

Barbara Laszuk

Contemporary Figurative Painter

Canberra, ACT, Australia

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Professional Background

Barbara's practice mainly centres around contemporary figurative painting, exploring emotional depth, identity, and the quiet strength found within vulnerability. Working primarily in acrylic and building layered surfaces that balance softness and intensity, allowing colour and texture to carry both mood and meaning.

In addition, she frequently finds herself drawn to our beautiful country, the colours of inner Australian desert lands and outer regions of WA and NT. Red Earth as aptly named by indigenous Australians.

Barbara began painting in her early teens, receiving multiple local awards in the Albury region, including recognition from Harold Abbott, former Head of the National Art School, Sydney.

Her early development was shaped by studying the works of influential artists including Sydney Nolan, Rembrandt, and Brett Whiteley, with regular visits to Whiteley's Surry Hills studio gallery deepening her engagement with expressive Australian painting.

Selected Exhibitions

2018 – Solo: Earth Dreaming, M16 Artspace, Canberra

2016 – Solo: Moments in Life, Yarralumla Gallery, Canberra

2014 – Group: Untitled 6, Watson Arts Centre, Canberra

Publications

Barbara's work was recently chosen to feature in the Global Art Times in 2026

Membership

- Current member of the Artists Society of Canberra
- Previous long Membership
- Current member of the Artists Society of Canberra

Private Tutoring

- Frank Le Compte (Belgium) – Traditional painter and portraitist
- John Van Holten (Netherlands) – Traditional landscape painter

Workshops & Professional Development

- Ming Bellamy Mackay (Melbourne) – Pastel artist
- Paul Margocsy – Watercolour (Australian avian studies)
- time member of the Albury Wodonga Artist Society, holding the position of treasurer for a year.

Achievements

- Work held in public and private collections in Australia, USA, Japan, and England
- Invited to exhibit in SoHo, New York, USA
- Selected cover artist, Australian Guild of Realist Artists Bulletin No. 90 (Luck o' the Irish, watercolour)
- Participating artist, Regional Gallery Touring Exhibition – Australian Guild of Realist Artists
- Commissioned by the Ford Albury-Wodonga Festival of Sport Olympics Director to create a major work featuring fifteen sporting identities
- Recognised for The Racing Game series (Melbourne Cup-themed works)

Selected Awards

- Finalist – Windsor & Newton Australia Awards, Sydney (Breaking The Barriers, Watercolour)
- Finalist – Grafton Drawing Awards (Running On Empty, Pastel)
- Finalist – Albury Art Prize (multiple years)
- 1st Prize – Albury Wodonga Artists Society (Self Portrait, Pastel)
- 1st Prize (Best Pastel) – Albury Wodonga Artists Society