Karen Black

Born 1961, Brisbane.
Lives and works in Sydney, Australia.

Education / Academic

Current	Sessional Lecturer (Ceramics), National Art School, Sydney
2011	Bachelor of Fine Art, QCA, Griffith University, Brisbane

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2026	*Who will water the garden*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
2025	*Karen Black: 2025 MECCA Holiday Collaboration*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
	Who Is Still Dreaming, The Renshaws, Brisbane
2024	*Ring for a squared circle*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
	alternative frequency, Ames Yavuz, Sydney
2022	*Gentle Pulse*, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
	Pressure Points, Melbourne Art Fair, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
2021	*Arepo*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
	They might be Giants, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
2020	*It's Not Real,* Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
2019	*Riding a blue horse*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
2018	*Not Hours Minutes*, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
	Installation for Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney
2017	*An Ordinary Poetry*, Sullivan+Strumpf, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
	Temporary Arrangements, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
2016	*Crown legs arms*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
2015	*Making Do*, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney Contemporary, Sydney
2014	*Peace is Guilty,* Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
	Dust Over Aleppo, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
2013	*Piece of Wood*, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
2012	*Karen Black*, Hong Kong International Art Fair, Tristian Koenig Gallery, Melbourne
	Art Fair Tokyo, Tristian Koenig Gallery, Melbourne
2011	*Karen Black*, Tristian Koenig Gallery, Melbourne
	Solo presentation - Art Taipei, Tapei World Trade Centre, Tapei
	Karen Black, Art Stage Singapore, Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Singapore

Selected Group Exhibitions

2026	*Wynne Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Sir John Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Karen Black and Peter Robinson, Sutton Gallery, Sydney Contemporary, Sydney
2025	*The Intelligence of Painting*, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney
	The Devoted Eye, Ames Yavuz, Sydney

2024	*undo the day*, National Art School (NAS), Sydney
	Thresholds, Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA), Albury
	The Belly and the Members, Ames Yavuz, Sydney
	Woolhara Small Sculpture Prize, Redlead Gallery, Sydney
	Art Basel Hong Kong, Ames Yavuz, Hong Kong
2023	*Thin Skin*, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne
	Once more with feeling, Ngununggula, NSW
2022	*Sydney Contemporary,* Sullivan+Strumpf, Carriageworks, Sydney
	Zombie Eaters, Murray Art Museum (MAMA), Albury, NSW
	Art in conflict, Australian War Memorial, Canberra (touring)
	Blue Island, Byron School of Art, Byron Bay, NSW
	Annual Group Show, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
2021	*The Archibald*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	The Future is Humanity, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
2020	*The Archibald*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	The Cook and her Driver, with Virgina Leonard, Gertrude Glasshouse, Melbourne
2019	*New Woman*, Museum of Brisbane
	West Bund Shanghai, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney and Singapore
	Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
	Kilgour Prize, Newcastle Art Gallery, NSW
2018-20	*Craftivism. Dissident Objects and Subversive Forms*, Shepparton Art Museum, and touring nationally
	Beyond Reason. Exploring the logic of the imagination, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane
	Rigg Design Prize, with Flack Studios, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
2018	*Sydney Contemporary*, Carriageworks, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
	Sir John Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Sydney
	Fishers Ghost Prize, Campbelltown Centre, Sydney
	The Waves, Sullivan+Strumpf, SydneySullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
2017	*Sir John Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Sydney Contemporary, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
	Spring 1883 Sydney, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
	Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Victoria
	Art Basel Hong Kong, Sullivan+Strumpf, Singapore
	Art Stage Singapore, Sullivan+Strumpf, Singapore
2016	*Spring 1883*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
	Shut Up and Paint NGV Collection, NGV International, Melbourne
	Painting More Painting, ACCA, Melbourne
	The Gold Award, Rockhampton Art Gallery, Rockhampton
	Borders, Barriers, Walls, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne

	Arrival, Sullivan+Strumpf, Singapore
2015	*10th Anniversary Group Show*, Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney
	Glazed and confused, *Ceramics in contemporary art practice*, Hazlehurst Regional Gallery, Gymea, NSW
2014	*Spring 1883*, Sutton Gallery, Windsor Hotel, Melbourne
	Common Woman, LEVELARI, Brisbane
	SSFA Group Show, Sullivan+Strumpf Fine Art, Sydney
2013	*Art & Australia Collection 2003-2013*, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, NSW
	SSFA Group Show, Sullivan+Strumpf Fine Art, Sydney
2012	*Art Stage Singapore*, Tristian Koenig Gallery, Melbourne
	Oh Video, curated by Chris Bennie, Lower Lawn QCA, Griffith University, Brisbane
2011	*GAS Awards Finalists Exhibition,* Griffith University Art Gallery, Brisbane
	RBS Emerging Artist Award Exhibition, RBS Tower, Sydney
	People and Places, Heiser Gallery, Brisbane
	Response, Project Gallery, Griffith University, Brisbane
	Churchie National Emerging Art Exhibition, QCA Gallery, Brisbane
	Explaining colours to the blind, Tristian Koenig Gallery, Melbourne
2010	*Churchie National Emerging Art Exhibition*, QCA Gallery, Brisbane

Bibliography

2025	*Flack Studio: Interiors,* David Flack, Rizzoli New York, 2025
2024	Creswell Bell, Amber (ed.), *About Face: Contemporary portrait painting in Australia and New Zealand*, Thames and Hudson, Sydney, 2024.
2023	Higgie, Jennifer (ed.), *Thin Skin* (exh. cat.), Monash University Museum of Art and Monash University Publishing, Melbourne, 2023.
	Dias Pires, Karina (ed.). *Artists at Home*, *Thames & Hudson Australia*, Melbourne, 2023.
	Black, Karen and Virginia Leonard. *The Cook and Her Driver,* Stonehouse Glasshouse, Res Artis, Melbourne, 2023
2022	Goldfinch, Elyse. 'Gentle Pulse'. Sullivan+Strumpf Magazine, Summer issue, November 2022.
	Ammenhauser, Courtney. 'Sydney Design Week: Sydney's annual week-long design festival is back this September with a bumper lineup.' Concrete Playground, 18 August 2022.
	Ward, Sarah. 'The Southern Hemisphere's First-Ever Super-Sleek Ace Hotel Has Finally Opened Its Doors in Sydney.' Concrete Playground, 18 May 2022.
	Millar, Jake. 'Meet the creative minds and artists behind Ace Hotel Sydney.' Vogue Australia, 29 May 2022.
2021	'Smartphone Snaps: Karen Black' *Art Guide Australia*, feature artguide.com.au, 19 August.
	Savyasachi, Bageshri. 'Professor Chandini Raina MacIntyre by Karen Black at the Archibald' indianlink.com.au, June.
2020	Riddle, Naomi. 'Karen Black, It's Not Real.' *Art Almanac*, 27 February.
2019	Museum of Brisbane, 'New Woman', Exhibition Catalogue, ISBN: [978-0-6485617-0-5].
2018	Shepparton Art Museum and National Exhibitions Touring Support Victoria, *Craftivism: Dissident Objects + Subversive Forms*, Exhibition Catalogue, ISBN: [978-0-9802977-8-2].

	QUT Art Museum, *Beyond Reason: exploring the logic of the imagination,*Exhibition Catalogue, ISBN: [978-0-646-99607-3].
	Riddle, Naomi. *Not hours minutes*, rundog.art, 18 May.
2017	Cai, Sophie. 'Five ways with Clay', *The Journal of Australian Ceramics,* Vol 56, No. 2 July 2017, p. 64-69.
	Gallo, Rebecca. 'Sing the body ceramic', *Art Guide Australia*, May/June 2017, p.74-76.
	Lee, Melanie. 'Profile: Artist Karen Black', *The A-List*, 30 November
	Shepparton Art Museum, *Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award*, Exhibition Catalogue, ISBN: [978-0-9943430-8-6].
2016	Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne, *Painting. More Painting*, Exhibition Catalogue ISBN: [978-0-9943472-3-7].
	Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne, *Borders Barriers Walls*, Exhibition Catalogue, ISBN: [978-0-9945213-0-9].
2015	Gibson, Prue. 'Beautiful Tragedies', Artists Profile, *Art Collector*, Issue 73, 2015, p.126-133.
2014	Herring, Freya. 'Karen Black', *Art Guide Australia*, 21 Oct 2014.
	Rule, Dan. 'Karen Black - Revolution at centre stage', *Vault*, Issue 5, 2014, p. 18-20.
2013	Gibson, Prue. 'Artist under 5K', *Art Collector*, Issue 65, 2013, p.115.
	Hirschfeld, Miri. 'Karen Black', *Art & Australia*, Issue 51.2, 2013, p. 313-316.
	'Piece of Wood', Open Gallery, Spectrum, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 27 – 28 July.
	Radio Interview, *Canvas*, FBI Radio 94.5 Sydney, 21 July 2013.
2012	Bryan-Brown, Lisa. 'Karen Black Pain: Studies in the Synecdochic Potential of Tragedy'.
2011	Crawford, Ashley. 'What next?', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue 57.

Awards and Residencies

2026	Finalist, *Wynne Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Finalist, *Sir John Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2025	Commission, MECCA Holiday Artist, in partnership with the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV)
	Finalist, *Mosman Art Prize,* Mosman Art Gallery, New South Wales
2021	Finalist, *The Archibald Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2020	Finalist, *The Archibald Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Finalist, *Kings School Art Prize,* Kings School, Sydney
2019	Commission, new ceramic work for Museum of Brisbane
	Finalist, *Kilgour Prize,* Newcastle Art Gallery, Newcastle, NSW
	Finalist, *Sunshine Coast Art Prize*, Caloundra Regional Gallery
	Recipient, *Glasshouse/Stonehouse Residency*, Chenaud, France
2018	Finalist, *Sir John Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Recipient, *Artbank + QPAC Commission*, Queensland
	Finalist, *Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize*, Sydney
	Finalist, *Fishers Ghost Prize*, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney

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2017	Commission, 10 metre wall work Barangaroo, Art Fairs Australia
	Commission, Moving image (animation) Barangaroo, Art Fairs Australia
	Finalist, *Sir John Sulman Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Finalist, *Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award,* Shepparton Art Museum
	Recipient, *Artspace One Year Studio*, Artspace Sydney
2016	Finalist, *The Gold Award*, Rockhampton Art Gallery
2014-15	Ceramics Residency - a partnership between Hazlehurst Regional Gallery and the Ceramics Design Studio, Gymea Sydney TAFE led by Lynda Draper
2014	Recipient, *Belle Arti Prize*, Chapman & Bailey, Melbourne
2013	Recipient, *Art & Australia/Credit Suisse Private Banking Contemporary Art Award,* publication
2011	Recipient, *GAS Award*, Griffith University Art Gallery, Brisbane
	Finalist, *RBS Emerging Artist Award Exhibition*, RBS Tower, Sydney
	Finalist, *Churchie National Emerging Art Exhibition,* QCA Gallery, Brisbane
	Global Spotlight Artist, Art Taipei
	Griffith University Award for Academic Excellence, Brisbane
2010	Finalist and Commendation, *Churchie National Emerging Art Exhibition,* QCA Gallery, Brisbane
	Griffith University *Fine Art Award for Outstanding Initiative & Commitment to Painting*
2008/9/10	Griffith University Award for Academic Excellence

Collections

Ace Hotel, Sydney
Artbank
Art Gallery of Ballarat
Australian War Memorial
Griffith University Art Museum
Ipswich Art Gallery
Joyce Nissan Collection
Macquarie Group Collection
MECCA Collection
Monash University Museum of Art
Murray Art Museum Albury
Museum of Brisbane
National Gallery of Victoria
Queensland University of Technology Art Museum
Salsali Private Museum, Dubai
Shepparton Art Museum
Private collections in Australia, Europe, America and Asia Pacific