

# THE COMMERCIAL

## GUNTER CHRISTMANN

b. 1936, Berlin  
lives Sydney

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 *Gunter Christmann*, The Commercial Gallery, Sydney
- 2014 *Gunter Christmann: Now and Then*, curated by Lesley Harding, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne  
*Gunter Christmann*, The Commercial Gallery, Sydney  
*Gunter Christmann: Before*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2013 *Gunter Christmann*, The Commercial Gallery, Sydney
- 2012 *Eyes and Mind*, organised by George Hubbard and Robert Lake, East Sydney Doctors, Sydney  
*AVEAGOYAMUG: Thus spoke Epimetheus*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2011 *AVAGOYAMUG*, curated by Susan Gibb, Society, Sydney  
*SIDE SHOW MAX*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2010 *KOZMIX*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2008 *Encore*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2007 *Tanzlied*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2006 *AXION JENNY 2006*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2005 *AUTOMONTAGE*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2004 *10gm OZKAR*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2003 *T.O. Tranceporter*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2002 *Christmann 2002*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2000 *WYSIWYG @ niagara Y2K*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1999 *OZKAR*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1997 *G.C. REMIX: Acid House and Garage*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1996 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1995 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
Coventry Gallery, Sydney
- 1994 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1993 *Pleasures of the Mind*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1992 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1991 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1988-90 Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
- 1988 Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
- 1984-92 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1982-87 Yuill/Crowley, Sydney
- 1980 Solander Gallery, Canberra
- 1978 Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane
- 1977 Ray Hughes gallery, Brisbane  
Riverina College of Advanced Education, Wagga Wagga
- 1976 Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne  
Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1975 Barrington Gallery, Auckland  
Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane
- 1974-81 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
- 1973 Haus am Lutzowplatz, Berliner Künstlerprogramm des Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienstes (DAAD), Berlin  
Albert Hall, Canberra
- 1972 South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne  
Inhibodress, Sydney
- 1971-73 38 Hargrave Street, Sydney
- 1970 John Gould Gallery, Perth
- 1967 J.Walter Thompson, Sydney
- 1966-70 Central Street Gallery, Sydney

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Call of the Avant-Garde: Constructivism and Australian Art*, curated by Sue Cramer and Lesley Harding, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne  
*Crusted Heat*, with Hossein Ghaemi and Clare Milledge, The Commercial Gallery, Sydney  
*Blue Chip XIX: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
SNO 131, SNO Contemporary Art Projects, Sydney
- 2016 *MONS*, curated by Mitchel Cumming, Knulp, Sydney  
*Blue Chip XVIII: The Collectors Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2015 *Blue Chip XVII: The Collectors Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
*Writing Art*, curated by Scott Donovan, Artspace, Sydney
- 2014 *The Commercial*, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne  
*Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne  
*Returning to the field*, SNO Contemporary Art Projects, Sydney
- 2012 *Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne  
*White Paintings*, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne
- 2011 *Niagara Galleries*, Auckland Art Fair, Viaduct Events Centre, Auckland  
*Artist Artists*, Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria  
*Blue Chip XIII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2010 *Muster: A Round Up of Works from the Stockroom*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
*Abstraction 9*, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne  
*Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne  
*Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2009 *Song of Sirens*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne, Melbourne  
*3 x 2 x 2 x 3*, Deloitte, Sydney
- 2008 *Rimbaud/Rambo*, curated by Geoff Newton, Neon Parc, Melbourne  
*Blue Chip X: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2006 *Warning: Smoking has been linked to some of the most powerful images of the twentieth century*, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria  
*The Summer Show*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2005 *Blue Chip VII – The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2004 *Collection Focus: Gunter Christmann, Dick Watkins and Jenny Watson*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 2003 *Act XII: New Works on Paper*, George Adams Gallery, Melbourne and touring  
*Blue Chip V – The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2002 *Good Vibrations: The Legacy of Op Art in Australia*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne  
*Blue Chip IV – The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
*Niagara Galleries*, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1996 *Joan and Peter Clemenger Triennial Exhibition of Contemporary Australian Art*, by invitation, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*In and Out of Abstraction*, with Richard Larter, Dick Watkins and Howard Arkley, curated by John McPhee, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1995 *Victor and Loti Smorgon Collection*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 1994 *Fourth Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1992 *Third Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1991 *One*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1990 *Niagara Galleries at Hill-Smith Fine Art Gallery*, Hill-Smith Fine Art Gallery, Adelaide  
*Second Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne

- 1988 *First Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 1987 *Field to Figuration*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*Surface and Reflection*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*In Print Vol.1 Artists Books*, Power Gallery, Sydney
- 1985 *Recession Art and Other Strategies*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1984 *Apocalypse and Utopia*, Melbourne University Art Gallery, Melbourne  
*Form-Image Sign*, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
- 1983 *Vox Pop*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*Romanticism and Classicism in Contemporary Australian Painting*, Geelong Art Gallery, Victoria and touring
- 1982 Coventry Gallery, Sydney  
*Fourth Sydney Biennale*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1981 *Perspecta '81*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1980 *Der Baum Bist Du*, Ben Wargin Gallerie, Berlin, and Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1979 *Kunst in Berlin 1960 Bis Heute*, Berlinsche Gallerie, Berlin  
*European Beginnings*, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney  
*Works on Paper*, Australian Embassy, Paris, France
- 1978 *The Work and Its Context*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, USA  
*USA Visual Arts Board, Travelling Roadshow No 2*
- 1977 *W.A.I.T.*, Perth
- 1976 *Sixth FBK*, Berlin, Germany  
*Soundsculpture*, The Sculpture Centre Sydney, New South Wales  
*Coventry Collection*, Armidale, Melbourne and Brisbane
- 1975 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
- 1974 *Overback Gassellshaft: Two-Man Show*, with Hans Sperschneider, Lubeck, West Germany  
*Fourth FBK*, Berlin, Germany
- 1973 *First Biennale of Sydney*, Australian Painting Now, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Third FBK*, Berlin, Germany  
*30 International Artists in Berlin*, Bonn, Germany
- 1972 *20 Years of Australian Painting*, New South Wales House, London
- 1971 *Harold Szeeman Show*, Bonython Gallery and the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*XI Bienal*, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 1968 *The Field*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*Fifth International Young Artist Exhibition*, Tokyo  
Central Street Gallery, Sydney  
*International Miniatures 70*, Galleries 66, Hofiem/Tauns, Germany
- 1967 *Works on Paper*, Central Street Gallery, Sydney
- 1965 *25 Young Painters*, Argus Gallery, Melbourne

#### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2017 Sue Cramer, Lesley Harding, 'Call of the Avant-Garde: Constructivism and Australian Art', exh. cat, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, 2017
- 2013 Meredith Morse, 'Time underfoot: Gunter Christmann's recent paintings' *Art & Australia*, vol 50. No.4, Autumn, 2013  
Michael Fitzgerald, 'Open Gallery: Gunter Christmann', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 March
- 2011 Gina Lee, Afterword, *SIDE SHOW MAX*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne  
*Blue Chip XIII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing
- 2010 *Abstraction 9*, exhibition catalogue, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne  
Gina Lee, 'Eyes on the ground. Heart in the stars.', Gunter Christmann, 'Terra subpede (The Earth Underfoot)', *KOZMIX*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne

- 2009 Harbant Gill, 'Uncontrollable delights', *Herald Sun*, 1 April  
*Blue Chip XII: The Collectors' Exhibition*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne
- 2007 *Portrait d'Amour: Recent and Not So Recent Paintings*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne
- 2006 Ingrid Periz, 'The Unexplained', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue #41  
Simon Barney, 'The life of ephemera', *AXION JENNY 2006*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne
- 2004 Sebastian Smee, 'Smoking thrills', *The Australian*, 13 May
- 2004 John McPhee, 'MFCs and Gunter Christmann', *Artlink*, vol. 24, Issue #3
- 2003 Patrick Hutchings, 'Gunter Christmann', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue #29  
*T.O. Tranceporter*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne  
S. Barney, *Act XII: New Works on Paper*, (catalogue essay), Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne
- Anne Loxley, 'Cottier closing and cult hero', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 December
- 2002 Jeff Makin, 'The many hues of blue', *Herald Sun*, 10 March  
*Gunter Christmann*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne  
A. Pilmer, 'Just what the doctor ordered', *The Age*, 1 May  
'Gunter Christmann at Niagara', *Monument*, April
- 2001 Jeff Makin, 'Critic's choice: Gunter Christmann', *Herald Sun*, May  
C. Heathcote, B. Smith & T. Smith, *Australian Painting 1788–2000*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne
- 2000 Jeff Makin, 'Fashion meets art', *Herald Sun*, 14 February
- 1996 Peter Timms, 'Abstract appeal a matter of interest', *The Age*, 9 February  
*Joan & Peter Clemenger Triennial Exhibition of Contemporary Australian Art* (TECAA), National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- Robert Rooney, 'Melbourne art: Gunter Christmann', *The Australian*, 4 April
- 1995 Felicity Fenner, 'Haunting images from the other side of the social self', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12 May
- 1993 *Gunter Christmann – Pleasures of the Mind*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
Christopher Heathcote, 'Dearth of imagination mars artists' shows', *The Age*, 22 October
- 1992 *Gunter Christmann*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1991 L. Fern, 'Harlequin gives the sign', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 May  
*Gunter Christmann*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
Daniel Thomas, *Outlines in Australian Art – The Joseph Brown Collection*, Macmillan
- 1990 C. Allen, 'A decade's optimism and pathos', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 31 August  
*The Monash Quarterly* (cover), Melbourne, Winter  
Gary Catalano, 'Review', *The Age*, 18 July  
*Tension*, vol. 19, December
- 1989 Neville Drury, *New Art Three*, Craftsman Press  
C. Allen, 'Janus up against a wall', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 September  
E. Cross, 'Inner calm to anxiety', *The Age*, 18 October  
*Art Almanac* (cover), October
- 1988 G. Catalano, 'Review', *The Age*, 12 October  
'Review', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 July  
'Review', *The Weekend Australian*, 25 June  
C. Marando, 'Man and his environment seen through different eyes', *The Eastern Herald*, 23 June
- 1987 *Surface for Reflexion*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
J. McDonald, 'An ocean of art in waves of old and new', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 February
- 1986 Robert Lindsay, *Field to Figuration: Australian Art 1960 – 1986 Works from the National Gallery of Victoria*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
R. Millar, 'Art', *The Age*, 30 October  
G. Catalano, 'A display of perplexity', *The Age*, 22 October  
S. Cramer, 'Paintings of unnerving presence, power', *The Age*, 16 May

- 1981 R. Carmichael, 'Artscene', *Herald Sun*, 16 May  
 Australian Perspecta, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1973 *Licht in der Farbe*, catalogue essay by K. Ruhrberg, Berlin, Germany  
 E. Lynn, 'Gunter Christmann', *Art & Australia*, vol. 10, No. 3  
 T. Smith, 'The Painting of Gunter Christmann', *Art International*, vol. XV/3
- 1971 B. Smith, *Australian Painting: 1788–1970*, Oxford University Press,  
 Melbourne
- 1970 T. Smith, 'Colour-Form Painting: Sydney 1965-70', *Other Voices*, vol. 1
- 1969 M. Horton, *Present Day Art in Australia*, Ure Smith
- 1968 *The Field*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

## COLLECTIONS

Armidale City Art Gallery, New South Wales  
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
 Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth  
 Auckland Art Gallery, New Zealand  
 Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria  
 Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria  
 Berlinische Gallerie, Berlin, Germany  
 British Museum, London, England  
 City of Hamilton Art Gallery, Victoria  
 Coventry Collection  
 Curtin University of Technology Art Collection, Perth  
 D.A.A.D. Federal Republic of Germany  
 Education Department of Victoria, Victoria  
 Geelong Regional Art Gallery, Victoria  
 Holmes a Court Collection, WA  
 H.R.M. Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands  
 Latrobe University Collection, Melbourne  
 McClelland Art Gallery, Victoria  
 Monash University Collection, Victoria  
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Yugoslavia  
 Myer Collection  
 National Bank of Australia  
 National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
 National Gallery of Victoria, Victoria  
 Parliament House, Canberra  
 Philip Morris Collection  
 Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane  
 State Bank Collection  
 Sylvester Stallone Collection  
 University of New England, New South Wales  
 Victor and Loti Smorgon Collection  
 W.A.I.T. Perth Morris Collection  
 Wollongong Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales