

## Leon Pericles

Fine Artist, Master Printmaker, Painter and Sculptor.

Australian painter and master printmaker Leon Pericles has held more than 160 solo exhibitions and won national and international acclaim over a career spanning more than 50 years.

Showing in both the National and State Galleries of Australia, Mr Pericles' attracted thousands to a colossal retrospective exhibition of more than 500 artworks in 2018. A mere selection of his archive, it highlighted the artist's creativity and imagination which, combined with impressive technical skills, has cemented him as one of Australia's most prominent and prolific artists. Although best known for his paintings, prints and collages, he has moved smoothly between mediums including sculpting and designing and from the abstract to realism.

However, the artist who spent his formative years in Meekatharra has been largely inspired by his love for the Australian outback and his imaginary town of Widji (Widjimorohup). Pericles's witty views of Australia combined with his artistic talent have resulted in work which engages and challenges the viewer. Sometimes narrative, often whimsical and frequently absurd, his ruminations on society and our unique landscape have also made us more aware of the ideas that shape us as West Australians.

Mr Pericles' East Perth and Margaret River studios have long been a haven to art lovers and students to learn about his creative processes. His love of engaging community is evident in his gift of drawing people together for a greater creative good and, as a long-time patron of the Printmakers Association of WA, mentoring countless emerging and established artists.

A natural-born teacher, Mr Pericles lectured art in his early career and can be credited with introducing the 'fine arts' to Nedlands Teachers College (now ECU) and was part of the first fine art-based wave of teachers in secondary schools and TAFE.

Having lived in Mt Lawley for 50 years, Mr Pericles has played an active role in effecting profound neighbourhood change such as transforming Ron Stone Park and lake into a sanctuary for wildlife and families. He continues his activism today advocating for more community spaces, environmental responsibility and opportunities for artists to engage in sustainable careers.

In 2000, Mr Pericles established The Dido Fellowship in honour of his late father. Administered by universities, it gave rent-free accommodation, food, materials and equipment to a graduating student with access to invaluable professional support from the Pericles Studio.

In 2019, the ABC documentary *Storm in a Teacup* followed Mr Pericles and his wife and business manager, Moira, as they coped with the irreparable changes brought about by her Alzheimer's diagnosis. Since then, Mr Pericles has raised more than 100k for the Australian Alzheimer's Research Foundation and Dementia Australia and continues to fundraise for these vital organisations.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

1970	Tuscany's Art Gallery, Perth, WA
1974,75	Parmelia Gallery, Parmelia Hotel, Perth, WA
1976	Perth Concert Hall, Perth, WA
1977	Fine Arts Gallery, Perth, WA
1978,79,80,85	Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney, NSW
1978,80,81	Gallery 52, Perth, WA, Aust
1979,81	Abercrombie Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
1981	Yoseido Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
1983	Quentin Gallery, Perth, WA
1983	Qantas Gallery, London, U.K.
1983,90,95,98	Solander Gallery, Canberra, ACT
1985	Bonython Meadmore Gallery, Adelaide, SA
1985	Feather Press Fine Art Studio, Perth, WA
1987,89	Grahame Galleries, Brisbane, QLD
1983,90	Dempsters Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
1986	Prism Gallery, Fremantle, WA
1988	Access Gallery, Sydney, NSW
1988,90,95,99	Greenhill Gallery, Adelaide, SA
1989,94,99,02	Greenhill Gallery, Perth, WA
1989	Art Gallery of WA, Retrospective Exhibition-20 years of Printmaking
1990,91,95,99	Framed, The Showcase Gallery Darwin NT
1991	Gallery Sanyo, Tokyo, Japan, (Group Exhibition)
1995	Framed, The Katherine Gallery, Katherine, NT
1990,95,00,02	Qdos Contemporary Fine Arts, Lorne VIC
1992	Freeman Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
1992,95	Gallery D, Montville QLD
1992,97	Feather Press Studio, Perth, WA
1992	Seasons Gallery, Sydney, NSW
1993,95,00	Breewood Gallery, Katoomba, Leura, NSW
1993,95,97	Editions Southbank (Axia)Gallery, Melbourne
1993,95	Cable Beach Resort (Kimberley Kreations Gallery), Broome, WA
1993,95	Mulgara Gallery, Yulara NT
1994	J-hat Gallery, Toyohashi City, Japan
1994,95	Weswal Gallery, Tamworth NSW
1995	Griffith Fine Art Gallery, Murwillumbah NSW
1995	Gunyulgup Gallery, Yallingup, WA
1995	Extravaganza Gallery, Albany, WA
1995	Phillips & Company, Sydney, NSW

1995	AFFA Gallery, Bendigo, VIC
1995	Cintra Gallery, Brisbane, QLD
1995,98, 2000	Mowbray Gallery, Port Douglas, QLD
1996,99, 2002	The Convent Gallery, Daylesford, VIC
1996,2001	Wilson's at Robe, Robe, SA
1996,99	Flinders Gallery, Townsville, QLD
1997,99	Art House Gallery, Sydney, NSW ,
1997,99	Contemporary Art & Design Gallery, Brisbane, QLD
1997	Sidewalk Gallery, Hobart TAS
1997	Editions Armidale Melbourne, VIC
1999,2002	Monsoon Gallery, Broome, WA
2000	Port Jackson Press Gallery, Melbourne
2001	Pilbara Fine Art, Karratha, WA
2001	Beaver Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2001/2	Mahoney's Gallery, Melbourne
2002	Print Retrospective, Central Park Building, Perth,WA
2002	Print Retrospective, Monsoon Gallery, Broome, WA
2002	Print Retrospective, Xanadu Gallery, Margaret River
2002	Inside the Museum of Widjimorphup Greenhill Galleries, Perth
2003	Print Retrospective, Art Images Gallery, Adelaide 200 Print Retrospective, Depot Gallery, Sydney
2003	Inside the Museum of Widjimorphup Greenhill Gallery Adelaide
2003	Print Retrospective, Hall of Fame, Kalgoorlie
2003	Beaver Gallery, Canberra
2004	Studio Exhibition Finale- Mt. Lawley
2005	Monsoon Gallery, Broome
2005	Greenhill Galleries Adelaide (Penny Hill)
2006	Depot II Gallery, Danks Street Studios, Sydney
2006	Gunyulgup Gallery, Yallingup, WA
2007	Pericles Studios Mosman Park-Inaugural Exhibition.
2007	Monsoon Gallery, Broome
2007	Salmon Galleries, McMahons Pt. Sydney
2008	Marks & Gardner Gallery, Nth Tamborine,QLD
2008	Washhouse Gallery, Rozelle, Sydney
2008	Lussac sur Eglise, France
2008	Stafford Studios, Cottesloe Perth.
2009	Art Sydney 09, Moore Park Sydney.

2010	Artist in Residence, Cable Beach Club, Broome
2011	Weswall Gallery Tamworth
2011	Frances Keevil Gallery, Mosman Sydney
2011	The Milk Factory, Bowral NSW
2011	Milawa Cheese Factory, Victoria
2014, 15, 16, 17, 18.	Margaret River Region Open Studios (MRROS)
2018	Just Scratching the Surface 50 Year Retrospective, Linton & Kay Galleries, Perth
2019, 20	Margaret River Region Open Studios (MRROS)
2020	Linton & Kay Galleries, Subiaco Perth WA
2021	Milk Factory Gallery, Bowral NSW
2021	Margaret River Region Open Studios (MRROS)
2022	Linton & Kay Galleries, Subiaco Perth WA

#### **AWARDS, COMMISSIONS, RESIDENCIES, TRAVEL**

1968	A.B.C. award for "Best Set Design"
1971	Bunbury Art Prize for Prints
1971	Bunbury Art Prize for Drawing
1971	Bunbury Art Prize for Water Colour
1972	University of W. Australia Guild of Undergraduates Print Award
1972	Albany Art Prize for Painting
1973	WA Arts Council Grant for studies abroad
1973,74	Travelled through Europe and America
1977	Fine Art Gallery "Judges Award"
1979	Australia-Japan Foundation Travel Grant. Visited Master Kitemakers and Printmakers in Tokyo, Hamamatsu, Kyoto
1980	Comalco Australia Ltd., Print Commission
1980	Australian Print Council Commission
1981	Stirling City Council Drawing Prize, Perth
1983	Travel to UK (London) for exhibition (Royal East Wiltshire Art Society Exhib) Qantas Gallery
1984,88	Invitation from China for International Kite Festival
1985,86	Artist/Traineeship grant from West Australian Arts Council
1986	Invitation from Singapore for International Kite Festival
1987	Invitation from Japan for International Kite Festival, Mt. Aso
1988	Awarded top score in "Ten Unique Kites of the World" at 5th International Kite Festival in China
1988	Camden Print Award, NSW Australia
1988,89	Bond University Print and Kite Commission
1989	Artist in Resident Cape Range National Park (Ningaloo Reef)
1990	National Print Award for Casebound Books with "Unseen works from the North Wing of the Widjimorphup Shire Art Gallery"

1990	Painting excursion to Kakadu National Park and Arnhem Land, Northern Territory
1990	Travelled to Italy, U.K. and U.S.A. Sept/Oct
1991	Painting Commission "Endangered Species Series" Artburst
1991	Print Commission, Hale School, Perth
1991	Print Commission, Joondalup Development Corp
1991	Painting excursion to Bathurst Island, Northern Territory
1991	Painting Commission, WA Academy of Performing Arts, Perth "Bouquet for the Academy"
1992	Travelled through Tasmania - March
1993	Artist in Resident, Sails in the Desert - Mulgara Gallery, Yulara,
1993	Member of Tract design team for the Joondalup Development Corp. (Landcorp) Parklands of Joondalup
1993	Print Commission Presbyterian Ladies' College Perth
1995	The Tiggy Puggenheim Touring Collection 20 exhibitions around Australia
1996	Print Commission St. Hilda's Girls School, Perth
1996	Stained Glass Windows - Heather Barr Memorial Chapel, PLC, Perth
1996-2000	Designs for Sheridan Aust. & USA - Textiles
1999	2 Week Artist Residency at Broome Western Australia
2000/01	Faure Island (Shark Bay Heritage Listed area) and Mt. Gibson Station. Invited to participate in a study of the environment with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy
2000	Established the Dido Fellowship, an annual residential fellowship in the Pericles Studios for fine art graduates. Supported by ArtsWA
2000	4 Week Artist Residency at Port Douglas, Queensland
2001	Artist in Residence. Cable Beach Resort, Broome, W. Australia
2001	Travelled, France ,Turkey, UK
2003	Invited to be Patron of the Printmakers Association of Western Australia
2003	Painting Commission Little Creatures Brewery
2003	Print Commission Motor Neurone Disease Association
2005	Cable Beach Club Artist in Residence
2007	Cable Beach Club Artist in Residence
2008	Hale School 150 year Anniversary Print Commission. "From Humble Beginnings"
2020	Parmelia Hilton Hotel "The Spirits Within"

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

N and L Perry (compilers) "Pericles' Etchings", Service Printing Co. Perth 1976.

M. Mason (ed) "Contemporary West Australian Painters and Printmakers" Fremantle Arts Centre Press 1979.

Bill Hawthorn, "Some Contemporary West Australian Painters and Sculptors" Apollo Press Perth, 1982.

Critic's Choice (exhib catalogue) Art Gallery of West Australia, Perth 1982.

L. Pericles, "Widjimorphup Story" Edition of 50, Widji Publishing Co. Perth 1982.

L. Pericles "A Bunch of Pictures" prints by Leon Pericles, Widji Publishing Co. Perth 1983.

L. Pericles, "Olse Dogg's Log Book" Feather Press, Perth 1986.

N. Drury, "New Art One" Craftsman House, Sydney 1987.

Barbara Chapman, "The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia Art Collection" Frank Daniels, Perth 1988.

Janda Gooding "The Song of the Lamb" The Wesfarmers Collection of Australian Art. Frank Daniels, Perth 1989.

Janda Gooding, "Leon Pericles" Exhibition Catalogue for "20 years of Printmaking" Art Gallery of Western Australia 1989.

Janda Gooding, Ron Banks, "Unseen Works from the North Wing of the Widjimorphup Shire Art Gallery", Pen & Paint Pty Ltd., Perth 1990.

Northern Territory University "Northern Perspective" Volume 14 No 1. 1991. Interview with Mark Davies and front cover reproduction.

The Western Australian Exhibition, Japan -Gallery Sanyo, Tokyo 1991

L. Pericles, "Congregated Images" , Pen & Paint Pty Ltd. Perth 1992.

Australian Snow Dome Exhibition, Embassy of Australia, Washington USA.1993.

N. Drury, "Images 2" Craftsman House Sydney, 1994.

Oz Arts Issue 8 1993 - Julian Leatherdale article

Country Style - Sept 1993 - Annabelle Frost article

The Tiggy Puggenheim Collection, J. Leatherdale, L Pericles Pen & Paint Pty Ltd., Perth 1994.

Sasha Grishin, Australian Printmakers in the 90's - 1996

Leon Pericles Print Retrospective 1969-2002- 33 Years of Printmaking, Leon Pericles, Pen & Paint Pty Ltd Perth. 2002

## **COLLECTIONS**

Australian National Gallery, Canberra

Australian State Galleries

Birmingham Art Gallery, U.K.

Prime Minister of Japan (1986)

R & I Bank Collection

Deutsche Bank, Perth

Bond University

Wesfarmers Collection

Prime Minister of United Kingdom (1988)

Parmelia Hilton Collection

Hyatt Hotel

Burswood Hotel

W. Australia Premiers Office (1991)

Comalco Collection

Australia/Japan Foundation Collection

Joondalup Development Corp

University of Western Australia (Guild)

Edith Cowan University

Curtin University

Bond University

Kerry Stokes Private Collection

Holmes a Court Collection

Sir Charles Gardner Hospital

King Edward Memorial Hospital

Royal Perth Hospital

Numerous private collections in Australia and overseas

Cable Beach Resort Collection