

THE TRIUMPH OF MODERNISM IN THE ART OF AUSTRALIA

CURATOR: EDMUND CAPON

20 JUNE – 16 AUGUST 2015



“A rich and representative display of the story of modern Australian art.”
Edmund Capon AM, OBE

Over 50 of the finest works of Australian modernist art from the past 60 years, selected by Edmund Capon AM, OBE, will be exhibited at TarraWarra Museum of Art, 20 June – 16 August 2015.

Commissioned by Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre in New South Wales, *The Triumph of Modernism in the Art of Australia* presents a compelling view of the emergence of Australian modernism, with works dating from 1935 through to 2012.

Artists featured in the exhibition include Howard Arkley, George Baldessin, Charles Blackman, Arthur Boyd, John Brack, William Delafield Cook, William Dobell, Russell Drysdale, Ian Fairweather, Joy Hester, Dale Hickey, Roger Kemp, Joanna Lamb, Godfrey Miller, Sidney Nolan, John Olsen, John Perceval, Jeffrey Smart, Tim Storrier, Edwin Tanner, Imants Tillers, Aida Tomescu, Tony Tuckson, Brett Whiteley, Fred Williams and William Wright.

Curator, Edmund Capon, describes *The Triumph of Modernism* as “a rich and representative display of the story of modern Australia, with a particular and deliberate emphasis on Australian identity”.

“It details the development of a new identity in Australian art with artists such as Sidney Nolan, Arthur Boyd, Russell Drysdale, John Brack, John Perceval and Charles Blackman. Later years see the continuing development of modern art in the works of Fred Williams and John Olsen, and in more recent times in contemporary art by artists Imants Tillers, Howard Arkley and Aida Tomescu.

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“My objective here has been to illustrate two themes; firstly the triumph of modernism in Australian art and, secondly, the particular qualities and strengths of the TarraWarra and Besen collections,” Mr Capon said.

Director of TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria Lynn, says “*The Triumph of Modernism* displays the most significant works in the Museum’s collection, many of which have been donated by our founding patrons, Eva Besen AO and Marc Besen AC.”

“It continues the Museum’s aim to generate exhibitions based on our collection, from diverse points of view. Edmund Capon’s inclusion of contemporary artists means that we see the important history of Australian modernism through the filter of the present” Ms Lynn said.

The Triumph of Modernism is exhibited at Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre in New South Wales from 28 March to 24 May.

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TarraWarra Museum of Art

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Exhibition Admission: 20 June – 16 August 2015

Adults \$7.50, Seniors \$5.00

Concession free entry (including children under 16, students & pension card holders)

Image credit: Jeffrey Smart, *The dome* 1977, oil and acrylic on canvas, 74.5 x 74.4 cm. Gift of Eva Besen AO and Marc Besen AO. Donated through the Australian Government’s Cultural Gifts Program 2008, TarraWarra Museum of Art collection.

This exhibition is a partnership project between TarraWarra Museum of Art and Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre, shown at Hazelhurst Regional Gallery from 28 March to 24 May 2015 and TarraWarra Museum of Art from 20 June to 16 August 2015.

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