

CRITERIONGALLERY



## JOHN VELLA

John Vella was born in Sydney and has lived in Hobart, Tasmania, since 1996. He is currently Lecturer and Head of Sculpture at the Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania.

### Solo Exhibitions

- 2010 *HANGBANG*, CAST Gallery, Hobart
- 2009 *Permissiosit*, Criterion Gallery, Hobart
- 2006 *FUME*, Devonport Regional Gallery, solo commission project, Devonport  
*Bath (yet to be acquired)*, Criterion Gallery, Hobart
- 2005 *inklein*, Criterion Gallery, Hobart
- 2004 *Apartment*, curated by David O'Halloran, Melbourne
- 2003 *PlaceMats*, Moonah Arts Centre, Hobart
- 2002 *Product Lines*, Academy Gallery, Launceston
- 2001 *On Loan from a Private Collection*, Bett Gallery, Hobart
- 2000 *Going Off*, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra  
*Enter The Paintject*, MFA submission, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
- 1999 *Going Off*, Foyer Gallery, Hobart
- 1997 *Object Poverty*, Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1996 *Watch this Space*, Gallery Duncce, Hobart
- 1994 *Untitled*, Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2010 *Because I'm Lucky*, Conical Inc. Gallery, Melbourne  
Finalist, *Josephine Ulrich and Win Schubert Photography Award*, Gold Coast  
City Art Gallery, QLD  
*New Acquisitions*, Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery, Hobart, TAS  
*Group Action 6*, Criterion Gallery, Hobart
- 2009 *Australian Style I: Architecture*, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra  
*I Walk the Line: New Australian Drawing*, curated by Christine Morrow,  
Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA), Sydney  
Finalist, *City of Hobart Art Prize*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart  
*TRUST* (Clarendon Estate), curated by Noel Frankham, Evandale, Tasmania  
*Spatial Origami*, in collaboration with UTAS School of Architecture, artist  
Christina Waterson and architect Chris Bosse, Queen Victoria Museum and  
Art Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania  
(Both the above part of Ten Days on the Island festival)

- Stigma-ta*, in collaboration with UTAS School of Sociology and CAST, curated by Michael Edwards and Sean Kelly, various venues  
*The Last Frontier(s)*, curated by Tia Factor, touring across a number of venues across the USA  
*SRL (Stigma Research Lab)* – in collaboration with UTAS School of Sociology and CAST, various venues, curated by Michael Edwards and Sean Kelly  
*Group Action 4*, Criterion Gallery, Hobart
- 2008 *Ecchymosis*, Criterion Gallery, Hobart
- 2007 *MADE PUBLIC*, curated by Paula Silva, Carnegie Gallery, Hobart  
*New Deities*, curated by Catherine Wolfhagen. Devonport Regional Gallery, Devonport  
*Nourish*, curated by Zara Stanhope, CAST Gallery, Hobart
- 2006 *Subpoena*, with Louise Hubbard, curated by Adrien Allen, Conical Inc., Melbourne  
*Someone Shows Something to Someone*, curated by Mark Hislop & Toni Bailey, CCAS, Canberra  
*Object*, curated by Ellie Ray, Devonport Regional Gallery, Devonport  
*Partnership or Perish*, curated by Margaret Baguley, Academy Gallery, Launceston  
*Come with Me*, Royal Botanical Gardens, curated by James Newitt
- 2005 *ArtAid@TMAG*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart  
*Hutchins Drawing Prize*, Long Gallery, Hobart  
*Letitia St Studios*, curated by Michael Edwards, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart  
*Rhapsody 21C Tasmanian Contemporary Art*, curated by Malcolm Bywaters, Academy Gallery, Launceston  
*Stanley Art Award*, curated by Catherine Wolfhagen, Stanley Artworks, Stanley
- 2004 *Free Time*, curated by Philip Watkins, CAST Gallery, Hobart  
*Riverine Sculpture Exhibition*, Werribee Park, Melbourne  
*Interpreting 2004*, Tasmania Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart  
*Hutchins Drawing Prize*, Long Gallery, Hobart
- 2003 Melbourne International Arts Festival, Melbourne  
 curated by Robyn Archer in consultation with Juliana Edenberg  
 Finalist: *The Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award*, Werribee Park, Melbourne  
*Haven*, curated by Kevin Murray, Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart, Craft Victoria, Melbourne, Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Burnie (2004)  
*Bodybag – Somewhere over the rainbow*, curated by Malcolm Bywaters, Academy Gallery, Launceston, Carnegie Gallery, Hobart (2004)  
*Art/History*, curated by Catherine Wolfhagen, Woolmers Estate, Longford
- 2002 *Queue Here*, curated by Lisa Byrne + Silvia Velez, CCAS, Canberra  
 LSS@arts@work, arts@work, Hobart  
*TerraTowel*, installation, National Multicultural Festival, Canberra
- 2001 *Touching From a Distance*, curated by Tiia Valentina Covich and Julie-Ann Hall, Morres Building, Fremantle  
*Sculpture by the Sea*, (selected by Jim Crooke and Tim Arthur) Bondi, Sydney  
*TerraTowel*, installation – 10 Days on the Island Festival, directed by Robyn Archer, Hobart  
*Hutchins Drawing Prize*, Long Gallery, Hobart
- 2000 *Axiom*, curated by Linda Goodman, The Australia Council, Sydney  
 Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne  
*Do Not Touch*, curated by Kelly Squires, CAST Gallery, Hobart (Touring)

- 1999 *WARP*, curated by David Hansen, CAST Gallery, Hobart (Touring)  
*Liquid Evasions*, curated by Jessica Ball and Anjanette Shaw, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart  
*Sublime Absence*, curated by Renai Stoneley, Smith+ Stoneley Gallery, Brisbane  
*Duo*, Exhibition with Derek O'Connor, Dick Bett Gallery, Hobart  
 Hutchins Drawing Prize, Long Gallery, Hobart
- 1998 Selected to represent Centre for the Arts, ACUADS, Gallery 101, Melbourne  
 Hutchins Drawing Prize, Long Gallery, Hobart
- 1997 *House*, Entrepot Art Gallery, Hobart
- 1996 Finalist, NSW Travelling Art Scholarship exhibition, COFA, UNSW, Sydney
- 1994 Finalist, NSW Travelling Art Scholarship exhibition, COFA, UNSW, Sydney  
 Finalist, Lloyd Rees Memorial Youth Art Award, ABC Centre, Sydney  
*Recognising the Republic*, Michael Nagy Fine Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1993 Finalist, NSW Travelling Art Scholarship exhibition, COFA, UNSW, Sydney  
 Fishers Ghost Art Award, Judge's choice exhibition, Campbelltown City Art Gallery  
 Selected as *Painting* representative, National Art School, Inter College Comp.  
*Many Ways of Seeing*, Graduate exhibition, Cell Block Gallery, National Art School, Sydney

### Art Commissions

- 2007/8 *S C A P E*, Hydro Consulting, Cambridge, Hobart  
 (International collaboration with Scottish artist Stephen Hurrell)
- 2007 *Lifelines / Graduate Gallery*, Royal Hobart Hospital, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2005 *Silicone Valley*, Rose Bay High School, Tasmania
- 2004 *Coles Old World*, Coles Sandy Bay, Tasmania
- 2002 *Munch Boxes*, Clarence Dental Clinic, Clarence, Tasmania

### Selected Articles / Reviews

- 2009 Craig Judd, *I Walk the Line: New Australian Drawing*, Art & Australia, Vol 47 No. 1 Spring,  
 Andrew Harper, *SRL: Stigma Research Laboratory*, Artlink, Vol 29 No. 3  
 Judith Abell, *SCAPE*, Landscape Architecture Australia, August 09, pp.36-38  
 John McDonald, *I Walk the Line: New Australian Drawing*, Sydney Morning Herald  
 Daniel Thomas, Ten Days on the Island, Art Monthly June issue, pp. 22 – 25  
 Stephanie Radok, *The sound of many hands clapping*, Artlink, vol 29. No.2, pp 11-13  
 Rebecca Tudor, *Art Notes*, Art Monthly, September issue, p.60  
 Philip Watkins, *John Vella, permissiontosit*, Gallery Guide
- 2008 Elizabeth Lynch, *Commissions in Brief*, Sculpture (USA publication) vol. 27, no.7 September, p.27  
 Judith Abell, *Lifelines and Graduate Gallery*, Artichoke vol. 23, pp. 89-92,  
*SCAPE*, featured on Stateline, ABC TV
- 2007 John McDonald, *STUDIO: Australian Painters on the Nature of Creativity*, (book & DVD)  
 Briony Downes, *New Deities*, Artlink vol. 27 no.3

- 2006 Laura Dillon, *Commissions* (Internationally juried public art commissions), Sculpture (USA publication) vol. 25 no. 8 October, pp.18-19,  
Melinda Williams, *Silicone Wonder*, Urbis (New Zealand publication), issue 33, pp.54-55,  
Jane Deeth, *FUME*, Artlink, vol 26 #4, p.117  
Megan Backhouse, *Subpoena*, *Art around the galleries*, A2 The Age, Nov 11  
Penny Webb, *Subpoena*, *Visual Arts*, Preview The Age, Nov 5  
Andrew Mackenzie, *Beyond the Big City*, Art Gallery Guide, Nov/Dec, pp.14-15  
Adam Haddow, *Control-Shift*, State of the Arts, p.81  
John McDonald, *Art Attacks*, Good Weekend: Sydney Morning Herald + The Age, pp. 221-223  
Nick Dent, *Too Cool for School*, *Silicone Valley*, Black + White, Special Issue 83 March 06, p.123  
Philip Watkins *Plots from the Left*, Artlink vol. 26 #1, p.95  
Judith Abell *Silicone Valley*, Artichoke vol. 14, pp 111-11
- 2005 Noel Frankham (ed.), *Claiming Ground: 25 years of Tasmania's Art for Public Buildings Scheme*, pp.80-81  
Andrew Gaynor, *Apartment*, BroadSheet, vol 33 no 4, Feb, pp.44-45  
Philip Watkins *Silicone Valley*, Architectural Review (ar) 095 ...andscape, pp 26-28  
Celia Lendis *inklein*, Photofile 75: Spring 05, pp.71-72
- 2005 Jane Rankin-Reid, Smart Art, *Australian Art Collector*, July – September, p.127  
Briony Downes, "Acidophilus", review, *Eyeline Contemporary Visual Arts*, Issue 57, Winter, p.52  
Peter Timms, Art Notes, *Art Monthly*, April  
Andrew Gaynor, "Apartment", *Broadsheet*, vol 33 no. 4, Feb, p.44-45  
Stephen Rainbird, "Free time", *Photofile 73*, Summer 05, p.75
- 2004 *Island*, no. 98 Spring, front cover image  
Jonathan Holmes, "... Visual Arts in Regional Australia", *Craft Arts International*, no. 61, p. 68-74  
Jane Rankin-Reid "No Time to Waste", *Sunday Tasmanian*, July 4, p.30  
Jane Rankin-Reid, "A statue you can't turn a blind eye to", *Sunday Tasmanian*, March 21, p.31
- 2003 Philip Watkins, "Placemats: a series of fundamental floors", *Photofile 69*: August 2003, p.77  
Daniel Thomas, "Ten Days on the Island with Tasmanian Art", *Art Monthly* #159, May 2003, p.32-34  
Peter Hill, "Border Crossings", *The Sydney Morning Herald* (Spectrum), June 14-15, p.12-13  
Katrina Schwarz, "Art In The Park, Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award, Melbourne", *Monument* 54, April/May 2003, p.34-35  
Robert Nelson, "Mixing Perception with Space: Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award", *The Age*, *The Culture Review*, March 26 2003, p.6  
Gabriella Coslovich, "Winning sculptor's dizzy stroll speaks volumes: Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award", *The Age*, *The Culture Review*, March 6 2003, p.3  
Alison Barclay, "Hunt for a \$105,000 standout winner: Helen Lempriere Sculpture Award", *The Herald Sun*, March 5 2003  
Mary O'Brien, "Winning sculptor's dizzy stroll speaks volumes: Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award", *The Age*, *Domain*, March 5 2003

- Susan McCulloch, "The Divine Essentials, Helen Lempriere National Sculpture Award", *The Weekend Australian Review*, March 29-30, p.17
- Kevin Murray, "Out of the Gothic and into the Blue", *Artlink* vol 23 no.1, p.60
- Merryn Gates, "What Queue?", *Artlink* vol 23 no.1, p.66-67
- 2002 Sean Kelly, "Product Lines", *Broadsheet*, vol 31 no.4, Dec 2002, Jan/Feb 2003, p.26
- Helen Norrie, "Cut Outs and Cardboard", *Artichoke*, 2001/02, p.112-113
- Gerard Reinmuth, "Product Lines", *Monument* 53, Dec 2002/Jan2003, p.93
- Jane Rankin-Reid, "Art round up: Tasmania – A glass half empty", *Art Monthly*, October 2002, p.18-20
- Peter Timms, "Art Notes", *Art Monthly*, September 2002
- Diana Klaosen, "Hobart's L-shaped room", *Real Time*, No.49, June – July 2002, p.24
- Lawrence Dimech, "Wirja mhux tas soltu – TerraTowel", *Maltese Herald*, March 19 2002
- Sean Kelly, "Touching from a Distance", *Artlink*, vol 22 #1, March 2002, p.88
- "TerraTowel", *Times of Malta*, February 7 2002
- Jane Rankin-Reid, "Creative Thinking", *The Mercury*, March 10 2002, p.11
- 2001 Julie-Ann Hall, *Touching From a Distance*, exh. cat., essay
- Anne Loxley, "Art's more fun with sea and sun", *The Sydney Morning Herald*, November 7 2001, p.25
- "Sun, Surf and a Trail of Treasures", special insert feature, *The Australian*, October 26 2001, p.16
- "Sculpture by the Sea", *The Sunday Telegraph*, November 11 2001, p.121
- Angie Kelly, Sunday Metro, *The Sun Herald*, November 4 2001
- Jane Rankin-Reid, "Days are too short at the Long Gallery", *The Sunday Tasmanian*, October 28 2001, p.11
- Jane Rankin-Reid, "Towel art rides the wind", *The Mercury*, April 8 2001, p.13
- Margaretta Pos, "Artist Hangin' to get towels on show", *The Mercury*, March 15 2001, p.12
- ABC, documentary *TerraTowel* shown as part of the *Ten Days on the Island* coverage, April 2001
- Maltese Television broadcast on Net Television's 'Waltzing Matilda'
- Felix Ratcliff, "On loan from a private collection", *Togatus*, February 2001, p.16
- Jane Rankin-Reid, "On loan from a private collection", *The Mercury*, March 4, p.11
- 2000 Richard Blythe, "Six=Nine" *Monument* 39, Dec2000/Jan2001, p.108
- Six=Nine*, exh. cat., interview with Gerard Reinmuth and curator Jessica Ball
- "Bare Necessities", exh. cat., essay by Felix Ratcliff
- "Profiles", *Art Almanac*, August 2001, p.105
- 1999 Edward Colless, "Undiscovered, unmasked: Artists for a new millennium", *Australian Art Collector*, April-June 1999, p.33-40
- Diana Klaosen, "Rising Stars in Tasmanian Photography", *Photofile* No. 56, May 1999, p.58-61
- Clifford Davey, "Liquid Evasions", exh. cat., p.28
- Sally Rees, "WARP", *Artlink* vol 19 #4, p.91
- 1998 Diana Klaosen, "Blindspot Go Looking", *Real Time*, Dec1998/Jan1999
- ACUADS Catalogue

### **Curatorial projects**

- 2010 *ONLINE (fishing)*, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
- 2009 *ONALOG*, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
- 2008 *ONAROLL*, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
- 2005 *Acidophilus*, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, March 2005, Hobart
- 2004 *Group Material*, curatorial team member, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
- 2002 *Pattern as Subject*, assistant curator (with CAST director Sean Kelly), CAST, Hobart

### **Collaborations**

- 2005 *Nocturnal*, Kelly's Garden collaboration with Matt Warren and Sally Rees
- 2004 *Group Material*, member of curatorial team, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart
- 2002 *Pattern as Subject*, assistant curator (with CAST director Sean Kelly), CAST, Hobart
- 2000 *6=9*, (with architect Gerard Reinmuth) curated by Jessica Ball, CAST, Hobart (Touring)
- 1999 *Blindspot*, (with Jessica Ball and Sarah Ryan) 180 Collins Street, Hobart
- 1998 *Chance*, Entrepot Art Gallery, Hobart

### **Awards and Grants**

- 2009 UTAS Teaching Development Grant, UTAS Community Engagement Grant (part of team / SRL / HACRU)
- 2004 Australia Council funded Tasmanian representative for International Conference *Empires Ruins + Networks, Art in Real Time Culture*, Federation Square, Melbourne
- 2003 New Work Grant (established), Australia Council  
Artsbridge Grant, Arts Tasmania
- 2002 Arts/Events Grant, Arts Tasmania  
Arts Industry Grant, Arts Tasmania
- 2001 Pat Corrigan Artists' Grant  
Artsbridge Grant, Arts Tasmania
- 2000 New Work Grant (emerging), Australia Council  
Artsbridge Grant, Arts Tasmania
- 1999 Artists Development Grant, Arts Tasmania
- 1998 Professional Development Grant, Arts Tasmania  
Artsbridge Grant, Arts Tasmania
- 1993 Taylor Square Arts Festival Annual Prize, (joint winner) TAP Gallery, Sydney

### **Collections**

- Artbank
- University of NSW
- Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery
- Private / corporate collections around Australia and overseas

**Education**

1997 – 00	MFA Painting	University of Tasmania, Hobart
1996	BFA (Hons. First Class)	University of Tasmania, Hobart
1991 – 93	Dip FA (Distinction)	National Art School, Sydney
1987 – 88	Bachelor of Architecture (completed two years)	University of Technology, Sydney

**Committee and Board membership**

2007-08	Mountain Festival Sculpture Trail member of selection committee
2005-08	Plimsoll Gallery Exhibitions
2006-07	Tasmanian School of Art Forum committee
2005	Claiming Ground (public art conference) committee and papers selection panel
2000 – 06	Member of Board, Contemporary Art Services Tasmania Programming Committee, Contemporary Art Services Tasmania EDF fund Committee, Contemporary Art Services Tasmania Touring Committee, NETS
2002	Programming Committee, Carnegie Gallery Selection Committee, Togatus Art Award Selection Committee, Inveresk launch exhibition Pat Corrigan Grant Assessor
2000	Steering Committee, Glenorchy Creative Incubator
1997-8	Postgraduate representative Grievance Committee, Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania
1994	Student Representative, TAFE Advisory Board, Sydney