Albert Tucker: Mobile Home

21 September 2019 to 23 February 2020 Albert & Barbara Tucker Gallery Curator: Brooke Babington





Installation view

Albert Tucker: Mobile Home

Photograph: Christian Capurro

In 1952, Albert Tucker famously designed and constructed a fully functional caravan from his room in the Hotel de Verneuil on Paris' Left Bank. Much to the intrigue and amusement of the hotel proprietor, Monsieur Dumont, and the local police, Tucker built the caravan components from masonite by hand before lowering each piece from the hotel window into the street below, where he assembled the whole. He attached the caravan to a trailer base he had bought from the side of the road for the price of 1,000 francs, plus an American radio.

Tucker lived in the caravan with his partner Mary Dickson on the banks of the Seine for several months before the pair departed Paris for the south of France and Italy with the caravan in tow. Over the course of the next four years the subject matter of Tucker's paintings shifted dramatically, inspired both by the cultural histories he encountered and by memories of home. In place of themes of the city and its harsh realities that had preoccupied him since the war, the trip brought with it the opportunity to consider Australia from a different vantage point and was the catalyst for a new and fruitful period of engagement with Australian myth-making.

Taking the metaphor of the caravan as a mobile home as its starting place, this exhibition explores how Tucker internalised themes from Australia and carried them with him through his travels. Existing beyond the physical bounds of place, here the concept of 'home' stretches to encompass the interior domains of psychology and imagination, memory and projection.

List of works

This catalogue is arranged alphabetically by artist then chronologically. Measurements are height before width before depth. Works on paper are sheet size.

Bob Jenyns

born 1944, Melbourne, Victoria. Lived and worked Daylesford, Victoria and Hobart, Tasmaina. Died 2015, Hobart



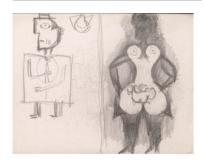
Pont de l'Archevêché 2007 aluminium, steel and timber 170 x 90 x 340 cm (installation dimensions variable) Gift of Parks Victoria 2019

Albert Tucker

born 1914, Melbourne, Victoria. Lived and worked Melbourne. Died 1999



Camping in the Morris Minor, the Dolomites, Italy, with Mary Dickson c.1951 gelatin silver photograph 40.2 x 30.4 cm Gift of Barbara Tucker 2001



Untitled (Man and Woman with Infant) c.1951 pencil on paper 21 x 27 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Mary Dickson in the Caravan c.1952 exhibition print from original gelatin silver photograph 29 x 40.5 cm Albert Tucker Archive Heide Museum of Modern Art



Untitled (Woman) 1950 watercolour and gouache on paper 48 x 31 cm Private collection, courtesy of Sotheby's Australia



Antipodean Head 1951 oil, pastel and gouache on composition board 23.5 x 17 cm Private collection, courtesy of Sotheby's Australia



Sitting Girl 1951 oil on plywood 61 x 46 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Study for the Old Eve 1951 ink and watercolour on paper 26 x 19 cm Collection of Adam Haddow



Woman 1951
oil on plywood
60 x 44 cm
Heide Museum of Modern Art
On long-term loan from the Albert &
Barbara Tucker Foundation



Woman and Beast 1951 oil on board 50.9 x 45.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2014



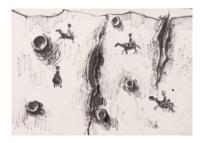
Woman and Bird 1951 oil on composition board 50.8 x 45.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Untitled (Antipodean Head I) c.1956 monoprint and oil on paper 32 x 22 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Untitled (Armoured Bushranger) c.1956 fibre-tipped pen on paper 22 x 16.2 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Untitled (Cratered Landscape with Bushrangers) c.1956 fibre-tipped pen on paper 22.2 x 32.1 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Untitled (Mounted Bushranger) c.1956 fibre-tipped pen on paper 32 x 22.7 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Untitled (Shooting at Stringybark Creek 2) c.1956 oil on paper 22.5 x 32.3 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Untitled (Surrendering Bushranger) c.1956 monoprint and oil on paper 32.2 x 22 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Mary Dickson at Galerie Huit 1952 gelatin silver photograph 30.5 x 40.3 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2001



Street Accident 1952 coloured pencil on paper 15.5 x 20 cm Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Camping in the Piazza del Popolo, Rome, Italy 1953 gelatin silver photograph 40.4 x 30.5 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of Barbara Tucker 2001



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



Duel 1954
oil on composition board
81 x 62 cm
Heide Museum of Modern Art
On long-term loan from the Albert &
Barbara Tucker Foundation



Killing 1954
oil on composition board
81 x 62 cm
Heide Museum of Modern Art
On long-term loan from the Albert &
Barbara Tucker Foundation



Street Accident 1954
oil on composition board
35 x 45.5 cm
Heide Museum of Modern Art
On long-term loan from the Albert &
Barbara Tucker Foundation



Wounded Figures 1954
oil on composition board
81 x 62.4 cm
Heide Museum of Modern Art
On long-term loan from the Albert &
Barbara Tucker Foundation



Armoured Figure 1955 oil on composition board 80.5 x 63 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



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



Enduring Figures 1956
oil on composition board
94.3 x 129 cm
Heide Museum of Modern Art
On long-term loan from the Albert &
Barbara Tucker Foundation



Head 1956
oil on composition board
66 x 48 cm
Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Metamorphosis of Ned Kelly 1956 synthetic polymer paint on composition board 96 x 129 cm Private collection, courtesy of Lauraine Diggins Fine Art, Melbourne



Explorer 1957
synthetic polymer paint and collage on composition board
48 x 68.5 cm
Heide Museum of Modern Art
On long-term loan from the Albert &
Barbara Tucker Foundation



Tattooed Head 1957 oil on composition board 62.1 x 80.9 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art On long-term loan from the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation



Cratered Head 1958–60 synthetic polymer paint on composition board 122 x 101 cm Heide Museum of Modern Art Gift of the Albert & Barbara Tucker Foundation 2019

Unknown



Albert Tucker Loading the Caravan c.1952 exhibition print from original gelatin silver photograph 34 x 40.8 cm Albert Tucker Archive Heide Museum of Modern Art



Albert Tucker and Sidney Nolan in Cerveteri, Italy 1956 exhibition print from original gelatin silver photograph 34 x 40 cm Albert Tucker Archive Heide Museum of Modern Art