OLIVER WATTS

QUALIFICATIONS

2016 MFA, Painting at Sydney College of the Arts, Rozelle
2010 PhD, Art History and Theory, Sydney University
2001 Bachelor of Law (Hons), Sydney University
1998 Bachelor of Arts (Hons), Sydney University, Art History and Theory

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 The Return, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
Me in place and the place in me, Grace Cossington Smith Gallery, Wahroonga
2023 At Redleaf, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
In a Dark Swamp, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
2022 Felling the Boundary Pines, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
2021 Sweet is the Swamp, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
2020 The Retreat, Chalk Horse, Sydney
2019 Autopilot Steering, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
2016 House Model, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
2015 Cordelia/Fool series, exhibited with Chalk Horse at Sydney Contemporary
and at the Sydney College of the Arts Postgraduate Exhibition, Sydney
2013 Stone Blue, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne
2012 Kafka's Painter, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne
2011 The Elevator's Song, Ecosse Gallery, Exeter
2010 I am Tristan Tzara, Chalk Horse
Three Suns, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne
2009 The Golden Probe, Chalk Horse, Sydney
Ps: Potential Spaces, with Neeson Murcutt Architects, Sydney
Horn of Plenty, Parasite Gallery, Hong Kong
Barres Trial, Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong
2008 Poo on Sticks, Next Wave Festival, Melbourne
Crimes Against Dada, Chalk Horse, Sydney
2006 Miniatures, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
2004 Driftwood (with Jasper Knight), MOP Projects
2003 Pioneers, MOP Projects, Sydney
Hairbrush, Gallery Wren, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 Punctuate., THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
Level Two, Chalk Horse, Sydney
Aotearoa Art Fair, Chalk Horse Gallery, Auckland NZ
2025 NOFANTASY25, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
Spring 1883 Art Fair, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Hotel Windsor, Melbourne
ArtSG, Chalk Horse, Singapore
2024 New South – Recent Paintings from Southern Australia, Hazlehurst Arts Centre, Gymea
2023 Orbit, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
Spring1883 Art Fair, Melbourne, Chalk Horse Gallery
2021 Spring 1883 x Artsy, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
2016 Art16 London, THIS IS NO FANTASY
2015 At this time, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
2013 Laugh Out Loud, La Trobe Regional Art Gallery, Gippsland
2012 Group Show, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne
2011 Nothing is True, Everything is Permitted, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney

Commentary on the Royal Wedding, Gregory and Watts, Oxford Art Factory, Sydney
Wattle: Contemporary Art in China, The Space, Hong Kong
2010 Triplicated, Chalk Horse, Sydney
2009 Smoking Guns, Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong
Horn of Plenty (performance), curated by Dougal Philips, Para/Site, Hong Kong
2005 Frontier Photobooth (performance), 1/2 Doz. Festival, Blankspace Gallery, Sydney
Australia Day (performance), Museum of Sydney, Sydney

AWARDS I GRANTS

2024 Finalist - The Glover Prize
Finalist - The Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2023 Finalist - The Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2021 Finalist - The Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2019 Finalist - Doug Moran Portrait Prize
2012 Finalist - Doug Moran Portrait Prize
2002 Australian Post-Graduate Award
2005 NAVA Marketing Grant
2004 Finalist - Helen Lempriere Travelling Scholarship
1998 Mary Makinson Award Art History
1998 Noel Chettle Award Fine Arts

COLLECTIONS

Artbank Australia
National Museum of Australia
Sydney University Collection
The Reserve Bank of Australia

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2021 Dr Joseph Brennan, ‘Sweet is the Swamp’ Art Almanac, June 2021
2020 Joseph Brennan, ‘Real Made Strange’, Art Collector, May 2020
Nina Mial, ’Oliver Watts: The Retreat’, Art Collector, May 2020
2017 Wes Hill, ‘Around Town’, Frieze, issue 186, April
2014 Sebastian Goldspink, ‘Art School Confidential: The Rise of the Sydney Grad Show’, Raven: A Platform for Contemporary Art and Events
2012 Robert Nelson, Kafka’s Painter, Review, The Age, 29 Feb 2012
2010 Roger Boyce, Exhibition Review, Oliver Watts at Helen Gory Galerie, Art in America,
Online review, Pages Digital, http://www.pagesdigital.com/oliver-watts-three-suns/