

Tom Polo

Born Sydney, 1985

<http://tompoloart.blogspot.com>

2009 -10 (current) Masters of Fine Arts (Research) – College of Fine Arts, UNSW
2002-06 Bachelor of Fine Arts – Painting (Honours Class 1) – College of Fine Arts, UNSW

Solo Exhibitions

2009 *The 2009 B.E.S.T Contemporary Art Prize*, MOP, Sydney, NSW
2009 *CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN*, GRANTPIRRIE, Sydney, NSW
2009 *One-Liner or Suggestions for Conversation in Social Situations*, Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2007 *An Excessive Aesthetic*, Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney, NSW

Selected Group Exhibitions

2010 (upcoming) *Territorial Pissings*, Utopian Slumps Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2010 *Hidden: A Roodwook Sculpture Walk*, Rookwood Cemetery, NSW (Curated by David Capra)

2009-10 *I AM THE MESSAGE*, Lismore Regional Gallery, Lismore, New South Wales
2009-10 *The Blake Prize for Religious Art* (Touring Show), Various locations, Australia
2009 *Why do we do the things we do*, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Perth, Western Australia.
2009 *No Identifiable Culture*, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney, NSW
2009 *The IKEA Home Project*, Carraigeworks, Sydney, NSW.
2009 *Promote Synergy (Like A Boss)*, Nepean Arts & Design Centre, Nepean TAFE, Sydney, NSW
2009 *This is what the edge of your seat was made for*, Boxcopy, Brisbane, QLD

2008 *Current: Sculpture Projects in the River City*, Parramatta, NSW
2008 *Locksmith Fundraiser*, Locksmith Project Space, Sydney, NSW
2008 *The Year of the Bird*, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW (with David Capra)
2008 *Laith McGregor, Tom Polo, Emily Portmann, Jackson Slattery*, Sullivan + Strumpf Fine Art, Sydney, NSW

2007 *Winners are Grinners* (December Show), Gallery 9, Sydney, NSW
2007 *The First Show*, Parramatta Artists Studios, Sydney, NSW
2007 *The Process Line*, Western Front Project, Sydney, NSW

Studio Residencies

2009 Australia Council for the Arts Skills & Development Grant - London Studio Residency (2011)
2009 Queen Street Studios at Fraser Studios, Chippendale, NSW
2007-08 Parramatta Artists Studios, Sydney, NSW

Awards and Prizes

2009 Fishers Ghost Art Prize, Campbelltown Arts Centre, finalist
2009 The 2009 SMAC Awards, Gallery Barry Keldoulis, finalist
2009 The Blake Prize for Religious Art, The Blake Society, National Art School, NSW, finalist
2008 Fishers Ghost Art Prize, Campbelltown Arts Centre, finalist
2008 Churchie National Emerging Artist Exhibition, finalist
2007 Qantas Spirit of Youth Awards, finalist
2007 Jenny Birt Award, College of Fine Arts, UNSW, finalist

Performances

2010 *I'M A PAINTER TOO*, part of *Twenty/20* curated by George and Ron Adams, UTS Gallery, NSW
2008 The Chicken Coop Collective – *Birds Judging a Bird Show – The Year of the Bird*, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW

Exhibitions Curated

2009 *I'm worse at what I do best*, Parramatta Artists Studios, Sydney, NSW
2007 *Smash Hits – The Best and Worst of 2007*, Parramatta Artists Studios, Sydney, NSW

Selected Bibliography

- Lopes, S. *Perspective: Steve Lopes on Failure*, Artist Profile, Issue 10, 2010. Pg 96-97
- 'Good' series, Runway – An Australian Contemporary Art Magazine *Issue 14: Lies*, 2009
- Featured in Concrete Playground publication, *Conspirators*. Works by 50 emerging Sydney artists, December 2009
- Frost, A. *Everyone a winner with an arts lottery*, The Sydney Morning Herald, November 20, 2009. Pg 19
- The Art Life, *You have already won* <http://artlife.blogspot.com/2009/11/you-have-already-won.html>, November 14, 2009
- Wolifson, C. Interview: Tom Polo for '*I'm worse at what I do best*' in Das Super Paper, Issue 10
- Featured on *Vasili Kaliman's Art Patrol*, <http://artpatrol.blogspot.com/2009/10/tom-polo-24-september-24-october-2009.html>, October 8, 2009
- Cover art and content for *I'm worse at what I do best*, exhibition publication, Parramatta Artists Studios, NSW
- Von Sturmer, John. *West is When is West: A Trip Report*, Art Monthly Australia, Oct 2009. Pg 21-23
- Cunningham, D M. *Best and worst in show*, in *Artnotes*, Art Monthly Australia, September 2009. Pg 54
- Costantino, T. *Why do we do the things we do* review on The Daily Serving <http://dailyserving.com/2009/09/why-do-we-do-the-things-we-do/>
- Snell T. *Show prizes open the studio door*, The Australian, August 25, 2009. Also appears at: <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,,25974870-16947,00.html>
- Frost, A. *Being a success is overrated - we should strive harder to fail well*, The Sydney Morning Herald, July 22, 2009, p 9.
- I'm worse at what I do best* Publication, 2009. Published by Parramatta City Council and Parramatta Artists Studios.
- Night Drawings* series, Locksmith Project - Issue 1, Cover image and set of 6 images, 2009
- Cunningham, D M. *The Best Thing Ever*, in *Artnotes*, Art Monthly Australia, April 2009. Pg 57
- Cover Design "The Best Thing Ever", commissioned for Campbelltown Arts Centre 2009 catalogue
- Fortescue, E. *Picture This*, The Daily Telegraph, August 13, 2008 p 34.
- Frost, A. *If I Could Have (Animal Art)*, Australian Art Collector, Issue 45, July 2008, pp 308 - 309
- '*There's A Winner In You*' series, Runway – An Australian Contemporary Art Magazine, Issue 10 Romance, autumn, 2008 pp.52-57
- The Art Life, *Space is the Place*, <http://www.artlife.blogspot.com/2007/12/space-is-place.html>, December 14, 2007

Grants, Scholarships and Commissions

- 2010 Cover Design 'Best Program 2010', commissioned for Campbelltown Arts Centre catalogue
- 2010 *THIS IS AMAZING* public artwork for FraserStudios, Chippendale, NSW
- 2009 Australia Council for the Arts Skills & Development Grant - London Studio Residency (2011)
- 2009 Cover Design "The Best Thing Ever", commissioned for Campbelltown Arts Centre catalogue
- 2009 Australian Postgraduate Award (APA), Masters Postgraduate study, College of Fine Arts, UNSW