

Rew Hanks



Sydney Printmaker Rew Hanks has exhibited his intricate linocuts professionally for over twenty years in Australia and internationally. He received a Master of Fine Arts from the University of NSW and a Print Fellow from the Tamarind Institute at the University of New Mexico in America.

At first glance, the linocuts of Rew Hanks seem to be from another time. Appearing historic in subject matter, his works are reminiscent of prints from the 1800's. Yet on close inspection, these edgy complex pictures are grounded in the contemporary.

Hanks is from Australia and his imagery generally relates to the Australian narrative. With a master's hand, he renders a world both real and fantastic. His prints are often as large as 100 x 71 cm, with a surface created by an almost mesmerizing range of grays. During a residency at the Royal Botanical Gardens he researched many aspects of the Garden's two hundred year history. His linocut 'King Bungaree and the Bottle Tree' explores the effects of the early colonialists on the indigenous population of Sydney. He pays homage to Sir Joseph Banks and his major contribution to botany and the documentation of Australia's truly unique flora. Another large print documents Governor Lachlan Macquarie's influence on both the establishment of Sydney and the Royal Botanic Garden.

A suite of handcoloured circular linocuts depict the effects of introduced flora and fauna to Australian shores.

Kauri Project

In 2006 one of the garden's largest Kauri Pines was killed by the constant roosting of thousands of the grey headed flying foxes. In 2010 Rew Hanks was one of 30 artists invited to produce an artwork made from the timber from this felled New Caledonian Kauri Pine. Rew produced a woodcut 'A Half Century from Charles Moore' which depicted many of the achievements of Moore during his fifty years as director of the Botanic Gardens. A diverse and

beautiful range of works from the Kauri Project were exhibited at the Lion Gate Lodge in the Garden in August of 2010.

Awards

- 2010 Special Prize, Lessedra World Art Print Annual 2010, Sofia, Bulgaria.
- 2009 Purchase Prize, 2nd Bangkok Triennale International Print, Thailand.
- 2008 Grand Prize, 8th Bharat Bhaven International Biennial of Print, India.
- 2006 Purchase Prize, 14th Seoul International Print Biennial, South Korea.

Collections

Include:

- Australian National Gallery , Canberra, ACT.
- Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney, NSW.
- Art Gallery of South Australia , Adelaide, SA.
- Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, TAS.
- Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra, ACT
- Ian Potter Museum, Melbourne, Victoria.
- Roopankar Museum Fine Arts, Bharat Bhaven, Bhopal, India.
- Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, South Korea.
- Silparkorn University , Bangkok, Thailand.
- State Library of NSW, Sydney, NSW.
- State Library of Victoria, Melbourne , Victoria.
- Tamarind Institute Archives, University of New Mexico, USA.
- Print Council of Australia, Victoria.
- Holmes a Court Collection, WA.

