

James Boisset

Watercolour Artist

1977 – 1980 – Graphic Design Certificate, Randwick College of TAFE

1977 To present - Figurative Life Drawing and Painting. Painting En Plein Air.

1978 – 1992 – Freelance Illustration, (Watercolour and Ink) Cartooning & Graphic Design including editorial, publishing and art studio clients

1992 – Illustrated “Missing Minikin” a children’s book for Harper Collins, which became popular in school book clubs and featured for that publisher at the Bologna Book Fair. The book featured many black & white illustrations, character designs and colour cover. A very loose illustration style I developed with ink was used. The characters I designed were executed in a cartoon style.

1992 – Began painting exclusively in the Watercolour Medium. Attracted to a more representational but painterly style, I was influenced by John Singer Sargent, Australian watercolourists including J J Hilder, Harold B Herbert and others. Inspirational have been the early Dutch and Italian masters of the chiaroscuro tradition such as Caravaggio and Rembrandt.

1999 – Group Exhibition at the Balmain Watch-house called “Six Senses“

1996 – 2006 Exhibited at competitions and selling exhibitions such as the Herald Sun Camberwell Rotary Art Prize, Hunters Hill Art Prize, Camden Art Prize, Sydney Royal Arts & Crafts Show, The Canberra Art Prize, North Sydney Art Prize, Drummoyne Art Award, Ryde Art Award, The Heysen Prize for Landscape, Gosford Art Prize and many others.

I have had numerous solo and group or 2 artist shows and exhibitions with representation in Commercial Art Galleries in Sydney, the USA and France. My work has appeared as Feature Artist at various Art Exhibitions.

I prefer the transparency of Watercolour alone and the interplay of paint and paper, without the use of opaque mediums. The natural landscape / City and Urban / Nocturnes / Marine, Sydney Harbour, Beaches / and Equine Art permeate most of the work I have done. I have explored the varied and interesting light and landscape of France and Italy.

I use watercolour with free flowing compositions and soft clean colours that create clarity, depth and tone using a clear palette to engage in the rich tapestry of our contemporary environment.

Various works are held in private and corporate collections in Australia, France, the USA, UK and Taiwan.

Some of the previous Commercial Galleries that represented me included Boyd Fine Art Gallery, Sutherland Art Gallery, Moulton Galleries Mosman and Mona Vale, Promenarts Gallery - Balmain and France (Ille de Re' and La Roche Sur Yon), The Seen Gallery - Georgia USA, McGrath's Gallery North Sydney (from 2004 until closing in 2010), Dural Galleries, Sutherland Gallery, The Saints Gallery and others. Most of these have closed.

AWARDS

2000 - **First Prize** at the Camden Art Prize for "Whispering Moments" in the Watercolour section

2001 - Highly Commended at the 41st Ryde Art Award for "The Painter" in the Watercolour section

2002 - Third Prize at the Sydney Royal Arts & Crafts Show for "Ethereal Light" in the Marine/Seascape section

- Highly Commended at the 38th Drummoyne Municipal Art Society Annual Art Award for "Restoration The John Oxley" in the Watercolour section.

- Very Highly Commended at the 38th Drummoyne Municipal Art Society Annual Art Award for "Sydney Sketch-break" in the Drawing (Pen & Wash) section

- Commended at the 40th Festival of Fishers Ghost Art Award for "The Sea Awaits – The John Oxley" in the Traditional section

2003 - Highly Commended at the Sydney Royal Arts & Crafts Show for "Looking On The Outside" in the Watercolour Painting section

- Highly Commended at the Camden Art Prize for "Sydney Westside" in the Traditional section

- Commended at the Camden Art Prize for "Rural Tones" in the Open section

- Commended at the Camden Art Prize for "Morning at Clontarf" in the Watercolour section

- Commended at the 39th Drummoyne Municipal Art Society Annual Art Award for "Elegant Form" in the Traditional section

- Very Highly Commended at the Singleton Art Prize 2003 for "Bridge Street Shuffle" in the Traditional Section

- **First Prize** at the 2003 Wattle Time Art Exhibition Cootamundra for "Fractured Earth" – Bathurst, in the Open section

- **First Prize** at the 36TH Annual Raymond Terrace Art Show for "Soft Light" in the Open Acquisitive Section

- Highly Commended (2nd prize) in the Wagga Wagga Quota Rotary Art Competition and Exhibition for “High and Dry” in the Open section.

2004 - **First Prize** at the Australasian Turf Monthly Equine Art Award for “On The Mark” in the Watercolour section.

- Commended at the Camden Art Prize for “Bridge Street Shuffle” in the Traditional Section.
- Commended at the Camden Art Prize for “Maleney” in the Watercolour Section.
- Commended at the Camden Art Prize for “High and Dry” in the Open Section.
- **First Prize** at the 40TH Drummoyne Municipal Art Society Annual Art Award for “Landscape Unfolding” in the Watercolour Section.
- Commended at the 44th Ryde Art Exhibition in the Watercolour Section
- **First Prize** the Blackheath Rhododendron Festival Art Awards in the Watercolour Section
- Highly Commended at the Parramatta Art Society Art Awards in Watercolour Section

2005 - Commended at the Central Coast Festival of Arts – Wyong in the Watercolour Section

- Very Highly Commended at the 41st Drummoyne Municipal Art Society Annual Art Award for “Ambience and Luminescence” in the Watercolour Section
- People’s Choice Award at the Hunter’s Hill Art Prize for “Morning Light Over Lower Fort Street”
- **First Prize** at the Australasian Turf Monthly Equine Art Prize for “Duel” in the Watercolour Section.

2006 - **First Prize** for at the Tumut Art Exhibition for Highlights Over Gloucester in the Watercolour Section

- Highly Commended at the 31st Annual Easter Art Exhibition - Port Macquarie in the Open Section
- Highly Commended at the 31st Annual Easter Art Exhibition – Port Macquarie in the Watercolour Section
- Highly Commended at the Winmalee Autumn Artfest Exhibition
- Highly Commended in the Watercolour Section at the Singleton Art Prize