

YURIA OKAMURA

Yuria Okamura is a Melbourne-based artist whose practice encompasses drawing, painting and installation. Inspired by animism and herbalism, she conflates botanical imagery with geometric forms derived from religious symbolism used in architecture and decoration across cultures. Combining works on paper with wall drawings, her work enshrines nature within imagined architecture.

Okamura holds an MFA (Research) from the University of Melbourne and a BFA (Honours) from RMIT University. She has been awarded Australia Council Grants, Stuart Black Memorial Scholarship, Ursula Hoff Institute Drawing Award, LaTrobe Art Institute Writer's Block Commission, Lloyd Rees Memorial Youth Art Award, RMIT Honours Travelling Endowment Scholarship, and recently shortlisted for National Works on Paper Award, Paul Guest Drawing Prize, Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award, Ravenswood Australian Women's Award and Waverly Art Prize. Okamura has been selected to participate in local and international residencies such as Sanskriti Kendra Residency (India), The Studios at MASS MoCA (USA), Abbotsford Convent Studio Residency (Australia), Bayside City Council Residency (Australia) and Takt Artist Residency (Germany). She has exhibited her work extensively at public, commercial and artist-run galleries including the National Gallery of Victoria, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Daine Singer, NotFair Art Fair, Incinerator Gallery, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, La Trobe Art Institute, C3 Contemporary Art Space, Anna Pappas Gallery, Dutoit Gallery (USA), Five Walls, Tributary Projects (Canberra), Kunstraum Tapir (Germany), Langford 120, Seventh Gallery, Japan Foundation Gallery (Sydney) and Mølla På Grim (Norway).

EDUCATION

- 2015 Master of Fine Arts (Research), H1, VCA, University of Melbourne
- 2010 Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours), H1, RMIT University

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *Temple of Nature*, Daine Singer, VIC
- 2017 *Shifting Shapes, Forming Spaces*, C3 Contemporary Art Space, VIC
- 2016 *Forms and Diagrams (For Harmonic Ideals)*, Anna Pappas Gallery, VIC
- 2014 *Geometric Findings*, Five Walls, VIC
- 2012 *Ma: Space between here and there*, Japan Foundation Gallery, NSW

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Melbourne Now*, The National Gallery of Victoria
- 2022 *Alter*, curated by Charlotte Watson, Divisions Gallery, VIC
- 2021 *Wall Drawings*, curated by Danny Lacy and Ellinor Pelz, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, VIC
- 2021 *NotFair art fair*, curated by Sam Leach, Tony Lloyd and Ashley Crawford, VI
- 2019 *Ode to Marion*, curated by Boe-Lin Bastian, Incinerator Gallery, VIC
- 2019 *Be Long*, curated by Erika Hess, Dutoit Gallery, Ohio, USA
- 2018 *Chart Form*, curated by Kent Wilson, La Trobe Art Institute, VIC

PRIZES – GRANTS – COMMISSIONS – RESIDENCIES

- 2022 Paul Guest Drawing Prize – Finalist
- 2022 National Works on Paper Award – Finalist (Acquired)
- 2022 Waverly Art Prize – Finalist
- 2022 Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award – Finalist
- 2020 Australia Council Resilience Fund
- 2020 Australia Council Career Development Grant
- 2020 Sanskriti Kendra Artist Residency, Delhi, India
- 2019 La Trobe Art Institute Writer's Block Commission
- 2019 Australia Council Career Development Grant
- 2019 MASS MoCA Studio Residency, Massachusetts, USA
- 2019 Working Artist Grant, Washington, USA
- 2016 Stuart Black Memorial Travelling Scholarship
- 2016 Bayside City Council Artist Residency
- 2016 Abbotsford Convent Start-up Program Studio Residency
- 2015 Ursula Hoff Institute Inc. Drawing Award