

David Hinchliffe

In Australia politics and art generally don't mix, but the two come together in Brisbane artist, David Hinchliffe.

A former Deputy Mayor of Brisbane and a politician of almost 25 years, David has returned to his original profession as an a fulltime professional artist with great success in his home country as well as in New York and London.

He describes his style as "City Portraiture". "I paint the portraits of cities that I love," says Hinchliffe. "For years I was an inner city politician and now I'm a painter of inner cities. I see the progression or evolution to be quite a natural one. Certainly there are different skill sets involved in the world politics compared to the world of art, but my passions are the same. I love urban environments. I love the play of light over the surface of footpaths and roads. I love the energy of cities and the movement of people. Cities are where I belong and now I'm pleased to say I'm becoming known for my portraits of my favourite cities, places like New York, London, Paris, Venice and Havana."

David Hinchliffe has been painting, exhibiting and selling his work in galleries since the age of 12. He has won numerous competitions as a young artist (Sunday Mail Art Prize, ABC Argonauts Award, Atlantic City Sculpture Award, Toowoomba Gemini prize) and is a regular finalist in Tattersalls Landscape Prize.

He trained under Brisbane artist, John Rigby, painting as a teenager with contemporaries Tomas McAulay and Rex Backhaus Smith and also studied under premier Australian landscape artist and Archibald prize-winner, William Robinson at the University of Southern Queensland.

David furthered his practical artistic study in both New York, Paris and London in the 70s while working his way around the world painting portrait commissions until he returned home to pursue a career in politics. He has painted portraits of Poet Bruce Dawe, Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser and businessman, Sir Alex McKay.

Described by the late James Gleeson as having an "exceptional talent", he has emerged from 3 decades of work in the public domain to return with renewed passion to his career as a painter. He won the Sunday Mail Colour Magazine Award (1972), Atlantic City Sculpture Award (1973) and Gemini Art Award (judged by James Gleeson in 1974) and has been a finalist for the last 6 years in the Tattersall's Landscape Prize.

He has exhibited at galleries in Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney, the Gold Coast and Noosa in Australia as well as at Harrods and Store St Gallery in London and at Village Art gallery in Greenwich Village 1996, at the Australian Consulate, New York and at Michael Ingbar Gallery on Broadway in Soho, New York.