

21 December 1934 – 3 March 2020

Ernst Fries MFA

1934	Born in Wurzburg, Germany	1977	Delegated by the Association of Sculptors of Victoria to attend Forum Art in Architecture , Adelaide Festival Centre Trust.
1948-52	Apprenticeship in preparation to study as a Supply Engineer. Part time training as youth leader. Scripted and directed a short film About a recreational youth camp.	1977-78	Hon. Secretary for the Association of Sculptors of Victoria.
1953-56	Lived in Switzerland, attending Various courses at Kunstgewerbe Schule, Zurich, including Art History, Gold & Silver Smithing.	1978	Hon. President, Association of Sculptors of Victoria. Lead delegation of Sculptors to The Hon. Mr R. Hamer, Premier of Victoria & Minister for the Arts, to ask for a Public Arts Policy (% of building cost for public art).
1955-58	Studied to be Supply Engineer in Karlsruhe, Germany. Studied Printmaking	1979	Lead delegation of Sculptors to Hon Norman Lacy, Minister for the Arts, Victoria to ask for inclusion of practising artists in decision-making involving the visual arts.
1958-59	Worked as a Supply Engineer in Schaffhausen, Switzerland. Married Rosmarie Kaspar in Zurich Switzerland.		Appointed by the Hon R.J. Elicott, Federal Minister for Home Affairs to represent Australia at the 9th International Association of Art-UNESCO General Assembly and World Congress in Stuttgart, Germany.
July 1959	Arrived in Australia as a migrant and lived in Bonegilla.		Invited to attend National Symposium on Moral Rights for Visual Artists , convened by the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council at Sydney Opera House.
1960-64	Worked as a designer with Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of works. Part-time study at RMIT (Gold and Silversmithing). Designed and built first house and studio.	1980	Wrote to the Hon. John Howard Federal Treasurer, asking for inclusion of Public Art in his tax deduction scheme. Wrote essay " Public Art and Australia ", published in Australian Architecture & Design October 1980, Vol 1, No 1.
1965	Started full time as a freelance artist.		
1967	Became an Australian Citizen.		
1968-74	Teaching part-time at RMIT (Gold and Silversmithing)		
1973	Assistant curator for the exhibition of Aboriginal Art, Exhibition Building, Melbourne, as part of the Eucharistic Congress in Melbourne.		
1977	Member of Curriculum Review Committee , Gold & Silversmithing. Artist Development Grant, Visual Arts board of the Australia Council.	1982-84	Hon. President, Association of Sculptors of Victoria.

1983	Requested by the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council to establish the Australian National Committee for the International Association of Art , an NGO of UNESCO. Public lecture " The Ills and Sufferings of 3D Art " Fringe Art Festival, Hawthorn City Art Gallery. Requested by International Association Of Art-UNESCO to research " How Artists Live in Australia " published By the International Association of Art-UNESCO in "art 1985" VolXXX, Maison de UNESCO, Paris. Lead delegation of sculptors to the Hon, Race Matthews, MLA, Minister of the Arts, Victoria, to discuss the need to implement a Public Art policy.	1990-92	Hon President of Association of Sculptors of Victoria.
		1991	Organised and Curated exhibition of contemporary sculpture in Burnley Gardens to celebrate the Centenary of the Horticultural College and Gardens.
		1991-93	Member of Arts Victoria sub-Committee Ethics-Art & Public Space Program.
		1992-98	Elected Hon President of ANC - IAA-UNESCO.
		1994	Australian delegate to the 2nd Asia Pacific Regional Conference of IAA-UNESCO in Fukuoka, Japan. Elected to the executive of IAA's Asia-Pacific Region.
1983-88	Elected 1 st Hon. President of the Australian National Committee of The International Association of Art-UNESCO (ANC-IAA-UNESCO)	1995	Australian Chief Delegate to 13 th IAA-UNESCO General Assembly and World Congress , in Tlaxcala, Mexico.
1984-85	Twelve months studio residency in the City of Wurzburg, Germany.	1996	Innovator and convenor of the ANC-IAA-UNESCO International Sculpture Event, Toolangi, Vic.
1986	Australian Chief Delegate to 11th IAA-UNESCO General Assembly and World Congress , Baghdad, Iraq. Lecture at the University of Melbourne, Department of Landscape Architecture, Contemporary Sculpture in the Environment.	1998	Successfully negotiated the amalgamation of ANC-IAA-UNESCO with the National Association for the Visual Arts.
		2000	Organiser of travelling exhibition of Tiwi Art & History - From Mythology to the Present in Germany. Accompanied the three Tiwi artists.
1986-88	Member of Healesville Regional Arts Council. Organised an exhibition of contemporary sculpture in the Healesville Old Mechanics Gallery.	2001-07	Full time carer of wife Rosmarie.
		2010	Completed Master of Fine Art (Research) at Monash University.
1988	Participated in seminar The Creative City , Melbourne.	2012	Artist in Residence, Luther College, Croydon, Victoria.
1989	Australian Delegate to the 12 th IAA-UNESCO General Assembly and World Congress , Madrid and Leon in Spain.	2012	Subject for Archibald Prize entry by Margaret McLoughlin – Salon de Refuse

2014	Commissioned by Yarra Ranges Council to create the Yarra Glen Black Saturday Bushfire Memorial.	2017	Commissioned by Yarra Ranges Council to create a sculpture for Wandin North – installed 2018.
2000-2020	Artist Member of Yarra Valley Arts Inc.		

Exhibitions:

Early exhibitions were dominated by works in silver and enamel but a leaning towards sculpture was recognised as early as 1965 by Art Critic Donald Brook, Canberra Times, 15 October 1965.

Solo Exhibitions:

1963	Arts & Crafts Society of Victoria, Gallery	1987	Gallery Informel, Bonn, Germany
1965	Studio Noonday, Canberra, ACT	1988	Irving Galleries, Paddington, NSW
1966	Coombtown Gallery, Geelong, Vic Arts & Crafts Society of Victoria, Gallery	1991	Art at Linden Gate Gallery, Yarra Glen Vic
1971	Emerald Gallery, Emerald, Vic.	1992	Stuart Gerstmann Galleries, Richmond, Vic
1975	Emerald Gallery, Emerald, Vic.	1993	Solander Gallery, Canberra, ACT
1978	Hawthorn City Gallery, Hawthorn, Vic.	1999	Gallery 101, Melbourne Vic
1979	Solander Gallery, Canberra, ACT	2000	Albury Regional Gallery, Albury NSW
1980	Australia Galleries, Collingwood, Vic	2001	Solander Gallery, Canberra, ACT.
1982	Latrobe Valley Regional Art Centre, Morwell, Vic.	2014-15	Current & Retrospective Exhibition , Art at Art at Linden Gate, Yarra Glen, Vic
1984	Otto Richter Halle, Wurzburg, Germany Australian Embassy, Bonn, Germany	2015	Kelly & Gemelli Gallery, San Remo, Vic
1985	Munsterland Museum, Burg Vischering, Germany,	2018	Ernst Fries Sculpture , Art at Linden Gate, Yarra Glen, Vic
		2020	Precious Possessions , posthumous exhibition Art at Linden Gate, Yarra Glen, Vic.

Selected Group Exhibitions:

1973	Launceston Art Purchase , Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston, Tas.
1974	The Alice Prize , Traeger Park, NT
1975	The Alice Prize , Traeger Park, NT
1976	Small Sculptures , Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Vic

- 1976 **Australian Gold & Silver 1826-1976**, Georges Gallery, Melbourne (organised by NGV Womens Association)
- 1977 **Treasures from Australian Churches**, (NGV) Hawthorn City Gallery, Hawthorn, Vic
- 1978 7th **Mildura Sculpture Triennial**, Mildura Vic
- 1978 **Latrobe University Union Arts Festival**, Bundoora, Vic
- 1980 Andrew & Lilian Petersen Memorial Prize for Small Sculpture.
- 1981 8th **Mildura Sculpture Triennial**, Mildura Vic
- 1981 **First Australian Sculpture Triennial**, Melbourne, Vic.
- 1984 9th **Mildura Sculpture Triennial**, Mildura Vic
- 1985 **Zeitgenossische Kunst in Franken**, Schloss Pommersfelden, Germany.
Contempora, Hotel de Ville, Caen, France
Treasures from Australian Churches, National Gallery of Victoria.
- 1988 1st **Australian Art Fair, Solander Gallery**, Melbourne, Vic
- 1989 **Mostra Internazionale di Scultura all'aperto**, Castelanza, Italy
- 1990 2nd **Australian Art Fair, Solander Gallery**, Melbourne, Vic
- 1995 **Canberra National Sculpture Forum 95**, Canberra, ACT
- 1996 **Sculpture Now 96**, Castlemaine, Vic
50 Jahre V.K.U. Germany
- 1997 **The Europeans**, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, ACT
Pathway, Manningham Municipal Gallery, Doncaster, Vic
Bonegilla and Beyond, Albury Regional Art Centre, Albury, NSW
- 1998 **Review '98**, Gallery 101, Melbourne Vic
Liza Taylor Sculpture Garden Autumn Exhibition, Mt Macedon, Vic.
- 2000 **30 x 30**, Gallery 101, Melbourne, Vic
Melbourne Art Fair, Gallery 101, Melbourne Vic
- 2001 **Treasures we own**, Albury Regional Art Centre, Albury, NSW
Grounds for Sculpture, McClelland Gallery, Langwarrin, Vic
- 2009-12 **Yarra Valley Open Studios**, Yarra Valley, Vic
- 2010 **Masters of Fine Art Graduation Exhibition**, Monash University Caulfield, Vic
- 2014 **Now & Then**, Art at Linden Gate, Yarra Glen, Vic

- 2016 **Asian Contemporary Art Show** - Spring, Hong Kong
- 2016 **Yarra Valley Arts Small Sculpture Exhibition**, Toolangi, Vic
- 2016 **Ernst Fries & Friends**, Art at Linden Gate, Yarra Glen, Vic
- 2017 **Yarra Valley Arts Open Studios**, Major Group Exhibition, Healesville, Vic
- 2018 **Yarra Valley Arts/Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards** – Finalist
- 2019 **Yarra Valley Arts/Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards** – Finalist
- Yarra Valley Arts Open Studios**, Major Group Exhibition, Healesville, Vic
- Melbourne Modern: European Art and Design at RMIT since 1945**, Melbourne, Vic
- Yarra Valley Arts – **Members Exhibition II**, YAVA, Healesville, Vic

Prizes and Awards

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| 1975 | 2 nd Place CRA Sculpture Prize | 1989 | William Hoggan Thomas Memorial Award |
| 1977 | Sculptor of the Year Award, Association of Sculptors of Victoria. | 1990 | William Hoggan Thomas Memorial Award |
| 1978 | Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council Grant | 1990 | Mabel Bryde Memorial Prize |
| 1979 | 1 st Prize, Footscray Mall Sculpture Competition. | 1991 | Shire of Eltham Art Award |
| | Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council Grant for travelling to represent Australia at the International Association of Art UNESCO General Assembly and World Congress. | 1993 | William Hoggan Thomas Memorial Award
Mabel Bryde Memorial Prize |
| | | 2009 | Yarra Valley Open Studios 1 st Prize |

Selected Public Commissions

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| Melbourne University, Parkville, Vic | Australian Catholic University, Ballarat |
| Swiss Club of Victoria | 538 Collins Street, Melbourne |
| Overseas Telecommunications Co (now Telecom), Sydney, NSW | Monash University, Clayton, Vic |
| State Bank of Victoria, Mildura, Vic (now at the TAFE College Mildura). | St Vincent's Catholic Church, Morwell East |
| Police HQ, St Kilda Road, Melbourne | St Gregory The Great, Doncaster |
| Melbourne Magistrates Court, Coat of Arms | Keysborough Catholic Church |
| | St Ita's Catholic Church, Drouin, Vic |

Yarra Ranges Council, Yarra Glen Bushfire Memorial
Luther College, Croydon, Vic

Mt Lilydale Mercy College, Lilydale, Vic
Yarra Ranges Council, Wandin North sculpture

Works in Public Collections

Australia

Horsham City Art Galleries, Vic
Geelong Performing Arts Centre, Vic
Latrobe Valley Regional Art Centre, Vic
Artbank
Albury Wodonga Regional Gallery

City of Canberra, ACT
Shire of Nillumbik, Vic
ESSO Collection
National Gallery of Australia
Victorian Racing Club, Melbourne

Germany

City of Stuttgart
City of Wurzburg, Stadtische Gallerie,

City of Alzenau
Shire of Hoechberg

Publications

Canberra Times, Art Critic Donald Brook, Oct 1965

The Encyclopaedia of Australian Art, McCulloch.

Artists & Galleries of Australia, Max Germaine

Australian Sculptors, Ken Scarlett (Nelson)

Australian Architecture & Design, Oct 1980 Vol 1.
No 1.

Australian Architecture & Design, July 1981, Vol 1.
No 4

Herald Sun, letter, **Think Again on Square
Sculpture**, 1983

Tirra Lirra Magazine Vol1. No2. 1991

Tirra Lirra Magazine Vol1. No3. Autumn 1991,
Public Art and Australia

Public Sculpture in Australia, Michael Hadger
(Craftsman House)

Who's Who of Australian Visual Artists, Thorp

Marks on Australian Silver 1950-2005, Christine
Erratt (Parker Press)

World Sculpture News Vol8 No 2 Spring 2002

International Sculpture Event, Toolangi, Vic
(Phoebe Publishing) 1996

Swiss Club of Victoria, Newsletter June 1996, from
the Editor.

Outdoors, Winter 1997, **Art and nature blend along
the forest trail**, (Dept Natural Resources &
Environment Vic)

The Age, Domain May 9, 2001, **A Journey of the
Heart**.

Inside Headquarters, VRC, Winter 2009, News, **Art
at Flemington**

Light, Colour, Spatiality through the medium of Dalle de Verre, Ernst Fries, Master of Fine Arts, 2010

Yarra Valley & Ranges Magazine – Spring 2017
Reflecting our Environment pg 62-71

Mountain Views Mail – 27 September, 2011, **Art at their Leisure** (YV Open Studios)

Tourist News Spring 2012, **Touch of the Master**.

Catalogues

Seventh Sculpture Triennial, Mildura

Eight Sculpture Triennial, Mildura

Ninth Sculpture Triennial, Mildura

Ernst Fries, als Kuenstler in Australien. Exhibitions in Germany: Wurzburg, Otto Richter Kunsthalle; Bonn, Australian Embassy; Burg Vischering, Muensterland Museum.

Zeitgenoessische Kunst in Franken 1985, Germany

Treasures from Australian Churches, National Gallery of Victoria, 1985

Association of Sculptors of Victoria, Survey 1933-1985

Works of Art in Canberra, Vol2, 1986, National Capital Development Commission

Communo di Castelanca con Fondancio Pagami, Italy 1989

Retrospective, Shire of Eltham, 1993

Recent works by Ernst Fries, Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, 1993

Sculpture Now 96, Castlemaine Arts Festival 1996

Pathway, City of Manningham, 1997

Ernst Fries, Retrospective 2014

Yarra Valley Open Studios 2009-2012 & 2017, 2019

YVA/Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition & Awards 2018 & 2019

Melbourne Modern: European art and design at **RMIT** since 1945, Melbourne 2019