

## 2013 MOSMAN ART PRIZE Winners



### **RACHEL ELLIS WINS 2013 MOSMAN ART PRIZE for landscape painting of Bathurst town street**

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**Sydney, Australia: Announced on Friday 12 July at Mosman Art Gallery - Rachel Ellis has been awarded the 2013 Mosman Art Prize (\$30,000) for her painting, *Bathurst Landscape - William Street, 2012*.**

Capturing the colours and topography of the NSW Central Tablelands and one of our most important regional cities, Rachel Ellis' landscape painting of Bathurst's William Street will now join the established Mosman Art Collection.

Celebrating 66 years in 2013, Mosman Art Prize is an acquisitive major painting award sponsored by Mosman Council. The Prize is rich in history for fostering the careers of emerging and established Australian artists.

**A free exhibition of the 116 selected finalists is presented at Mosman Art Gallery from Saturday 13 July to Sunday 25 August 2013.**

This year's award was judged by respected artist Lucy Culliton (herself a recipient of the Prize in 2000)

**Lucy Culliton said:**

*Selecting the winner of the major prize from the outstanding quality of entries was very difficult. In the end I chose Rachel Ellis for her painting 'Bathurst landscape- William Street'. This is a beautifully considered and well constructed artwork with depth defined by subtle tones and a colour palette that leads the eye through the painting. Rachel Ellis is well known for her strong, tonal drawings in charcoal and here, with a brush and palette knife, she has introduced colour and increased the scale of her work to achieve an excellent result with great subtlety. The mark making the artist employs in her drawing practice has translated very well to her painting technique. Every mark is so carefully considered and each is essential to the success of the whole composition. This is a skill learnt through years of drawing practice that Rachel Ellis has benefited from, with this win being very timely for the artist. I feel this work will stand strong with those other 'stars' within Mosman's acquisitive Art Collection.*

**On receiving her award Rachel Ellis said:**

*The painting included in this year's Mosman Art Prize was a response to a view of distant hills and mountains seen from the top of the city of Bathurst's Main Street, William Street. I love this feature of Bathurst where the unspoilt landscape is very much visible from the city. Sadly, the town is in danger of losing this uniqueness if it continues to allow building in the footsteps of Sydney's suburban patterns.*

*What drew me to this subject, was the problem of painting such a view, where the centrality of the road and the shape formed by trees on the median strip running through the middle of the composition pose a particular challenge. This painting was an attempt to find a way to suggest, rather than describe what I saw. The filtered light and the large shapes and masses of trees either side of the road, were also of interest.*

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**Further Prize awards announced on the night:**

- **THE ALLAN GAMBLE MEMORIAL ART PRIZE (for built environment)**  
\$3,000 - (non-acquisitive, sponsored by Mosman Council)  
**awarded to: ALAN JONES for *Kirk Andrews upon Esk #3***
- **THE MOSMAN ART PRIZE COMMENDATION PRIZE**  
\$5,000 - (non-acquisitive, sponsored by Henry Bucks of Mosman)  
**awarded to: JANELLE THOMAS for *Hide and Seek***
- **YOUNG EMERGING ARTISTS' AWARD (under 35 years)**  
\$2,000 - (non-acquisitive, sponsored by Fourth Village Providore)  
**awarded to: REMNIM ALEXANDER TAYCO for *Before and After***

2013 Mosman Art Prize received a total of 710 entries across local, emerging and established artists. 116 finalist works were selected for judging and exhibition.

**Artists such as Jasper Knight, Julian Meagher, Paul Ryan, Wendy Sharpe, Peter O'Doherty, Rachel Fairfax, Guy Maestri, Jumaadi, John Bokor, Tom Carment, Jo Bertini, Amanda Marburg, Alison Locke, Fan Dongwang, Craig Handley, Marcus Wills, Haydn Wilson, Ken Done, Kerri Lester, Tony Costa, Rocco Fazzari, Steve Lopes, Mia Oately, David Naesby, Jeanette Siebols and Lucy Vader are on show.**

- Mosman Art Prize is free to the public.
- Visitors can vote in the Viewers' Choice - Sponsored by Mosman Art Society.
- A Public Program of Artist Talks will accompany the exhibition.

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**media contact:** interviews with winners and photo opportunities please contact:  
Leah Haynes – [leahmhaynes@gmail.com](mailto:leahmhaynes@gmail.com) - PH: 0408 419 463  
(publicist – 2013 Mosman Art Prize)

**exhibition and gallery information:**  
Katrina Cashman: [k.cashman@mosman.nsw.gov.au](mailto:k.cashman@mosman.nsw.gov.au) / PH: 02 9978 4042  
(coordinator - 2013 Mosman Art Prize , Senior Curator / Assit. Director, Mosman Art Gallery)

**2013 MOSMAN ART PRIZE exhibition details:**

Where: **MOSMAN ART GALLERY**  
cnr Art Gallery Way & Myahgah Road, Mosman, NSW

On view: 13 July to 25 August 2013

Open: 7 days, 10am – 5pm

Admission: Free

PH: 02 9978 4178

Information: [www.mosmanartgallery.org.au](http://www.mosmanartgallery.org.au)



**Editors note:**

**ABOUT RACHEL ELLIS**

Rachel Ellis (b.1967) lives and works in the NSW regional town of Bathurst. Born in Adelaide, Rachel grew up in Forbes and gained a BA Visual Art City Art Institute (now COFA, UNSW) in 1988 and a Master of Art COFA, UNSW in 1993. Ellis also studied at the Slade School of Art, London and the International School of Art Montecastello di Vibio, Umbria, Italy. Rachel moved to Bathurst in 2001 where she fell in love with the region's striking landscape. Rachel Ellis won the Allan Gamble Memorial Art Prize (for built environment) at Mosman Art Prize in 2006. That same year she was awarded the Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing, the Windmill Trust Scholarship (joint recipient) and a Hill End Residency at Haefliger's Cottage. Ellis has also won the Central West Regional Artists Award & Viewers Choice (Cowra Gallery 2010), Waverly Woollahra Art Prize (2000), AGNSW Studio Residency, Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris, (1998), Martin Bequest Travelling Scholarship (1997), Blake Prize (1996), Kedumba Drawing Award (1995) and the Lloyd Rees Memorial Youth Award (1994). A painter since her teen years, she is currently facilitating art activities at the Macquarie Care Centre. Rachel Ellis is represented by King Street Gallery on William, Sydney.

**ABOUT MOSMAN ART PRIZE:**

In 2013 The Mosman Art Prize celebrates its 66th year. The major Prize is an acquisitive award of \$30,000 sponsored by Mosman Council. The winning work forms the core of the MosmanArt Collection. Works from the collection are regularly displayed in the Mosman Art Gallery, Mosman Council and the Mosman Library. The significance of the MosmanArt Prize and its legacy is that the winning paintings and resulting art collection present an overview of defining influences and developments in Australian painting over the past six and half decades. It is the longest running municipal art prize in NSW and indeed Australia. The Mosman Art Prize has pioneered local government support for the visual arts, created new opportunities for artists, incited artistic debate and encouraged the broader appreciation of the arts within the Australian community.

The inaugural MosmanArt Prize was held in 1947 and attracted 51 entrants, vying for a prize of 50 guineas. The judge was Lloyd Rees and the winner was Margaret Olley.

A remarkable line-up of Australian artists have followed as subsequent winners:

Grace Cossington Smith, Weaver Hawkins, Douglas Annand, Francis Lymburner, Nancy Borlase, Lloyd Rees, Guy Warren, Roy Jackson, Alan Oldfield, John Caldwell, Frank Hinder, Elwyn Lynn, Roy Fluke, Margo Lewers, Peter Laverty, Earle Backen, Ken Reinhard, Jenny Sages, Noel McKenna, Fan Dongwong, Elisabeth Cummings, Janet Dawson, Cressida Campbell, Tim Johnson, Guan Wei, Adam Cullen, Tom Carment, Nicholas Harding, Jasper Knight, Lucy Culliton, James Powditch, Craig Waddell and Kerrie Lester. David Fairbairn won the Mosman Art Prize in 2012.

In 2009 to celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Katrina Cashman (Mosman Art Gallery Senior Curator and Assistant Director) organised the exhibition, Controversy & Acclaim, to examine the history of the Mosman Art Prize and its important support and contribution to visual arts in Australia. A substantial catalogue was published featuring full colour artwork reproductions and text that forms a warts-and-all look at the Prize and the power, politics and machinations behind it. Copies of the publication are available from the Mosman Art Gallery Shop.

image: Rachel Eills: *Bathurst Landscape – William Street*, 2012, oil on linen on board, 100 x 134cm

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**ART**  
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of Collins Street

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Mosman Art Society