

## Monica Rohan

Floating transcendence and anchored realism share equal magnitude in Monica Rohan's paintings. Inspired by a rural-idyll of a childhood in South East Queensland and the internal longing of the 19<sup>th</sup> century novel, Rohan reflects on the genre of autobiography through a mysterious form of self portraiture. Allowing her imagination free rein, Rohan represents the figure in a variety of emotional roles and physical states. Using space as a striking pictorial device, her female subject is positioned in adventurous settings, endlessly floating or falling, climbing or reclining, hunting or hiding.

Rohan's sensitivity to her surroundings is evident in the carefully composed works, which reveal a love of pattern, light and colour. The paint retains a lucid quality and the decorative potential of textiles and luxuriant foliage act as ready symbols for the day lit world. Nevertheless there is an intrigue within her images, which first present as innocent and whimsical: on closer engagement, isolation and human frailty seem to shadow the pensive languor of the protagonist.

A 2011 Honours Graduate from Queensland College of Art, Rohan's work has already attracted considerable interest. In 2016, Rohan was successful with her first attempt at entering the Archibald Prize, becoming a finalist with her portrait of fashion label duo, Easton Pearson. She has also been a recent finalist in The Gold Award, Redland Art Award and the Churchie National Emerging Art Prize. Rohan was selected for the significant survey show, Goma Q, which showcased Queensland artists at QAGOMA in 2015. Her work is held in a number of private and public collections, including Artbank, University of Queensland Art Museum, QAGOMA, Tweed River Regional Gallery and the Griffith University Art Museum.

BIOGRAPHY	1990	Born in BEAUDESERT, QLD
EDUCATION	2011	Bachelor of Fine Art with Honours (1 <sup>st</sup> Class), Queensland College of the Arts, Griffith University, BRISBANE
SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS	2017	<i>Look down at the ground</i> , Jan Murphy Gallery, BRISBANE
	2016	<i>Funny Peculiar</i> , Sophie Gannon Gallery, MELBOURNE
	2015	<i>Topsy-turvy</i> , Jan Murphy Gallery, BRISBANE <i>In the detail</i> , Tweed River Regional Art Gallery, NSW
	2014	<i>Predicament</i> Jan Murphy Gallery, BRISBANE
	2012	<i>Inside Out</i> , Spiro Grace Art Rooms, BRISBANE
	2011	<i>Get a Grip</i> , Diagram ARI, Ryan Renshaw Window Space, BRISBANE
GROUP EXHIBITIONS	2018	<i>A painter's house</i> , Tweed Regional Gallery, NSW <i>Glover Prize</i> , Falls Park Pavilion, TAS
	2017	<i>Imagine</i> , Gippsland Art Gallery, VIC <i>Go Figure: Works from the collection</i> , Tweed Regional Gallery, NSW <i>Sulman Prize</i> , Art Gallery of New South Wales, SYDNEY <i>Elaine Birmingham National Watercolour Prize</i> , Webb Gallery, BRISBANE <i>Dog Days</i> , Jan Murphy Gallery, BRISBANE
	2016	Jan Murphy Gallery, SPRING 1883, MELBOURNE <i>The Gold Award</i> , Rockhampton Art Gallery, QLD <i>Archibald Prize</i> , Art Gallery of New South Wales, SYDNEY <i>Redland Art Awards</i> , Redland Art Gallery, BRISBANE
	2015	<i>GoMA Q: Contemporary Queensland Art</i> , (QAGOMA), BRISBANE
	2014	Jan Murphy Gallery, BRISBANE Sophie Gannon Gallery, MELBOURNE ART FAIR, MELBOURNE <i>Redland Art Prize</i> , Redland Art Gallery, QLD <i>Moreton Bay Art Prize</i> , Strathpine Community Centre, QLD <i>15 Artists</i> , Redcliffe City Art Gallery, QLD
	2013	<i>Figuration</i> , Jan Murphy Gallery, BRISBANE <i>Field</i> curated by Lisa Bryan-Brown, The Hold, BRISBANE
	2012	<i>Rift</i> , White Canvas Gallery, BRISBANE <i>Churchie National Emerging Art Exhibition</i> , Griffith University Art Gallery, BRISBANE <i>rgbcmyk</i> , Bleeding Heart Gallery, BRISBANE <i>James Kiwi Watercolour Prize</i> , Woolongong City Gallery, VIC <i>Addition 1</i> , Addition Gallery, BRISBANE
	2012/2011	<i>GAS Graduate Art Show</i> , Griffith University Art Gallery, BRISBANE

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (CONTD)	2011	<i>With Bated Breath: Queensland College of Art Honours Graduate Exhibition</i> , Griffith University Art Gallery, BRISBANE <i>On Short Notice</i> , White Box, BRISBANE <i>Pinkification</i> , The Tidy Gallery, BRISBANE <i>Rotary Art Spectacular</i> , Riverside Centre, BRISBANE <i>Honours Work in Progress</i> , Project Gallery, BRISBANE <i>Colour and Form</i> , SGAR, BRISBANE	
	2010	<i>Wake up with Your Head</i> , Queensland College of Art Graduate Exhibition, BRISBANE	
	2008	<i>Minister of Education Awards for Excellence in Art</i> , GoMA, BRISBANE	
	AWARDS & RESIDENCIES	2018	Finalist, Glover Prize, Falls Park Pavilion, TAS
		2017	Finalist, Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, SYDNEY Finalist, Elaine Birmingham National Watercolour Prize, Webb Gallery, BRISBANE Visiting Artist Residency, Somerville House, BRISBANE
			2016
2014		Nancy Fairfax Artist in Residence Studio, Tweed Regional Gallery, QLD Finalist, <i>Redland Art Prize</i> , Redland Art Gallery, QLD	
		2012	Finalist, <i>Moreton Bay Art Prize</i> , Moreton Bay Regional Council, QLD Finalist, <i>Churchie National Emerging Art Exhibition</i> , Griffith University Art Gallery, BRISBANE Finalist, <i>James Kiwi Watercolour Prize</i> , Woolongong City Gallery, VIC
PUBLICATIONS		2018	Jane O'Sullivan, #14 <i>Monica Rohan</i> , Art Collector, January–March
		2017	Fiona Purdon, <i>Living the Dream</i> , The Sunday Mail, 23 July John Honeywill, 2017 <i>Visiting Artist: Monica Rohan</i> , Connections, Somerville House, May
			2016
	2015	Lucy Stranger, <i>Monica Rohan</i> , Artist Profile, issue 33, November Phil Brown, <i>Pride of place</i> , Brisbane News, 19 August Alison Walsh, <i>Hot Seat</i> , Q Weekend Magazine, 1 August Phil Brown, <i>Art of the State</i> , Courier Mail, 15 July	

PUBLICATIONS (CONTD)

- 2015 Jane O'Sullivan, *Rising artist Monica Rohan scores pre-opening sell-out in Brisbane*, Australian Financial Review, 20 May  
 Phil Brown, *Material girl: Art world's next big thing brings fabric to life*, Brisbane News, 27 May
- 2014 Louise Martin-Chew, *Monica Rohan*, Art Guide, 20 May  
 Phil Brown, *Anguish in the line of beauty*, Courier Mail, 17 May
- 2013 Lisa Bryan-Brown, exhibition catalogue for *Field*
- 2012 *Churchie National Emerging Art Exhibition*, exhibition catalogue  
*Addition 1*, exhibition catalogue  
*eFEMeral Zine*, issue 1
- 2010 *Graduate Art Show*, exhibition catalogue  
*Wake Up With Your Head*, exhibition catalogue  
*There is no There There*, exhibition catalogue

COLLECTIONS

Artbank  
 Griffith University Art Collection, BRISBANE  
 Mater Children's Hospital, BRISBANE  
 Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), BRISBANE  
 Redland Art Gallery Collection, QLD  
 Somerville House, BRISBANE  
 Tweed River Regional Gallery, NSW  
 University of Queensland Art Museum, BRISBANE