

Resume: Eddie Botha

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Date of birth: 29 April 1975

General Artistic background

Eddie Botha's work is both personal and indifferent, sentimental and light as he examines human interactions deeply. Born in South Africa, Eddie is a well-travelled multiculturalist, dreamer, comedian, nature lover and activist whose search for cultural identity and sincere relationships is expressed through his highly detailed drawings and paintings of people and society. Using pen, paint, newspaper and collage, Eddie depicts intricate, intimate scenes filled with a cacophony of characters who colour the everyday streets.

Nothing in Eddie's works is by chance. Combining a love of street art with the sensitivity of penmanship, a series of conversations about human nature, people, technology, media, politics and sexuality unfold before us using a complex language of colour, symbolism and metaphor. Upon first glance you will smile at familiar individuals as they are depicted in their most candid states: a beach bum, a suited man, a young punk. However, further contemplation of these seemingly sweet figures reveals a darker, more profound meaning embedded within each work- one that touches on the psychological and the humanitarian. Whether in groups or alone, each figure is revealing of one of society's many sentiments- from brave excess, humility and beauty to greed, fetish and despair.

Although dominated by recurring human faces and bodies, Eddie's work also touches on the interaction between people and nature, people and technology, animals and animals. For him, nature and the technological often underpin many of our human experiences. By juxtaposing us with them, hard with soft, biological with material, Eddie prompts us to reflect upon the ways that contemporary contexts shape ourselves and inform our behaviors.

Gallery Representations and Stockists

- Angela Tandori Fine art, 1/84 Smith Street, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066 (Mobile 041 930 1279)
- Alouche Gallery, New York, 82 Gansevoort Street, New York (+1212)9666675
- Intersections Gallery, 34 Khandahar Street, Singapore, 198892, (+65)97985611
- Space of Sanctity Art Gallery, 789 Dashanzi Art District, Beijing, China
- Gallery Yang, 8F, Shengquan Mansion, 28 Tanjiadu Road, Shanghai
- Vavoom Emporium, 288 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne (1300 577 079)
- Blue Planet Fine art, 25 Main road, Muizenberg, South Africa (+27 217883154)

Projects

- Workshops with Chagall Art Schools, Shanghai, Feb 2018
- Steve Madden live art event, Brooklyn New York, May 2017
- Art Tram, Melbourne festival October 2016
- 5 Walls Project, Sydney July 2016
- Dandenong Primary school art production for playground, Aug 2016
- Dandenong Mall Hoarding artworks on Community theme June 2016
- Illustrative contract work for 'Momentum worldwide' – NBN – Australian's new broadband network
- Art teacher for 'Kids own Publishing' – working with local schools and community, developing educational children's books.
- Part of the Arts and Health Leadership Group, Victoria – impacting the community through art
- Noble Park Art Show Committee
- Art Teacher at Noble Park English School, working with refugee children
- Collaborative artist for 2012 Terrigal Landart (30 x 40m) with local aboriginal artist Gavi Duncan as part of the 5 lands walk festival

Residencies

- Conartists Mixed media residency, April/ May 2017
- Instinct Residency, Singapore, Oct/ Nov 2016
- Heritage Hill Art Residency, Dandenong, March-June 2015

Awards

- Watson's Art Prize, 2014, First prize
- Newcastle's 'Waste As Art' 2013, Runner-up
- Maitland's 'Waste As Art' 2011, Highly commended

Education and Career Path

2014-current Full time Artist (Melbourne)

2010- current Part time Artist (Newcastle, London, Sydney, Melbourne and South Africa)

1998-2014 Landscape Architect and Artist (Malaysia from 2001-2008)

1997 Graduated from Pretoria University (TUKKIES)

1993 Matriculated from Oos Moot High School in Pretoria, South Africa

Previous Exhibitions (Selected)

Off the Kerb Gallery, Artonica: music for everyone, Collingwood, March 2018

World Art Organization Exhibition, group show, Seoul, South Korea, Jan 2018

1st Ink drawing Biennale, Mokpo, South Korea, Nov 2017

7th Beijing International Art Biennale, National Art Museum of China, Oct 2017

Conartist Collective, Happy Birthday cake eating party, solo show, New York, LES, April 2017

17th Asian Art Biennale, Dhakar, 3 Artworks exhibited for Australia, Bangladesh, Dec 2016

No Vacancy Gallery QV, Melbourne, Shwoosh Group show, Melbourne CBD, Dec 2016

Instinc Gallery, Soho2@Central Singapore, Solo Show called 'Makan' Nov 2016

Affordable Art Fair Singapore, Shah Gallery, Singapore, Nov 2016

Black Cat Gallery, Hawthorn East, Draw the line, Hawthorn, Oct 2016

Lane's End Projects, Artonica Solo show, Fitzroy Melbourne, Aug 2016

Poh Chang Gallery, Group show, Bangkok, Jan 2016

Repeat, Artshole Groups show, Chapel Street, Prahan, Nov 2015

House of Bricks, Colab show, Technorganic, Collingwood, Oct 2015 (Curated by Eddie)

Off the kerb, Solo show called 'Re-mortilization', Collingwood, July 2015

Nocturnal, Dandenong Harmony square, Performance art, July 2015

Art not Apart Art festival Canberra, 'Australia now and then' performance art, March 2015

Walker street gallery project space, Befuddled solo show, Dandenong, Feb 2015

Dark horse Experiment (Blender), Group show (Midsumma) Melbourne, Jan 2015

Red gallery, 'The moving image' Solo show Fitzroy North, Nov 2014

Off the kerb, 'Outside the Box' solo show, Collingwood, July 2014

Manyung Gallery group, Group show, October 2013

Tacit Contemporary Art Gallery, 'Sociality' Melbourne, Oct 2013

House of bricks, 'Neutral', Collingwood, Melbourne, Sept 2013

BSG, 'Spot the difference' Solo Show, Fitzroy, Melbourne, Sept 2013 (SOLD OUT SHOW)

TUSK gallery, 'Here, there, everywhere' South Yarra, Melbourne, Aug 2013

Gaffa Gallery, Spot the difference Solo show, Sydney CBD, Jan 2013

Gosford Regional Gallery, Terrigal Plein Air 2012 Group Show, Gosford, Jan 2013

BSG, Odd one out Solo show, Melbourne, November 2012 (sold-out show)

BSG, Urban art group show 12 B, Melbourne, November 2012 (sold-out show)

ATVP, Strange, Stranger, Strangerest, Sydney, Newtown, June 2012

Kaleidoscope Gallery, Solstice group show, June 2012

Platform 72 featured opening exhibition, Sydney Oxford street, Feb 2012

International Art Fair, London, May 2012

Affordable Art Fair Hampstead, UK, Oct 2011

Arthive Gallery, Teasing the taught, solo show, May 2011

Reading Artfair, London, May 2011

Waste as Art 2010, Prize as Highly commended, Secondary Category, Maitland, April 2010