

TONY SLATER

Born

Derbyshire, United Kingdom, 1940
Arrived in Australia 1974

Education

1960-1963 Royal College of Art, London
1957-1960 Derby College of Art
1953-1956 Joseph Wright Junior Art School, Derby

Teaching experience

1977 Sydney College of the Arts, Sydney
1966-1967 Liverpool College of Art, England
1964-1964 Wigan College of Art, Lancashire, England

Solo exhibitions

2011 Australian Landscape, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
2008 Tony Slater: Some Figures, Some Farming
and Some Fruit and Veg 1998 - 2008
2007 'Under The Sun' Defiance Gallery at the Seymour Theatre
Centre, Sydney
2006 'New Landscapes' Defiance Gallery, Sydney
2004 Maitland Regional Gallery
2003 Manning Regional Gallery, Taree
2001 Defiance Gallery, Sydney
2000 Defiance Gallery, Sydney
1998 Defiance Gallery, Sydney
1994 T.A.P. Gallery, Sydney
1993 Taylor Street Gallery, Sydney
1990 Claude Ullin Gallery, Melbourne
1978 Contemporary Art Society, Paddington Town Hall, Sydney
1974 Drian Gallery, London, England

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1972 Drian Gallery, London, England

Selected group exhibitions

- 2015 The 20th Anniversary Defiance Gallery Exhibition
2014 Abstracting the Landscape, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
2013 Abstract Landscape, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
Winter Exhibition, The Gate Gallery, Wollombi, NSW
2012 The Drawing Show, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
2011 Preview 2011, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
The Landscape Show, Defiance Gallery, Paddington
2010 The Landscape Show, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
The Drawing Show, Defiance Gallery, Paddington
Paint, Steel & Bronze, Defiance Gallery, Paddington
2009 The Landscape Show, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
The Drawing Show, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
2007 'Same Place, Many Views' Defiance Gallery, Sydney
The Drawing Show, Defiance Gallery, Newtown
2006 Defiance Group Show, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
'Same Place, Many Views, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
The Seymour Theatre, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
'The Defiance Gallery Drawing Show' Defiance Gallery, Sydney
2005 'Same Place, Many Views' Defiance Gallery, Sydney
'New Works Painting & Sculpture'. Defiance Gallery, Sydney
'The Defiance Drawing Show 2005', Defiance Gallery, Sydney
2004 'Same Place, Many Views' Defiance Gallery, Sydney
'Vacation or Search for National Identity', Seymour Theatre, Sydney
Landscape Exhibition, Stephanie Burns Fine Art, Canberra
2003 Defiance Gallery at the Seymour Theatre, Seymour Theatre Centre,
Sydney
The Defiance Group Show II, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
The Defiance Group Show, Defiance Gallery Sydney
Defiance @ danks, Dank St Gallery Complex, Sydney
2002 Create Gallery at Circular Quay, Sydney
Defiance Artists Group Show, Defiance Gallery
Selected Works, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
2001 Artists from Defiance, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
2000 Various Views, Defiance Gallery, Sydney
1996 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales
1990 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales
1988 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales

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Collections

Artbank
Clayton Utz, Sydney
Macquarie Bank
Westmead Children's Hospital
Seymour Theatre, Sydney University

Selected bibliography

- 2001 Harris, Peter., 'Tony Slater at Defiance Gallery'
Exhibition reviews, *Asian Art News*, May/June, p.81
- 2000 Kidd, Courtney., 'Seeing the forest and the trees',
The Galleries, The Sydney Morning Herald, 29 March
Smee, Sebastian., 'Critic's Pick: Tony Slater', Exhibitions –
Metro, The Sydney Morning Herald, 17 – 23 March, p.8

Plenty of people have painted the Australian bush before, but nobody puts paint to canvas quite like Tony Slater. His touch is distinctive. So is his sense of color and light. Astonishing how true it feels - how utterly lacking in meretriciousness or false feeling. These paintings are gutsy, keenly observed, cliché-free. They look to me like Slater's best work, which is saying a lot. There is no rhetorical swagger or romantic exaggeration. The choice of subject matter, the unusual perspectives, the close-in cropping – it all feels fantastically fresh. It's an unlikely achievement when you consider the history of Australian landscape painting, teeming as it is with contenders. Note, especially, the astonishing interplay between shadows, trees, and rocks (here is an artist who had really got to grips with Australian sun-dazzle). Also, Slater's brilliant ability to capture the textures of rocks and earth, and the look of trees against slopes and skies. At times, it's like Courbet, Corot, Constable, and Fred Williams all rolled into one. No question about it: Tony Slater is the real thing.

Sebastian Smee, 2011, Art Critic for The Boston Globe

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