

VICTOR MEERTENS

Born Seymour, Victoria August 23, 1955

Was born in Australia to Dutch Nationals, so holds both Australian & Dutch passports.

EDUCATION

1961-1976 Sisters of Mercy, Christian Brothers & Silesian Fathers.

1977-1979 RMIT Painting (Jan Senbergs/Geoff Lowe/Les Kossatz/Paul Zika)

1984 VCA (John Walker)

EXHIBITION & KEY ACTIONS

1983 The Coloured Fields. First Solo Show. United Artists Gallery, St.Kilda.

(Anna Schwartz/Luba Bilu)

1984

Ecclesiastical City. Rhumbarallas, Fitzroy, Melbourne. Solo.

1985

Richmond Labyrinth. 70 Arden Street, North Melbourne. Solo.

1986

Mary Magdalene, My Sweet. 70 Arden Street, North Melbourne. Solo.

1987

Third Australian Sculpture Triennial. Gertrude Street Gallery, Fitzroy, Melbourne.

Permanent Collection. Monash University, Melbourne

The Angels of Mons. City Gallery, Melbourne. Solo. (Anna Schwartz/Luba Bilu)

1988

The New Generation. Philip Morris Collection. ANG, Canberra.

The Sydney (Australian) Biennale. Pier 2/3 Sydney & The NGV, Melbourne.

Advance Australian Painting. Auckland City Gallery & NZ Tour.

Short-listed for the Venice Biennale (Aperto)

1989

The Katyn Sculptures. Chameleon Artists Space, Hobart, Tasmania. Solo

ICI Contemporary art collection touring exhibition. ACCA & regional galleries.

1990

Inner City Sculpture. City Gallery, Melbourne. Solo. (Anna Schwartz)

Adelaide Festival (main program)

Fourth Australian Sculpture Triennial. NGV

Short-listed for Venice Biennale (again)

1992

Collaborations. Ian Potter Gallery, University of Melbourne. Curated by Merryn Gates. Duo with Eugene Carchesio.

From the Museum of Silence. Peter Bellas Gallery, Brisbane. Duo show with Eugene Carchesio.

From The Museum of Silence. Deakin Uni., Geelong. Duo with E. Carchesio

1993

Rhythms of Construction. 4 pieces cast in Bronze for ASER, Adelaide. Riverside Building, North Terrace.

Confrontations. Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney. (Nick Waterlow)

Above the Water, Below the Sky. Self-curated Group show for the Benalla Art Gallery

Selected for Australia Council Fellowship Kuenstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin (1 year)

First release of The Charles Ives Singers: Those Naughty Rays (Victor/Alexis Ensor/David Palliser & Eugene Carchesio)

1994

Sweet Dome. Ausstellungsraum Thomas Taubert, Dusseldorf. Solo show with duet opening performance from Werner Durand & Victor Meertens. Music/text with ceremonial mouse introduction & house-warming. Mice placed in scale bread building for 6 week duration of exhibition.

Edition Block, Berlin. The Last Fluxus show at 11 Schaperstrasse, Berlin.

Performance: Without Bread Everyone is an Orphan. Kuenstlerhaus Bethanien festival of Performing Arts: Von Kurzer Dauer. Solo for voice, improvised text, baking Implements/ingredients with freshly baked bread.

1995

As Good As Bread. Residency exhibition, Australia Council Fellowship. Kuenstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin

Bread & Brandy. Duo with Dan Mihaltianu. Kuenstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin.

1996

4 performances of Lingua Franca, (Chris Halliwell & Victor Meertens) Performance

Space, Sydney & live to air Radio 2SER FM, Sydney. Audio Daze (Feb.97)

L'arte Bianco, The Progressive Dinner. Dowling Centre/Performance Space, Sydney.

White Flour Over Romania. (27 minute table) Academia De Arta, University of Bucharest.

The Charles Ives Singers at The Museum of Silence. (Eugene Carchesio/Victor) Café De Lane, Sydney

The Charles Ives Singer: Rye Baguette Music, Café De Lane, Sydney

1997

Users' Guide To The Vanishing. Peter Bellas Gallery, Brisbane. Solo.

Internationales Kuenstforum, Drenth, Germany. Groupshow featuring 3 performances of Hornbread, a collaboration with Werner Durand (Berlin)

Hornbread (again) at Schloss Wiepersdorf

1998

Stazione Topolo, Friuli, Italy. Breadworks & duo/trio performance with W.Durand & Amelia Cuni. Hornbread, part 2

1999

EBW (Experimental Budgerigar Workshop). Tylee Cottage/Sarjeant Gallery Residency Exhibition. Solo. Opening performance featured readings by Gregory O'Brien & Jenny Bornholdt. Ceremonial budgerigar music welcomed the birds to Their new temporary home.

2000

Performance Attic Music, Stazione Topolo, Italy

2001

Vogelrplatz. Exhibition from 1 year residency, Kuenstlerhauser Worpswede, Germany

Transferatu/Transcafe. Curated by Dan Mihaltianu. Galerie Noua, Bucharest

Beebread Werner Durand/Victor Meertens. Bergen, Norway Kuenstakademie

2003-2004

Birds of Passage Gallery Onetwentyeight Groupshow 128 Remington St NYC

Performance Hannover Kuenstverein with Werner Durand....Redbread.

6 Solo Shows at Factory 5, Brooklyn, West Melbourne

2006

Baked Beetroot drawings. Blindside Gallery, Melbourne City

Cut My Wood. Solo at Kuenstlerhauser Worpswede, Germany.

Performance at Australian Night, Ballhaus Kreuzberg, Berlin with Werner Durand

2007

First incarnation of Breadman in Performance at Toff on the Town, Melbourne .

You Don't Have To Call It Music, curated by Marco Fusinato

2008

Backstop Gallery, Erzeugmarkt, Brunnenstrasse, Berlin. November 4

All Frontiers 20th. Anniversary festival edition. Gradisca d'Isonzo, Italy.

Saturday 16th. of November. Contemporary music festival, Trio with Werner Durand & guest appearance of Breadman.

Galerie O, Milan. Werner Durand/Victor/Breadman

Hornbread Performance Trio with Werner Durand/Victor/Breadman. Dahlem Museum, Berlin. 1 Nov.

First Breadman Videos appear

2009

NGV Theaterette, 22 March . The Charles Ives Singers. Visual Artists in Sound, curated by John Nixon

A Tribute to Terry Fox. An evening dedicated to Terry Fox (1943-2008) With Akio Suzuki, Arnold Dreylatt, David Moss, Rolf Julius, Hans Peter Kuhn/Juko Wada a.o. Hamburger Bahnhof Aktionsraum, Berlin. 17 January.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Giant sculptures hide upstairs at Rhumbarallas" Melb. Times, 13 Feb 85, Janine Green.

"Paintings, only in the sense.." The Melbourne Herald, 11 July 85. Ronald Miller.

"Romance of Richmond". The Melbourne Herald, 16 July 85 Gary Catalano

"Young handle transition well". Melbourne Age, 17 July 85. Gary Catalano

"Lessons in the Solo Show". Melbourne Age. Dec. 85. Gary Catalano

"A Tale of two Victors". Melbourne Age 7 May 86. Gary Catalano

Exhibition Commentary, Art & Australia. Autumn 86

Exhibition Commentary, Art & Australia Summer 86

"Angel of a Human Environment". Melbourne Age, 11 March 87. Gary Catalano

Catalogue: Painters & Sculptors, Diversity in Contemporary Australian Art. Queensland Art Gallery & Saitama, Japan. June 87

"Museum is ready for action". Brisbane Courier Mail. 20 June 87

M.O.C.A. Exhibition catalogue. July 87. James Baker

"Kingsize show for Brisbane & Japan. Brisbane Courier Mail. July 87

Third Australian Sculpture Triennial. Exhibition catalogue. Sept 87

Australian Biennale, From The Southern Cross. Melbourne & Sydney Exhibition catalogue (Sydney Biennale) Pier 2/3, Sydney & NGV. May 88

Australian Biennale colour supplement, Sydney Morning Herald 17 may 88. John McDonald

"Gravity amid the offal". Sydney Morning Herald. 28 May 88

Advance Australian Painting. Exhibition catalogue. Auckland City Art Gallery. June 88

A Bicentennial Look at Australian Sculpture. Art & Australia, Summer 88

"Inner City Sculpture". City Gallery, Melbourne. Exhibition Supplement. Sept 90

Domino/Collaborations. Ian Potter Gallery, University of Melbourne exhibition catalogue 92

From the Museum of Silence. Deakin Uni., Geelong exhibition catalogue & music cassette. Eugene Carchesio/Victor Meertens 92

Confrontations. Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney. Exhibition catalogue 92

Above the Water, Below the Sky. Exhibition catalogue. Benalla Fine Art Gallery. Group show curated by Victor Meertens 92

“Stein Zu Brot”. Westdeutsche Zeitung Samstag 17 Dec 94
“Brotlose Kunst” Kunst in Berlin, Jetzt. Die Tageszeitung 6/7 May 95
“Victor Meertens, Schmeckt Gut”. Zitty Magazin, Berlin #10, 11-23 May 95
“Intimacy, Delicate Putrification...On the Work of Victor Meertens”. BE Magazine, Kuenstlerhaus Bethanien Pp.123-129. Edition entitled Boredom, 95
As Good As Bread. Exhibition catalogue. Kuenstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, May 95
“Klarinettenbrot Duftete Koestlich”. Kyritzer Tageblatt. 16 May 97
‘Atelier in Drewen/Kunst Aus Teer Auf Der Tenne. Berliner Morgenpost. 23 May 97
Stazione Topolo. Catalogue, July 98
Victor Meertens:EBW artist’s project. Pamphlet, Serjeant Gallery, Wanganui, Oct 99
Stazione Topolo. Catalogue, July 2000
Transcafe, CD-Rom, Dan Mihaltianu, Galerie Noua, Bucharest Oct 01
Beebread performance. Kulturserver magazine Online, Hannover Kunstverein 16/01/02
Vogelerplatz catalogue. Document of Victor Meertens’ residency at Kuenstlerhaeuser Worpswede in 01/02. Published 03.
Victor Meertens, The Art of Living Dangerously. Artlink Magazine Volume 20 #4
Frontiers Festival online Moremusic website

ARTIST’S EDITIONS

Multiple x 20, Sweet Parting for Rene Block. Edition Block, Berlin, 1994
Rilkeschweiss, 10 bottles, signed, numbered 2001
Kinderheim der Roten Hilfe/Kvas 2 signed bottles 2001
Cassette Vogeleplatz, 25 numbered, signed 2001
Catalogue As Good as Bread. 500 numbered, Kuenstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin
7 inch single transparent vinyl record. The Charles Ives Singers. 50 numbered, signed 2002
7 inch single transparent vinyl records. Charles Ives Singer, Old Songs Deranged volumes 2-7, 20 of each. 2002
8 inch single transparent vinyl records. Vogelerplatz 1 & 2, both x 20 numbered, signed 2002
7 inch single transparent vinyl record. An Early Lunch. x 20, numbered, signed, 2002
7 inch single transparent vinyl record. Malevich’s Lost Sweater, x 20, numbered, signed 2002
Cassette edition, The Charles Ives Singers. Yarraville 002. Those Naughty Rays. x 50.
Reissue of the cassette as a cd. The Charles Ives Singers, x 50. 2009
DVD, The Charles Ives Singers, Speech for Australians plus Breadman for Terry Fox x 50. 2009

COLLECTIONS

ANG

QAG

NGV

Art Gallery of NSW

Uni of Melbourne

Monash University

Geelong Regional Art Gallery

Ballaarat Fine Art Gallery

Hewlett Packard, Melbourne

Myer

Sallman Real Estate

Auckland City Art Gallery

Queensland Art Gallery & Museum of Modern Art

Valentine Sands

ICI

Edition Block Berlin

Private collections Australia, Germany, USA & NZ.