's Choir catalogue
- 1988 Heritage Arts Festival Award, Queensland
- 1984 Visual Arts Board Australia, Council Grant
- 1983 Commissioned series of paintings for Napoleon Brandy Advertising Campaign
- 1982 Gold Coast City Art Awards, Queensland
- 1977 Sir Fredrick Richards's Travelling Scholarship (drawing), UK
- 1976 John Minton International Painting Prize, London UK
- 1975 Artist-in-residence Maltese Studio International Youth Arts Festival British representative  
Artist-in-residence Paris Studio Cité Internationale des Arts France

## Collections

- Art Bank, Sydney, NSW
- Australian National Gallery, Canberra, ACT
- Ballarat Art Gallery and Museum, Ballarat, VIC
- Bathurst Arts Centre, Bathurst, NSW
- Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo, VIC
- Castlemaine Art Gallery and Historical Collection, VIC
- Cultural Centre, Valetta, Malta
- Darwin University, Darwin, NT
- Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Surfers Paradise, QLD
- Grafton Regional Gallery, Grafton, NSW
- Herald Sun Art Collection, Melbourne, VIC
- La Trobe University, Melbourne, VIC
- McGregor Collection University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, QLD
- Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, NT
- National Art School, Sydney, NSW
- National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, VIC
- New England Regional Art Museum, Armidale, NSW
- Orange Art Gallery, Orange, NSW
- Parliament House, Canberra, ACT
- Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, QLD
- Royal College of Art, London, UK
- Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, VIC
- The Commonwealth Institute, London, UK
- Welsh Arts Council, Cardiff, Wales, UK

## Catalogues and Books

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|------|--|
| 2014 | <i>Le regard de deux Australiens</i> , L'Espace Beaujon, Paris, NSW  |
| 2014 | <i>Traveller's Tales</i> , Tweed River Regional Gallery, NSW   |
| 2013 | <i>A Town Like Paris</i> , Muk Muk Fine Art, publication to coincide with travelling exhibition            |
| 2012 | Buratti, Robert, <i>The Art of Bernard Ollis</i> , introduction by John McDonald, Buratti Fine Art.        |
| 2012 | <i>Modern Living: Bernard Ollis</i> , A Survey of the Work of Bernard Ollis, Manly Art Museum, Sydney, NSW |
| 2005 | Li, Jingzhe, <i>Australian Contemporary Painting</i> Shanghai People's Fine Art Publishing House           |
| 1997 | Paterson, Susan, <i>From Bendigo to Bath</i> , Hot Bath Gallery, Bath, UK                                  |
| 1996 | Paterson, S. and Gervasoni, C. <i>Catbuster Studio Art</i> , Macmillan, Victoria                           |
| 1995 | <i>Who's Who of Australian Visual Arts</i> (2nd edition) Reed International Publishing                     |
| 1995 | Gervasoni, Clare, and Paterson, Susan, <i>Catbuster Art</i> , Macmillan, Melbourne                         |
| 1994 | McCulloch, Susan, <i>the Encyclopaedia of Australian Art</i> , Allen and Unwin, Melbourne                  |
| 1993 | Hayes, Susan, and Gervasoni, Clare, <i>Artistic Insights</i> ,<br>Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Sydney        |
| 1992 | Drury, Neville, <i>Images in Contemporary Art</i> , Craftsman House, Sydney                                |
| 1991 | Chanin, Eileen, ed <i>Contemporary Australian Art</i> , Craftsman House, Sydney                            |
| 1990 | Germaine, Max, <i>Artists and Galleries of Australia</i> , Craftsman House, Sydney                         |
| 1988 | Drury, Neville, <i>New Directions in Contemporary Art</i> , Craftsman House, Sydney                        |
| 1984 | Bendigo Art Gallery <i>Bernard Ollis Australian Works</i> , National Touring catalogue                     |
| 1983 | Paroissien, Leon, <i>Australian Art Review</i> , Warner Assoc. Press                                       |

## Contributions to Books, Journals and Magazines by Bernard Ollis

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| 2008 | Ollis, Bernard, quoted in <i>The Struggle to Keep Faith in the Blake Prize</i> , Quadrant (March 2008) |
| 2007 | Ollis, Bernard, Foreword 56 <sup>th</sup> Blake Prize for Religious Art catalogue                      |
| 2005 | Ollis, Bernard <i>the Band Returning</i> 2005 full page colour image appearing on front cover of       |

*Antiques & Art in Queensland* November 2005 – March 2006 edition

- 2005 Ollis, Bernard, Foreword *Walking the Line* National Art School Academic Staff Drawing Exhibition Catalogue
- 2002 – 2006 Ollis, Bernard, Foreword National Art School Prospectus
- 2002 – 2007 Ollis, Bernard, Foreword National Art School Honours Yearbook
- 2001 Ollis, Bernard, Foreword *the Studio Tradition*
- 1999 Ollis, Bernard, *Craft Arts International* – Art Schools in Australia
- 1998 – 2007 Ollis, Bernard, Foreword National Art School Degree Show Yearbook
- 1998 Ollis, Bernard, *History of the National Art School*, NAS website (revised 2005)
- 1992 Ollis, Bernard, in Hayes, Susan, *Flora and Fauna*, La Trobe University
- 1983 Ollis, Bernard, *An Artists view from Darwin*, Australian Art Review Chapter on Northern Territory. Ed Paroissien, Leon, Macmillan Press
- 1980 Ollis, Bernard, catalogue preface introduction to *David Middlebrook American Artist in Residence*, Chandler Coventry Gallery
- 1980 Ollis, Bernard, *Peter Corlette*, in Scarlett Ken *Australian Sculptors*, Nelson, Melbourne
- 1976 Ollis, Bernard, chapter in Picard Phyllis *If You Think Your Child is Gifted*, Allen and Unwin, London
- 1975 Ollis, Bernard, *Malta seminars become Carnivals*, Commonwealth News 4 June 75, Volume

**Academic Participation in Seminars, Symposia and Conferences**

- 2008 State Library of NSW, *Examined Life Series III – The Search for Meaning* – Guest Speaker
- 2007 Invited speaker for NAS, International independent art schools association. Evora, Portugal
- 2007 Forty Eight Hours of Visual Art (FEHVA) Conference, Bangalow NSW – Guest Speaker
- 2006 'Drawing Breath' International Drawing Symposium National Art School Campus – Convenor,