

FREEMAN WHITE

Freeman White (b.1979 Aotearoa, New Zealand) is one of New Zealand's pre-eminent landscape painters. The artist's works are known for their visceral effect; connecting the viewer to Aotearoa's timeless and ever-changing beauty. The artist's beautifully textured and layered brushstrokes give his canvases a charged energy whereby the viewer experiences the breath-taking and fluctuating vistas of the land.

Formerly focusing his practice on portraiture, White started his career winning first prize in the 2006 ADAM National Portrait Awards. This award gained White international recognition leading him to exhibit in the REAL international symposium for Figurative Art in Germany in both 2007 and 2009. White also spent six months painting portraits in Edinburgh after being invited by the Director of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, James Holloway.

In 2009 White embarked on painting landscapes, pushing the genre through both technique and context. His masterfully painted canvases place the viewer in contemporary Aotearoa New Zealand.

White often paints 'en plein air,' recording and reproducing what he sees in front of him onto the canvas. In his landscapes, the artist draws focus to the other subtle natural elements that make his works so appealing. His masterful ability to capture the shifting sun, a glowing warmth on one side of a rolling hill with an encroaching shadow on the other enlivens the senses for the viewer. He doesn't just focus on the beauty of the vistas visually, rather how they might feel if you were to stand there too. The rolling hills and turbulent oceans plant the viewer in the work as if they too are on the beach about to feel the onslaught of salt spray or tumbling waves at their feet.

White's works are held in many private and public collections, including the New Zealand Portrait Gallery and The Royal Society of New Zealand. The artist holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Elam School of Fine Arts.

BIOGRAPHY

BORN: 1979

LIVES: Te Matau-a-Māui, Hawkes Bay

EDUCATION: Elam School of Fine Arts (1998), The Learning Connexion (2000)

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AWARDS: ADAM National Portrait Awards (2006), Wellington's Top Artist (2010)

COLLECTIONS: New Zealand Portrait gallery ,The Royal society of New Zealand, The Kelliher trust, Bob Jones holdings, the Peabody collection and private collections across Europe, USA, UAE and Australasia.

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS: Eindrücke von der Mosel, Staffelter Hof, Germany (2007), Das Real figurative painting symposium and exhibition , Seegartinklinik, Heidelberg, Germany (2007), ADAM awards finalist and touring exhibition(2008), Last Light, Black Barn gallery, Karanema Havelock North (2008), Hawke's Bay review" juried exhibition, Hastings city Art Gallery, Heretaunga Hastings (2008), Looking down the barrel, New Zealand Wine industry portrait, NZPG (2009), the Faces of Key West, TSKW, Armory Building Key west Florida ,USA (2009), Das Real Figurative painting symposium, live painting demonstrations and Exhibition, Buhler Hohe ,Baden Baden, Germany (2009), ADAM Awards finalist and touring exhibition (2010), This Land, Oedipus Rex gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland (2010), The figure, Academy of fine arts Wellington (2010), The Makers of Modern New Zealand, NZPG, Pōneke Wellington (2011), Road to the top, Black Barn Gallery, Karanema Havelock North (2011), ADAM Awards finalist and touring exhibition (2014), What we do in the shadows Premier, Wellington (2014), Unveiling What we do in the shadows Vampire portraits, NZPG, Pōneke Wellington (2015), The Attic four year exhibit, Museum of Wellington featuring portraits from "What We do in the shadows " (collection NZPG) (2015), ADAM awards finalist and touring exhibition (2016), Seascapes, SPA_CE gallery, Ahuriri Napier, East Coast solo exhibition, SPA_CE Gallery, Ahuriri Napier (2017), ADAM Awards Finalist and touring exhibition (2018), Plein Air/Studio, SPA_CE gallery, Ahuriri Napier, Pōplars Tukituki, Kelliher Trust Gallery, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, collection Kelliher Trust (2018).

EXHIBITIONS: Salt, Sanderson Contemporary (2023); Deep Blue, Sanderson Contemporary (2021); Call of the Ocean, Sanderson Contemporary (2019)

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY: 'An exclusive interview with Freeman White' Denizen (Spring 23: Issue 48) p45; Go! The art of Change by Jonathan Milne (2008), New Zealand Portraits by Richard Wolf, New Zealand A Painted Country by Dennis Robinson, Art New Zealand (Autumn 2009) Magazine, American Art News (January 2010) Magazine, It's all about the image by Dick Frizzell (2011)

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