In Fond Memory: The Barbara Tucker Gift

22 August 2015 to 6 March 2016 Albert and Barbara Tucker Gallery Curator: Kendrah Morgan





Albert Tucker Barbara Tucker in the Banana Shed, Springbrook, Queensland 1970 gelatin silver photograph 30.5 x 40.7 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2001

On 16 May 2015 Heide Museum of Modern Art sadly lost one of its most treasured friends and supporters. Barbara Tucker had a long association with Heide, initially as a personal acquaintance of John and Sunday Reed with her late husband, artist Albert Tucker, then during the evolution of the museum as Heide Fellow (2000), Life Benefactor (2004) and Co-Patron (2005).

Prior to Albert's death in 1999, the Tuckers offered Heide a major donation of artworks, to be transferred progressively over a number of years. To their minds it was a fitting acknowledgement of the role the Reeds had played both in Albert's nascent career, and in supporting and encouraging a number of artists in Melbourne in the late 1930s and 1940s. Heide was a place where a life in art was made possible, thus Albert and Barbara envisaged their donation to the museum as the completion of a circle. The Tucker Gift is a collection of national significance. As well as over two hundred paintings representing the breadth of Albert Tucker's oeuvre, including his foremost themes and some of his finest achievements, it includes significant paintings and drawings from his and Barbara's holdings by Joy Hester, Sidney Nolan, Arthur Boyd and Danila Vassilieff. In recent years Barbara's vision has seen this collection complemented by her donation of Tucker's personal library of art books and a rich archive of material that sits alongside his extensive art practice—sketchbooks, writings, catalogues, correspondence, photographs, and press clippings—in all an invaluable resource.

This exhibition, selected from works already donated and those on long-term loan, commemorates Barbara's extraordinary contribution to Heide over many years and celebrates her continuing presence in the life of the museum.

List of works

This catalogue is arranged alphabetically by artist then chronologically. Measurements are height before width before depth.

Yosl Bergner born 1920 Vienna; arrived 1937 Australia; Israel from 1950; died 2017 Tel Aviv



(Man and woman) 1942 oil on composition board 59.5 x 43.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation

Arthur Boyd

born 1920 Melbourne; died 1999 Melbourne



(Barbara at Hurstbridge) 1968 oil on board 90 x 90 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Courtesy of the Albert Tucker Estate



Portrait of Albert Tucker 1968-1969 etching plate 61 x 43 cm; sheet 79.5 x 57 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Barbara Tucker 2015

Joy Hester born 1920 Melbourne; died 1960 Melbourne



(Man) c.1944 brush and ink and watercolur on paper 31.5 x 20 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



(Man with square eyes) c.1944 brush and ink on paper 21 x 30.4 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



(Nude man in a chair) c.1944 brush and ink and pen and ink on paper 20.8 x 26.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



(Woman with skull-like head) c.1944 brush and ink and pencil on paper 25.9 x 20 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



(Woman in interior) c.1944 brush and ink on paper 30.4 x 21 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Stunned Man c.1945 brush and ink and watercolour and pencil on paper 29.4 x 26 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2014



(Three figures in a chair) c.1945 pen and ink and watercolour on paper 26.4 x 20.8 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



(Two women in a room) c.1942 oil on composition board 38.5 x 46.4 cm Gift of the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation 2019



Woman with Square Eyes c.1945 brush and ink on paper 31.5 x 20 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation

Sidney Nolan born 1917 Melbourne; died 1992 London, United Kingdom



Wheat Train Wimmera c.1942 enamel on composition board 61 x 91.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Barbara Tucker 2015

Albert Tucker born 1914 Melbourne; died 1999 Melbourne



(Self Portrait) c.1939 oil on canvas 34 x 22.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Albert Tucker Archive Gift of Barbara Tucker 2011



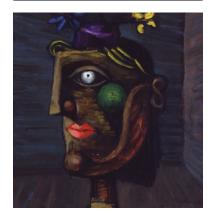
Malvern Street 1938 oil on paperboard 50.5 x 45.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2009



Luna Park 1945 oil on composition board 53 x 81 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2005



Image of Modern Evil 31 1947 oil on composition board 50.5 x 37.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2005



Girl 1949 oil on plywood 46.1 x 45.6 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Lover and Dog 1949 oil on canvas on composition board 73.2 x 61 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



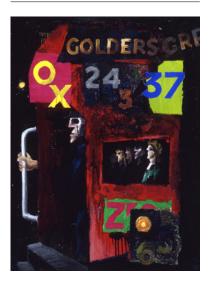
Bus Stop 1954 oil on composition board 62 x 81 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of the Albert and Barbara Tucker Foundation 2017



Encounter 1955 oil on composition board 94.4 x 129 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



King Kelly and His Legions 1957 oil, PVA, foil collage and cardboard on composition board 96.2 x 130 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2009



London Bus 1957 oil on composition board 122 x 92 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Explorer III 1958 synthetic polymer paint and PVA on composition board 203 x 81.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2005



Explorer and Parrot 1963 oil on composition board 89 x 120.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Barbara Tucker in the Banana Shed, Springbrook, Queensland c.1970 gelatin silver photograph 30.5 x 40.7 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2001



Night Image 1973 oil on composition board 56 x 71 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2014

Unkown



Mask Sepik River, Papua New Guinea collected 1969 c.1945–60 wood and natural pigments, with cane hanging apparatus 39 x 32.3 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation

Unkown



Mask Sepik River, Papua New Guinea collected 1969 c.1945–60 wood, natural pigments and cowrie shells 56.5 x 30.3 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation

Unkown



Spirit figure Sepik River, Papua New Guinea collected 1969 c.1970s-80s wood and natural pigments 131 x 33.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation

Danila Vassilieff

born 1897 Kagalnitskaya, Russian Empire; arrived 1923 Australia; lived 1929–34 South America, West Indies, United Kingdom; returned 1935 Australia; died 1958 Melbourne.



Fitzroy Girls 1937 oil on canvas on composition board 56 x 47.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2014



Ambrose, Helen, Bert and Joy 1941 oil, charcoal and pencil on canvas on composition board 55.5 x 60.2 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation