

Soma

21 October

13 November 26

Michael Simms

Michael Simms is an interdisciplinary artist working across painting, drawing, photography and performance, based on Gadigal Country, Sydney. Exhibiting extensively across Australia, he has been a finalist in the Archibald, Darling Portrait, Doug Moran, Callen and SBS Portrait Prizes, among others. His practice has also been recognised through residencies at the New York Academy of Art, Broken Hill Art Exchange, Bundanon Artist in Residence Program and Gang Gang Residency Program. Represented by Eloise Cato Gallery, Sydney, and Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, Simms' work is held in major public and private collections nationally and internationally, including Maitland Regional Art Gallery, The Elliott Eyes Collection and the Accenture (YSC) Collection, Sydney. He holds a Bachelor of Arts and Behavioral Science from Flinders University and was formally trained in classical drawing and painting at the Julian Ashton Art School in Sydney.

CV– Michael Simms

Born 1987, Adelaide, Australia

Living and practicing in Sydney / Warrane, Australia

QUALIFICATIONS

The Julian Ashton Art School, Recipient of the Sydney Mechanic's School of Art Scholarship, 2011 - 2014

Flinders University, Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Psychology) and Bachelor of Arts, 2006 – 2011

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026– *Soma*, Eloise Cato Gallery, Sydney

2026– *This Wild*, Parliament of New South Wales, Sydney

2025– *Body Talk*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2025– *Staged Theoretical*, Eloise Cato Gallery, Sydney

2025– *Stages*, New England Regional Art Museum

2023– *Charged*, Lethbridge Gallery, Brisbane

2023– *Stages: Sydney World Pride*, Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf, Sydney

2023– *Personas*, Frances Keevil, Sydney

2022– *Memories and Dust*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2022– *Stages*, Manning Regional Gallery, NSW

2021– *Distance*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2021– *Epoch*, Frances Keevil, Sydney

2020– *Drive*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2018– *Interfacing*, Stanley Street Gallery, Sydney

2017– *Brink*, Cambridge Studio Gallery, Melbourne

2016– *Reverie*, Artworld Studio Gallery, Brisbane

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026– *Profil Perdu*, Lost Profile Gallery, Melbourne

2025– *Intro*, Eloise Cato Gallery, Sydney

2025– *The Figure*, Lethbridge Gallery, Brisbane

2024– *Horizons*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2023– *Lives of Their Own*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2022– *Glow*, Lethbridge Gallery, Brisbane

2022– *Wanderlust*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2021– *Home*, Lethbridge Gallery, Brisbane

2020– *A Passion Shared*, The ELLIOTT EYES COLLECTION, Maitland Regional Gallery, NSW

2020– *Artists to Watch*, Lethbridge Gallery, Brisbane

2020– *Still*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2019– *Nude*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2019– *On The Fringe*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

2019– *Equus*, Frances Keevil Gallery, Sydney
 2018– *Undercurrents*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne
 2018– *Temporal*, Lethbridge Gallery, Brisbane
 2017– *Exploration 17*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne

RESIDENCIES

2024– Bundanon Artist in Residence Program
 2024– Gang Gang Residency Program
 2021– The Broken Hill Art Exchange
 2019– The New York Academy of Art, Summer Undergraduate Residency

SELECTED AWARDS

2026– Finalist, (Highly Commended) Callen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW
 2026– Finalist, Waverly Art Prize, Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery, NSW
 2025– Finalist, Brisbane Portrait Prize, State Library of Queensland, QLD
 2024– Finalist, John Leslie Prize for Australian Landscape Painting, Gippsland Regional Art Gallery, VIC
 2024– Finalist, Fisher’s Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney
 2024– Finalist, Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW
 2023– Finalist, Archibald Prize, The Art Gallery of NSW
 2023– Finalist, Sunshine Coast Art Prize, Caloundra Regional Gallery, QLD
 2023– Winner, Packers’ Prize at the Kennedy Art Prize, The Royal Art Society of South Australia, SA
 2022– Finalist, Darling Portrait Prize, The National Portrait Gallery, ACT
 2022– Finalist, Mosman Art Prize, Mosman Art Gallery, NSW
 2022– Finalist, Mudgee Portrait Prize, Mudgee Arts Precinct, NSW
 2021– Finalist, Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Gallery, NSW
 2021– Finalist, Clayton Utz Art Award, Clayton Utz, QLD
 2021– Finalist, Shirley Hannan Portrait Prize, Bega Valley Regional Gallery, NSW
 2020– Finalist, Percivals Portrait Prize, Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, QLD
 2020– Finalist, Global Art Awards, Shanghai, China
 2019– Highly Commended, Naked and Nude Art Prize, Manning Regional Gallery, NSW
 2019– Highly Commended, Melt Portrait Prize, Brisbane Powerhouse, QLD
 2019– Finalist, Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, Project Artspace, NSW
 2019– Finalist, 14th International ARC Salon, Art Renewal Center, New Jersey, United States.
 2019– Finalist, Fisher’s Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney, NSW
 2018– Winner, Young Artist Prize, the Royal Art Society of NSW
 2018– Winner, SBS Portrait Prize, Southern Buoy Studios, VIC
 2018– Winner, EBNA Portrait Prize and People’s Choice Award, YSC Consultancy (Accenture), NSW
 2018– Finalist, Kilgour Art Prize, Newcastle Art Gallery, NSW
 2018– Finalist, Hurford Hardwood Portrait Prize, Lismore Regional Gallery, NSW

2017– Finalist, Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, Juniper Hall, Sydney
 2017– Finalist, Lyn McCrea Memorial Drawing Prize, Noosa Regional Gallery, QLD
 2017– Highly Commended, Lethbridge 10000 Small Scale Art Award, Lethbridge Gallery, Brisbane
 2017– Finalist, Fisher’s Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney
 2016– Winner, Cliftons Sydney Art Prize and Cliftons People's Choice Award, Sydney
 2016– Finalist, Blacktown Art Prize, Blacktown Arts Centre, Sydney, NSW
 2016– Finalist, Black Swan Prize for Portraiture, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, WA
 2016– Finalist, Emerging Artist Award, Fortyfivedownstairs, Melbourne, VIC
 2016– Finalist, Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Gallery, Cowra, NSW
 2016– Winner, Cambridge Studio Gallery Portrait Prize, Melbourne, VIC

COLLECTIONS

Maitland Regional Art Gallery, NSW
 The Elliott Eyes Collection, Sydney
 Accenture (YSC) Collection, Sydney
 The Thomas Keneally Centre at the Sydney Mechanics’ School of Arts, Sydney
 St Patrick’s College, Strathfield, Sydney
 Champagnat Catholic College, Sydney
 Cliftons Art Prize Collection, Sydney
 The M2M Collection, Sydney

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

2025– Art Almanac, ‘Michael Simms: Body Talk’, Dr Joseph Brennan, June 2025.
 2024– About Face by Amber Creswell Bell, Thames & Hudson, September 2024.
 2024– ‘The Little Book of Art Essays’, Flinders Lane Gallery, February 2024.
 2022– The Adelaide Advertiser, ‘Fielding an Electric Talent’, June 2022.
 2022– The Manning River Times, ‘Acclaimed Portrait Artist Speaks at Opening of New Exhibition’,
 September 2022.
 2018– The Music, Boon, Maxim, ‘Top Talent in 2018’, January 2018.
 2018– Beautiful Bizarre Magazine, Gregson, Caitlyn, ‘Interfacing’, 4 September 2018.
 2017– ‘Talking With Painters’ Podcast, Episode #23, Stoljar, Maria, 25 May 2017.
 2017– The Guardian Australia, Harmon, Steph, ‘Doug Moran portrait prize 2017 finalists: from Isla Fisher to
 Ahn Do’, 11 October 2017.
 2017– The Daily Review, ‘Doug Moran Portrait Prize Finalists 2017’, 11 October 2017.
 2017– The Contemporary Art Awards, Ong, Annette, ‘On The Periphery’, March 2017.
 2017– Artospective, Sing, Manav, ‘Paintings by Michael Simms from Australia’, 21 August 2017.
 2016– The North Shore Times, ‘Drawing On Inspirations’, 20 April 2016.
 2016– Western Sydney Local Health District News, ‘Sydney Artist Paints Westmead Doctors In New Light’,
 19 January 2016.
 2016– Parramatta Advertiser, Morris, Cathy, ‘Portraits a Window into Surgeon Role’, 27 January 2016.