

Basil Sellers Art Prize 2010

Noel McKenna

Noel McKenna works in a variety of media, including painting, ceramics, sculpture and printmaking. In his recent work, McKenna honours the Australian cricket team by listing the test records, bowling and batting averages of each player. Similarly, his etching *Baggy green* (2009) is a chronological record of Australian test cricketers who have been awarded the sacred cap in recognition of representing their country.

Noel McKenna was born in Brisbane in 1956 and lives and works in Sydney. He has been exhibiting since the early 1980s and has held numerous solo exhibitions in Australia and New Zealand. Recent group exhibitions include *Minding animals*, John Paynter Gallery, Newcastle (2009); *Avoiding myth & message: Australian artists and the literary world*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (2009); *Who let the dogs out—the dog in contemporary Australian art*, Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery and Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre, NSW (2008); *Snap freeze: still life now*, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Healesville, Vic. (2007); and *De Overkant/Down under*, the Hague Sculpture, the Hague, the Netherlands (2007). Solo exhibitions include *Noel McKenna*, Michael Reid at Murrurundi, NSW (2010); *Northland*, Mother's Tankstation, Dublin (2008); and *The weekly bus-rail ticket: the return journey*, National Art School Gallery, Sydney (2008). McKenna has received numerous awards and is included in public and private collections across Australia including the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; and the Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane.

Noel McKenna is represented by Niagara Galleries, Melbourne; Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney; Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide; and Heiser Gallery, Brisbane.

Further reading:

- Barkley, Glenn, 'Noel McKenna ceramics 1993–2005', *Object Magazine*, no. 46, 2005.
- Harding, Lesley, *The visibility of practice*, National Art School, Darlinghurst, NSW, 2004.
- Lee-Shoy, Tiffany, *Re/brand? Six artists explore the possibilities of life in the Illawarra: Laurens Tan, Aaron Seeto, Hilary Rhodes, Noel McKenna, Laurence Aberhart, Debra Petrovitch with Machine Vision Software*, Wollongong City Gallery, NSW, 2000.
- Ryan, Anne, 'The value of things', *Art & Australia*, vol. 42, no. 1, 2004.
- Simpson, Peter, 'Parihaka: a very real symbol', *Art New Zealand*, no. 97, 2000–01.