

Curriculum Vitae

DAVID FAIRBAIRN

Born 1949, Zambia, Africa

Lives and works in Wedderburn near Sydney, Australia

EDUCATION

1969-70 Studied Wimbledon & Central School of Art & Design
 1971-74 West Surrey College of Art & Design B.A.Hons. Fine Art
 1974-77 Scholarship Royal Academy Schools London. Post Graduate Study

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)

2024 The Space between the Lines Nanda \Hobbs Sydney
 2023 A Conversation with Drawing Nanda\Hobbs Sydney
 2021/22 Drawn Together Grafton Regional Gallery & Hawkesbury Regional Gallery.
 2017/18 Drawn to Print Toured to Tweed, MAC (Museum of Art & Culture) Lake Macquarie,
 Orange & Coffs Harbour Regional Art Galleries
 2016 Overview Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
 2014 Drawing on the Past Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
 2013 Encounters King St Gallery on William, Sydney
 2012 Sight-Line James Makin Gallery, Melbourne
 2011 Insight Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
 2011-12 Lineage Selected Portraits 1998 – 2010
 Exhibition hosted by Campbelltown Arts Centre. Toured to Goulburn, Orange, Maitland,
 Caloundra, Mosman, Coffs Harbour Regional Galleries
 2010 Contour James Makin Gallery, Melbourne
 2009 Captured Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
 2007 Marking Time Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
 2005 Headline Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
 2003 Overdraft Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
 2001 Tableau Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
 2000 Headstrong Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre
 1999 Engraven Images Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
 1997 Scratching the Surface Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
 1995 Visage Crawford Gallery, Sydney
 1993 Wedderburn Pathways & Platforms Crawford Gallery, Sydney
 1988 Malevolent Head and the Landscape DC Art, Sydney
 1986 Portraits from Africa Hogarth Galleries, Sydney
 1984 Familiar Faces Mori Gallery, Sydney
 1981 David Reid's Gallery, Sydney

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)

2025 Melbourne Art Fair with Nanda\ Hobbs
 2025 Archibald Prize Exhibition AGNSW & tour (also 2016, 12, 03, 02, 00, 1986, 85 & 83)
 2024 Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing PLC Sydney (also 2022,18,17,16,14,13,11,10,09,07, & 2006)

	Coming Home Nanda\Hobbs at Madeline Gordon Gallery Launceston. Tasmania				Kedumba Drawing Award Kedumba Gallery (also 2003 & 1997)
	Sydney Contemporary Art Fair with Nanda\Hobbs (Works on Paper Stand)	2007			The Last Decade New England Regional Art Museum.
2023	Salon des Refuses S.H. Ervin Gallery Sydney (also 2021,20,17,14, & 2004)				The Year in Art S.H Ervin Gallery, Sydney (also 2003)
	Vibrations in Australian Drawing Macquarie University Gallery.	2006			The 55th Blake Prize National Art School & Tour
2022	Paul Guest Drawing Prize Bendigo Art Gallery Victoria (also 2020,16,12 &2010)	2005			Selected Prints from Cicada Press John Miller Galleries, Newcastle
	Jacaranda Drawing Award Grafton Regional Gallery & tour (also 2020,18,12,11, 1996 &1994)				Custom Prints Unpacked The Delmar Gallery, Trinity Grammar School Sydney
	Grace Cossington Smith Art Award GCS Gallery Sydney (also 2018)	2004			A Double Life (Archer /Fairbairn Sturt Gallery, NSW
	AWI 98th Annual Exhibition Tradition & Transformation 2: Taiwan- Australia International				Redlands Invitational Art Award Mosman Art Galery
	Watercolour Exhibition Juniper Hall Sydney	2003			Melbourne Art Fair Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
	Sydney Contemporary Art Fair Nanda\Hobbs				First Ten Years Dobell Drawing Prize 1993-2002 AGNSW
2021	Dobell Drawing Prize #22 National Art School Gallery Sydney (also 2019)				4 Wedderburn Painters Archer/Fairbairn/Pearl/Cummings. Campbelltown Arts Centre
	Kilgour Figurative Painting Prize Newcastle Art Gallery (also 2019 & 2006)				Love Letter to China (drawings by 35 Australian Artists). Ivan Dougherty Gallery.
2020	Taiwan- Australia International Watercolour Exhibition Taichung City Dadun Cultural Centre	2001)			Hazlehurst Art Award for Art on Paper Hazlehurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre. (also
	Swan Hill Prints & Drawing Awards Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery (also 2016,14, & 2006)				International Contemporary Drawing Art Exhibition touring to Central Academy of
2019	IMPRINT: Survey of the Print Council of Australia Parliament House, Canberra	2002			Art Beijing Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts & Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts China.
2018	Freemantle Print Award Freemantle Arts Centre (also 1995)				Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, State Library & tour to Art Gallery WA, Geraldton
	Inkmasters 4th Biennial Print Exhibition Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns	2001			Regional Gallery.
	'Copper' Casula Power House Arts Centre				The Studio Tradition NAS 1883 – 2001 Manly Art Gallery & Museum & Tour.
2017	Voices: Three Identities in Contemporary Printmaking Port Jackson Press Print Gallery	2000			Rocks & Flesh Stephanie Burns Fine Art, Canberra ACT
	Re-View Selected works from the Sunshine Coast Art Collection, Caloundra Regional Gallery				Common Ground (Archer, Cummings, Fairbairn & Pearl) Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney.
	Australasia Painters 2007-17 Artist Profile Magazine 10th Year Anniversary Orange Regional Gallery				Hand Over Hand A Survey of Collaborative Prints 1982-2000 by Suzanne Archer & David Fairbairn. (Affiliated with the Biennale of Sydney 2000). Campbelltown Arts Centre. Also toured to King Street Gallery, Newtown, & NERAM in 2001.
	Now & Then 50yrs of the PCA Print Commission, Collins Place Gallery, Melbourne	1999			13th Biennale Spring Festival of Drawing. Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery. (also 1997)
	Doug Moran National Portrait Prize Juniper Hall, Sydney & Tour (also 2013 & 2002)				6 From Wedderburn Archer/Fairbairn/Pearl/Hawkes /Jackson/Cummings
2016	Rick Amor Print Prize Montsalvat, Victoria (also 2016,15, & 2011)	1998			Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre
	National Works on Paper Award Mornington Peninsula Reginal Art Gallery (also 1997 & 1999	1996			Schools of Thought Campbelltown Arts Centre, Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, & Project Space, Wollongong.
	Rick Amor Drawing Prize Art Gallery of Ballarat (also 2014 & 2012)				The King of the Accordion New England Art Museum & Tour.
	The Gorge Campbelltown Arts Centre curated by Jasmin Kean. Archer, Brassil, Braat, Cummings, Fairbairn, Hawkes, Jackson & Pearl.	1995			Within a Stone's Throw Archer/Fairbairn/Pearl/Jackson/Cummings. Campbelltown Arts Centre & tour
	Printed in Australia SPOT 81. Book launch, essay by Michelle Perry, Published by 10 Group	1993			A Celebration of Vincent Van Gogh's Art & Life by Australian Artists. Curated by John Waldron at Campbelltown Arts Centre.
	Ways of Being Portraits from the Collection Orange Regional Gallery				The Age of Collage Holdsworth Contemporary Galleries Sydney
	Proof The best of Contemporary Printmaking, Port Jackson Press Print Gallery.	1987			Self Image – The Immolation Mirage Sydney Biennale, The Lewers Bequest & Penrith Regional Gallery
2015	Across the water China –Australia Modern Masters of Watercolour Juniper Hall Sydney	1986			Oz Drawing Now Holdsworth Contemporary Galleries Sydney.
	Just Paper Maitland Regional Art Gallery & Tour				The Portrait Today Westpac Gallery Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne
2014	Glencore Percival Portrait Painting Prize Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Townsville Qld				The Whitechapel Open Whitechapel Art Gallery, London.
2013	Contemporary Australian Drawing (20 yrs of the Dobell Drawing Prize) Travelling Exhibition	1978			New Contemporaries Royal Academy of Arts London.
2012	Dobell Drawing Prize AGNSW also (2012,11,10,09,08,06,05,04,02,01,1999,98,97, & 1996)	1977			
	Sunshine Coast Art Prize 2D Caloundra Regional Gallery Queensland (also 2008, 07, & 2006)				
	The Kedumba Collection of Contemporary Drawings Orange Regional Gallery				
2011	Contemporary Australian Printmaking James Makin Gallery Melbourne				
	Heads Utopia Art Sydney				
2010	Autumn Collection James Makin Gallery, Melbourne	2021			Muswellbrook Art Prize (Works on Paper)
	In (two) Art Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Touring Exhibition	2018			Jacaranda Acquisitive Purchase Prize
	Melbourne Art Fair James Makin Gallery	2017			Print Council of Australia Print Commission
2009	Now and Then (Works from the permanent collection) Campbelltown Arts Centre	2012			Print Council of Australia Print Commission
		2012			Mosman Art Prize Mosman Art Gallery Sydney

PRIZES AND AWARDS

2012	Sunshine Coast Art Prize and Residency Caloundra Regional Gallery Queensland 009 Kedumba Drawing Award (Acquisitive Purchase Prize)
2007	Willoughby Works on Paper Prize
2006	Calleen Acquisitive Prize Cowra Art Gallery
2003	Art on the Rocks Prize
2002	Doug Moran National Portrait Prize
1995/2001	Fisher's Ghost Art Prize CAC (Labour Councillors Award)
1995/2000	Fisher's Ghost Art Prize CAC (work on paper)
2000	Flemming Muntz Albury Purchase Award for Works on Paper
1999	Dobell Drawing Prize AGNSW
1998	Berrima Works on Paper Prize
1997	Fisher's Ghost Open Art Prize CAC (Purchase Prize)
1997	Conrad Jupiter's Art Prize (purchase prize)
1994	Waverly Drawing Prize
1993/94/95	St Gregory's College Purchase Prize
1993	Macquarie Towns Acquisitive Art Prize
1993	Fisher's Ghost Art Prize CAC (local section)
1993	Fairfield Art Prize (open)
1992	Fairfield Art Prize (contemporary section)
1989	Warringah Art Prize
1989	Camden Art Prize
1989	Gold Coast Purchase Prize
1989	Drummoyne Art Prize
1989	Fisher's Ghost Art prize CAC (contemporary section)
1988	Camden Local Art Prize
1987	Portland Art Purchase Prize
1987	Camden 'Works on Paper' Prize
1987	Waverley Woollahra Art Prize
1987	Bathurst Art Purchase Prize
1987	Jacaranda Art Prize
1985 & 86	Drummoyne Council Art Award
1985 & 86	Jacaranda Council Art Award
1984	Gold Coast City Art Prize (purchase prize)
1984	Mudgee Purchase Prize
1984	Hunters Hill Art Prize
1983	Randwick Art prize (painting)
1983	Broken Hill City Art Gallery (purchase prize)
1981	Bathurst Art Prize (purchase prize)
1981	Port Stephens Shire Council (purchase prize)
1976	Landseer Prize for Painting & Drawing Royal Academy of Arts
1976	Windsor & Newton Griffen Prize for Painting Royal Academy of Arts
1975	David Murray Landscape Scholarship Royal Academy of Arts

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Artbank	Bathurst Regional Gallery
AGNSW	Broken Hill City Art Collection
Albury Regional Art Gallery	Baker McKenzie Collection
Australian National Gallery	Burnie Regional Art Gallery
Art Gallery of South Australia	Camden Council Collection

Campbelltown Arts Centre	National Art school Sydney
Calrossy Girls School Collection Tamworth	New England Regional Art Museum
Canson Australia	NSW Teachers Credit Union Collection
Charles Sturt University	Orange Regional Gallery
Cowra Art Gallery	Picture Collection of the State Library of Victoria
Caloundra Regional Gallery Qld	Print Council Australia Archive
Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery N.S.W	PLC Sydney
Croydon Galleries Sydney	Port Stephens Shire Council
Doug Moran Art Foundation	Portland Art Purchase Committee Collection
Faber – Castell Drawing Collection	Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
Fairfield City Council Collection	St Gregory's College Campbelltown
Grafton Regional Gallery	State Bank
Goulburn Regional Gallery N.S.W.	St Margaret's School Victoria
Genazzano FCJ College Victoria	State Library of Australia
Hawkesbury City Council	St Catherine's School Victoria
Heide Museum of Modern Art	St Kevin's College Victoria
HOTA	St Michael's Grammar Victoria
Hunters Hill Municipal Art Collection	Toowoomba Regional Gallery
Judith Neilson Foundation	Tweed River Regional Art Gallery
Kedumba Collection	University of New England
Kinross Wolaroi School Collection	University of Western Sydney
Latrobe Valley Arts Centre	Westminster School SA
Marsden's Solicitors & Attorneys	Waverley- Woollahra Council Collection
Maitland City Art Gallery	Warringah Shire Council Collection
MAC (Museum of Art & Culture) Lake Macquarie	Wollongong University Collection
Maroondah Gallery	Westbourne School Victoria
Mosman Art Gallery Sydney	Yarrila Arts & Museum. Coffs Harbour
Mudgee Council Collection	
Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre	

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2024	"About Face" by Amber Creswell Bell, published by Thames & Hudson
	Art Collector Magazine: Artists Under 5K by Lara Chapman July /Sept 2025
2023	Catalogue: Vibrations in Australian Drawing, Macquarie University
	Preview: 'A Conversation with Drawing' Art Collector Magazine (April 2023) Nanda\Hobbs
	Catalogue: 'A Conversation with Drawing' Nanda \Hobbs Sydney
2022	Art Guide: Preview 'Drawn Together' 4th August 2022 by Barnaby Smith
2021/22	Catalogue: Drawn Together Touring Exhibition Essay by Julien Playoust
2019/21	Catalogue: Dobell Drawing Prize #21 / #22, National Art School Gallery
2020	Catalogue: Calleen Art Award Cowra Regional Art Gallery
2018/21	Catalogue: JADA Grafton Regional Art Gallery
	Catalogue: Grace Cossington Smith Art award
2019	The Calleen Collection Book, published by Cowra Regional Art Gallery written by Peter Haynes
2017	Catalogue:" Drawn to Print" Touring Exhibition of Large-Scale Copper Etchings & Drawings, Essay by Sasha Grishin
	Catalogue: Doug Moran National Portrait Prize (also 2013/2002)
	Artist Profile, Issue 39 "Painters who Print "essay by Natalie Wadwell
2016	"Printed in Australia" by Michelle Perry published by 10 Group, Sydney

- 2015 "Just Paper" Maitland Regional Art Gallery
- 2012 Article: "Biting the Line" Imprint Magazine Volume 47 (Autumn 202)
 Catalogue: "20 Years of the Dobell Drawing Prize" AGNSW
 "Australian Contemporary Drawing" By Janet McKenzie published by Macmillan
- 2011 Catalogue "Lineage" Selected Portraits 1998-2010 Campbelltown Arts Centre Touring Exhibition. Essay by Sasha Grishin
- 2010 Catalogue: "Contour" James Makin Gallery 2010
 Catalogue: In (Two) Art Maitland Regional Art Gallery 2010
- 2009 Catalogue: "Captured" Stella Downer Fine Art
- 2008 Artist Profile Magazine: Issue 5, article by Pru Gibson
- 2007 Catalogue: "Marking Time" Stella Downer Fine Art
- 2005 "Australian Contemporary Painting" Shanghai Peoples Fine Arts Publishing House.
 Catalogue "Headline" Stella Downer Fine Art
- 2003 "International Contemporary Drawing Art Exhibition" touring to Central Academy of Art Beijing, Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts & Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts China
 The Dobell Prize for Drawing: First Ten Years 1993 – 2002 Published by AGNSW.
 Catalogue "Overdraft" Stella Downer Fine Art Sydney 2003
- 2002 Art & Australia Magazine Summer Vol.40 number 2, 2002 "Four Wedderburn Painters" by Peter Pinson
 The Australian Financial Review 6th June "Brooding Portrait wins Moran Prize by John McDonald.
- 2000 Catalogue. "Hand over Hand" Campbelltown Arts Centre Essay by Barbara Tuckerman
 Catalogue: "Headstrong" Casula Power House Arts Centre, Essay by
 The Sydney Morning Herald, Spectrum Sat March 4th 2000. "The Ground Crew" by Sebastian Smee
 Catalogue. "Common Ground" Ivan Dougherty Gallery. Essay by Peter Pinson (Archer, Cummings, Fairbairn, Peart)
- 1998 "Six from Wedderburn" Archer/Fairbairn/Peart/Jackson/Hawkes/Cummings
 Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre.
- 1996 Catalogue: "Schools of Thought" Campbelltown Arts Centre Essay by
- 1995 Catalogue "The King of the Accordion". New England Regional Art Museum. Novella by Maria Dell'oso.
- 1993 Catalogue. "Within a Stone's Throw" Archer/Fairbairn/Peart/Jackson/Cummings
 Campbelltown Arts Centre essay by
- 1990 "Australian Contemporary Collage" & its Origins". By Arthur McIntyre. Published by Craftsman House
- 1988 "Australian Contemporary Drawing" by Arthur McIntyre. Published by Boolarong Publications
- 1986 Catalogue "Self-Image the Immolation Mirage". A satellite exhibition for the 6th Biennale of Sydney. The Lewers Bequest & Penrith Regional Art Gallery. 1986
 Catalogue "Origins originality & Beyond" The 6th Biennale of Sydney.
- 1984 The Weekend Australian Magazine 13: June 16th/17th 1984 "Effigies of Urban Man" by Elwyn Lynn