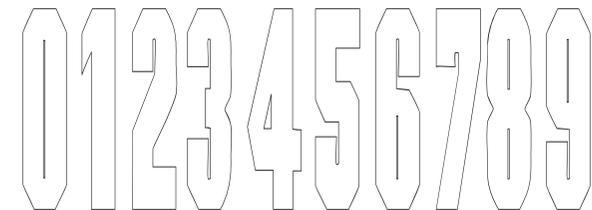


Brian McKay



15 Feb - 15 March 2009



GALERIE DÜSSELDORF

Galerie Düsseldorf 9 Glyde Street Mosman Park Western Australia WA 6012 tel/  
fax 08 93840890 Gallery hours : Wednesday - Friday 11 - 5 Sunday 2 - 5 and  
by appointment Closed public holidays email : [gd@galeriedusseldorf.com.au](mailto:gd@galeriedusseldorf.com.au)  
Website : [www.galeriedusseldorf.com.au](http://www.galeriedusseldorf.com.au) Directors : Magda + Douglas Sheerer

GALERIE DÜSSELDORF

Brian McKay : 0123456789

My interest in letter forms began as a primary school child living in the small wheat belt town of Northam. This was in the early 1930's when almost all the service deliveries were made, house to house, by horse drawn box carts and sulkies. These were the butcher, iceman, grocer, baker, greengrocer and milkman.

All the carts and sulkies bore the signage of each profession, in high gloss enamel letters with elaborately decorative scrolls and drop shades in bright colours, outlined in many instances with gold leaf. Even the spokes on the wooden wheels were filigreed with brilliant fine black and gold lines. As an impressionable child, I was fascinated.

I left Northam to join the Navy in 1943 and after training at Flinders Naval Base I was posted to, of all places, the Persian Gulf, minesweeping and dropping depth charges on German submarines. I was soon appointed as ship's artist and commissioned to paint an image of a boxing kangaroo and motto on the canvas shroud of the crow's nest. My other task was to paint the identification numbers on the ship's side, suspended in a bosun's chair, the huge numerals in black on grey, 76 J.

Demobilised in 1946 I was employed in graphics and advertising, and as a restless youth was drawn to motor racing. Here again my skills were in much demand in applying well designed numbers on the doors of the competing cars.

The works in this exhibition are an echo of that bygone period.

Brian McKay  
February 2009

\* This body of work was commenced during Brian McKay's  
Artist in Residence at the Holmes à Court Gallery in 2008



Brian McKay in silver Peugeot 203 76J at Shell harpin bend (upper) and (lower), clocking 100 mph along the straight during the Caversham Raceway WA 6 hour endurance race in 1960



## Biography continued

1983 Austmark Centre, Perth  
1984 Form-Image-Sign, Art Gallery of Western Australia  
1984 Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery  
1984 Destination China, Nexus Galleries, Fremantle, and Guandong Academy of Art, China  
1985 Celebration, 9th Anniversary Exhibition, Galerie Düsseldorf  
1986 The Peace Show, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth  
1986 Mandorla Art Prize, New Norcia, Western Australia  
1987 The Fremantle Dozen, Fremantle Arts Centre  
1987 Second Annual Survey, David Jones Art Gallery, Sydney  
1987 Invitation Art Purchase Exhibition, Bunbury City Art Gallery  
1987 13 Artists at Galerie Düsseldorf, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
1988 First Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, (Represented by Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth)  
1989 Heidelberg and Heritage, Two Visions of Australia - One Hundred Years Apart Linden Gallery, Melbourne  
1990 2nd Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne (Represented by Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth)  
1991 Western Australian Art, Gallery Sanyo Tokyo  
1993 Works from the Holmes à Court Collection, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art  
1995 Colour Abstractions of the 70's, Goddard de Fiddes, Perth  
1996 Artists' Self-Portraits, Mundaring Arts Centre  
1997 Galerie Düsseldorf - 21 Years On, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
1997 Swingtime, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, University of Western Australia  
1998 Sixth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne (Represented by Galerie Düsseldorf)  
2001 Minimal, Works from the Holmes à Court Collection, Holmes à Court Gallery, Perth  
2004 Melbourne Art Fair, Represented by Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
2004 Shifting Ground, Moores Building, Fremantle  
2004 BankWest Art Prize, PICA, Perth  
2006 Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne (Represented by Galerie Düsseldorf)  
2006 Galerie Düsseldorf 30 Years On, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
2008 Fertile Soil, Fremantle Arts Centre

## PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

1986 Trades and Labor Council, commission for 6 banners for the Trade Unions  
1991/2 Central Park Building, Perth  
1992 Reserve Bank of Australia, Perth  
1993 Joondalup Library (260 metre external artwork)  
1994/5 Melville City Council (free standing outdoor sculpture)  
1994/5 Wanneroo City Council (170 metre external artwork)  
1997 260 linear metre external copper sculpture Joondalup City Council  
1999 East Perth Development Authority (14 m free outdoor sculpture - with Architect Ahmad Abas)  
2002 Large internal sculpture commission, new Maritime Museum in Fremantle, Western Australia.  
2003 Edith Cowan University, Joondalup (freestanding outdoor sculpture - with Architect Ahmad Abas)  
2005 Australian Broadcasting Commission, East Perth (Exterior Mural), Perth  
2008 40 x 12 m artwork City of Armadale shopping complex. ( with Ahmad Abas. )

## AWARDS/PRIZES

1975 Celebration '75' St. George's Cathedral Art Prize with 'Roman Banner'  
1977 David Jones Art Prize with 'Calabria'  
1983 Western Australia Week Award with 'Savannah'  
1984 Western Australia Week Award with 'Quarry'  
1986 Winner Mandorla Art Prize with 'Helix'  
1987 Bunbury Invitation Art Purchase Exhibition with 'The Death of Avizo'  
1988 Winner Mandorla Art Prize  
1990 Australia Council Emeritus Award  
1991 Order of Australia Medal for Services to Contemporary Art  
2002 Mandorla Art Prize  
2008 Artist in Residence Holmes à Court Gallery Perth

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of Western Australia, University of Western Australia, Curtin University of Technology  
Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University, Royal Perth Hospital, Artbank, City of Fremantle  
Holmes à Court Collection, BankWest, Bunbury Art Gallery, Kalgoorlie Art Centre, St John of God Hospital

## BRIAN MCKAY

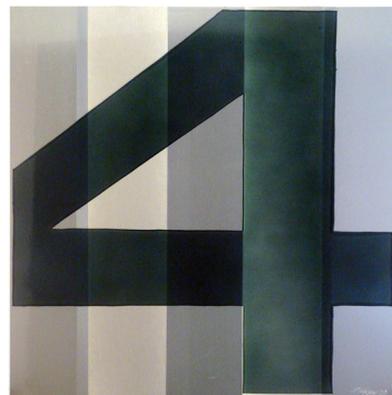
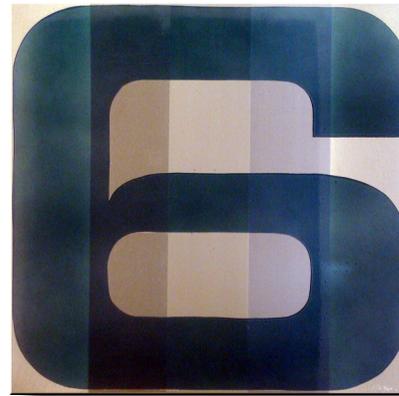
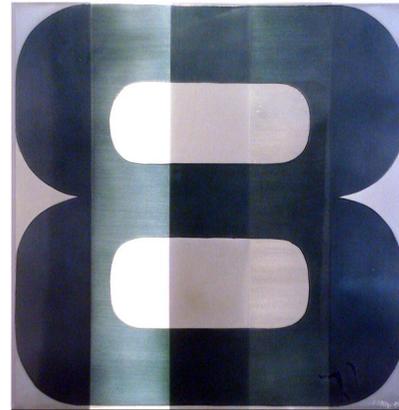
1926 Born Meckering, Western Australia  
1944-45 Served Overseas in and around India with the Royal Australian Navy  
1945 Worked as a Graphic Designer for various companies  
1961 Formed Perth Group with Guy Grey-Smith, Robert Juniper and Tom Gibbons  
1964 Travelled to Greece with his family - lived, painted in Kythera for 1 year  
1965 Arrived in London - worked in Screenprinting, Graphics and Publicity  
1967 26 April - Greek military coup - Involvement with a group working towards the restoration of democracy in Greece, produced posters and banners and raised money for families of political prisoners. Held concerts for fund raising with other artists and performers including John Williams, Melina Mercouri, Janet Suzman, Judy Dench  
1968 Participated in protests and demonstrations against the military coup in Greece  
1970-71 Travelled to Spain, South of France and Morocco  
1971-73 Travelled to Ireland - 3 visits to County Cork  
1974 Returned to Australia  
1976 Joined Praxis  
1979 Taught Painting and Printmaking at Perth Technical College  
1982 Became involved with Media Space  
1983 Artist in Residence, Mount Lawley Campus West Australian College of the Arts  
1984 Founding Member of the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art

## ONE PERSON EXHIBITIONS

1962 Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney  
1963 Skinner Galleries, Perth (with Robert Juniper)  
1966 Skinner Galleries, Perth  
1970 Skinner Galleries, Perth  
1972 Skinner Galleries, Perth  
1974 Skinner Galleries, Perth  
1979 Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
1981 Review Exhibition, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth (Festival of Perth)  
1983 Seventh Anniversary, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
1984 The Roundhouse, Fremantle Arts Centre  
1988 Survey Exhibition, Art Gallery of Western Australia  
1991 Out of the Box, Fremantle Arts Centre  
1994 Gynyalgup Galleries (with Donald Brook), Yallingup, Western Australia  
2002 On Reflection, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
2003 Further Reflections, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
2005 Survey Exhibition 1954 - 2004, Holmes à Court Gallery, Perth  
2005 Recent Work, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
2007 New Work, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
2008 Artist in residence, Holmes à Court Gallery exhibition  
2009 0123456789, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

1956 Sunday Times Outdoor Art Exhibition, Supreme Court Gardens, Perth  
1960 West Australian Artists, Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne  
1961 Perth Group, Skinner Galleries, Perth  
1973 Moran Galleries, London  
1975 A Christmas Exhibition of Paintings, Skinner Galleries, Perth  
1975 Celebration '75 Art Exhibition, St. George's Cathedral, Perth  
1976 10 West Australian Artists, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth  
1977 Spectrum Western Australia, Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide  
1978 Exhibition of Silverware and Jewellery, Australian Graphic Art, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
1978 Praxis, Fremantle  
1981 Fifth Anniversary Exhibition, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth  
1982 Art Gallery of Western Australia  
1982 Fremantle Arts Centre  
1982 The Foulkes Taylor Years, Invitation Exhibition organised by W.A.I.T.  
(now Curtin University, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth)  
1983 The Western Australia Week Invitation Art Award, Fremantle Art Gallery  
1983 The W.A.I.T. Collection 1968-1983, Art Gallery of Western Australia



Brian McKay

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Automotive enamel on etched and sealed Aluminium 2009  
500 x 500 x 40 mm  
Each work \$ 3,500