

Paul Connor Artist

Paul's practice is inspired by the landscape and landscape painting... 'a profession of faith in landscape painting – a conviction that even the most familiar scenes can be rewarding' (extract from John McDonald catalogue essay 2022) . He has been exhibiting for thirty years, and is represented in public and private collections in Australia, Hong Kong and England, with work currently hanging in the Australian Embassy in Beijing.



He was the founding director of the NSW Parliament Plein Air Painting Prize which helped reposition en plein air painting to the fore of contemporary Australian art practice.

Paul's passion for the environment has seen him become a Trustee of The Australian Museum and of the Lizard Island Reef Research Station. He is a member of the International Confederation of Museums (ICOM)

His undergraduate degrees were in architecture, after which he gained admission to the masters program at the Columbia University in New York. He instead opted for a a masters of fine

art at the College of Fine Art, University of New South Wales. Having graduated with honours he first exhibited with Robin Gibson Galleries, and is now represented by Simon Chan's Art Atrium, and Art Atrium 48 galleries.

Image: one of nine 60x80cm canvas/board collages "Nine Days in Broken Hill"

Selected prizes :

- Winner Broken Hill Regional Gallery 'Pro Hart Outback Art Prize' 2024
- Salon des Refuses (Archibald Prize) S.H.Erwin Gallery
- Archibald Prize (as sitter)
- Paddington Prize (finalist 20, 21, 23)
- Mosman Art Prize (finalist)
- Fishers Ghost (finalist)
- Georges River Prize (finalist)
- Doug Moran (semi-finalist)
- Calleen Prize (finalist)
- Pro Hart Outback Prize (finalist)
- Blacktown City Art Prize (finalist)
- Vincent Art Prize (finalist)
- The Elaine Bermingham National Watercolour Prize, Griffith University (finalist)
- North Sydney Art Prize (finalist)
- Korean Australian Art Foundation (finalist 17, 18, 22)
- NSW En Plein Air Painting Prize (finalist 13, 15, 16)

Selected exhibitions and collections :

- Broken Hill Regional Gallery scheduled 2025
- Solo exhibitions at Art Atrium (2018, 20, 22, 24)
- Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Carriageworks Sydney (2018, 20, 22)
- Hong Kong Art Central (2018, 19)
- Solo exhibitions at Syndicate/Spot 81 (2010, 12, 14, 16)
- Solo exhibitions at The Robin Gibson Gallery (2002, 2004, 2006)
- Group exhibitions at Hong Kong Art Central, Mosman Art Gallery, Maitland Regional Gallery, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, King Street Gallery, and Robin Gibson Gallery.
- Held in private & public collections including Art Bank and Broken Hill, Maitland and Tweed Regional Galleries

Awards and Honorary Positions

- Council of Governors The Australian Museum 2020-current
- Fellow of The Royal Australian Institute of Architects 2019-current
- Trustee, The Australian Museum 2010-2018
- Trustee, Lizard Island Reef Research Foundation 2011-2013
- Founding director NSW Parliament Plein Air Painting Prize 2007-2012
- NSW Arts Council Creative Villages Program, Wilcannia 1995
- Awarded College of Fine Art UNSW research grants 1993,94,95
- Awarded Academie D'Architecture one year residency at Cité International Des Art 1990