

BEN TAYLOR RECENT WORKS

15 MAY – 12 JUNE 2022

NANCY SEVER | GALLERY

Level 1, 131 City Walk
(next door to King O'Malley's)
Canberra City ACT 2601

Open: Wednesday – Sunday: 11 am – 5 pm.

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Ben Taylor, Anthropomorphic trees, 2021 Acrylic on cotton, 1220 x 1520 mm

NANCY SEVER | GALLERY

cordially invites you and your guest to the opening of the exhibition

BEN TAYLOR | NEW WORKS

SUNDAY 15 MAY 2022 12 - 4 PM

Exhibition closes 12 June 2022
Wednesday - Sunday 11 am - 5 pm
E: nancy.sever@inet.net.au
W: nancysevergallery.com.au
Facebook: [nancysevergallery](https://www.facebook.com/nancysevergallery)

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The Nancy Sever Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of recent work by Ben Taylor.

Ben Taylor was born in Sydney in 1960. He is a graduate of the Canberra School of Art and was a lecturer in Printmaking there from 1983 to 1985. He has been exhibiting throughout Australia since 1983 and his work is to be found in the collections of the National Gallery of Australia, the Australian National University, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Brisbane, the University of New South Wales, the Newcastle Regional Gallery, Parliament House and Artbank.

Ben Taylor has developed his pictorial language to a level of finesse and certitude that speaks of his deep attachment to place and to painting. The arts writer, curator and art critic Peter Haynes has written that Taylor's work is "full of a tongue-in-cheek sense of humour, a wry world view that concurrently alludes to the absurdity and dark side of our lives.....While these characteristics hold a degree of idiosyncrasy their presence in Taylor's images is not lost on his viewers".

The artist himself has written of his work: “I paint quickly and intuitively, making spontaneous decisions. The starting point for my paintings are the things I see which surprise me or stick in my mind. This varies a lot – seductive film stills, enchanting landscapes, entwined fern trees. Generally, I do not have a preconceived idea about what the finished painting should end up looking like as I find this limits what is discovered while working in the studio. The painting has a life of its own, colours come to mind in reaction to what I see is needed at the time, what seems to work or not, gestural marks that might be needed to liven up an area or to bring energy to the painting....I don't think about painting in terms of words or a prescribed theory. Instead, I absorb myself in the process of painting and the ambience of the imagined narrative”.

Ben Taylor | New Works is on show from 15 May until 12 June 2022. Gallery hours: 11am-5pm Wednesday to Sunday. For further information please contact nancy.sever@iinet.net.au or 0416 249 102.



Ben Taylor, *Mystical landscape*. 2022 Acrylic on cotton, 122 cm x 183 cm \$5,000



Ben Taylor, *Ferns*. 2021 Acrylic on cotton 122cm x 152 mm \$4,500



Ben Taylor, *Anthropomorphic trees*. 2021 Acrylic on cotton, 122 cm x 152cm \$4,500



Ben Taylor, *A forest*. 2021 Acrylic on cotton, 122 x 183 cm \$5,000



Ben Taylor, *Night ferns*. 2021 Acrylic on cotton 122 x 152 cm \$4,500



Ben Taylor, *Red Rock Gorge*. 2022 Acrylic on cotton 122 x 183 cm \$5,000



Ben Taylor, *Entangled* . 2022. Acrylic on cotton, 92 x 122 cm \$2,500



Ben Taylor, *Mushroom study*. 2021 Acrylic on cotton, 31 x 41 cm \$650



Ben Taylor, *Fern study*. 2022 Acrylic on cotton, 31 x 41 cm \$650 **SOLD**



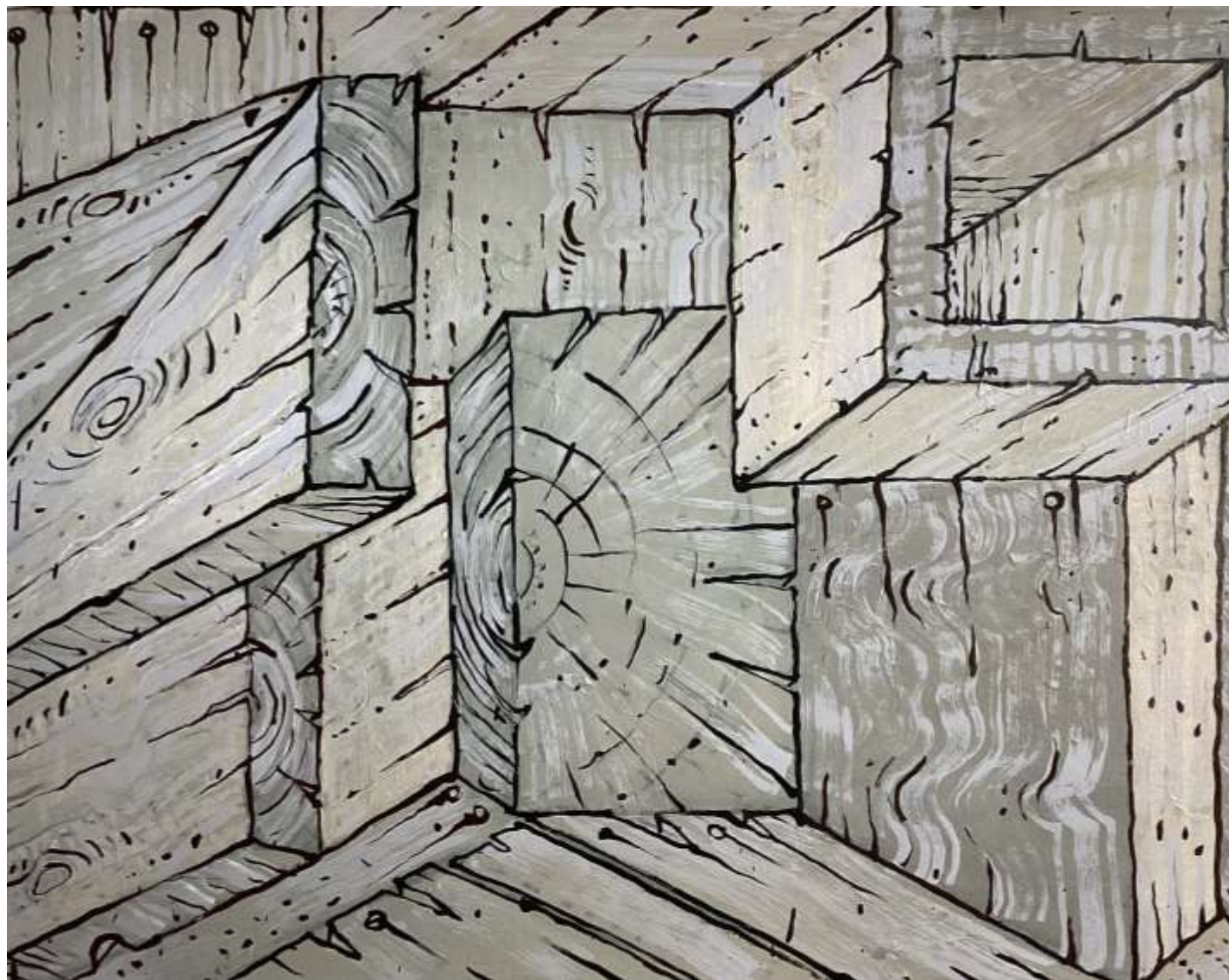
Ben Taylor, *Anouk*. 2020, Acrylic on cotton, 920 x 122 cm \$2,500



Ben Taylor, *Lovers*. 2020 Acrylic on cotton, 92 x 122 cm \$2,500



Ben Taylor, *Pine box*. 2020 Acrylic on cotton, 92 x 122 cm \$2,500



Ben Taylor, *Construction*. 2020 Acrylic on cotton, 92 x 122 cm \$2,500



Ben Taylor, *Shed*. 2021 Acrylic on cotton, 31 x 41 cm \$650 **SOLD**



Ben Taylor, *Woodshed* . 2021 Acrylic on cotton, 31 x 41 cm \$650 **SOLD**



Ben Taylor, *Timber forms*. 2021 Acrylic on cotton, 31 x 41 cm \$650

Ben TAYLOR

Born Sydney 1960

1983–1985 Lecturer (Printmaking), Canberra School of Art
1979–1981 Diploma of Art, Canberra School of Art

Solo exhibitions

2020 Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney
2019 Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney
2019 Nancy Sever Gallery, Canberra
2013 Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney
2010 Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney
2008 Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney
2005 Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney
2004 Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra
2004 Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney
2003 Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney
2002 Helen Maxwell Gallery Canberra
1999 Spiral Arm Gallery, Canberra
1997 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1995 Chapman Gallery, Canberra
1994 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1993 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1992 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1991 Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra
1990 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1989 Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra. Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1988 Reconnaissance Gallery, Melbourne
1987 Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra
1986 Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney. Solander Gallery, Canberra
1983 Bitumen River Gallery, Canberra

Selected group exhibitions

2005 Moist. Australian Watercolours, National gallery of Australia
2004 Recent acquisitions, Canberra Museum and Gallery
2003-2000 *National Works on Paper Award*, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery
2000 *Natural Progression*, Studio One Gallery, Canberra
1997 *First Canberra Drawing Biennale*, ANU, Drill Hall Gallery
1995 *Contemporary Art Fair*, Australian National University Drill Hall Gallery
1994 *The print, the press, the artist, and the printer*, ANU, Drill Hall Gallery
1993 *Chandler Coventry: A Private Collection*, Campbelltown City Art Gallery
The National Gallery of Australia Rotary Collection of Australian Art, NGA travelling exhibition
1992 *Artists from Canberra and Districts in the Parliament House Art Collection*, New Parliament House, Canberra
1991 *New Art Five*, Coventry Gallery, Sydney
1990 *The 21st Alice Prize*, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Spring Campus
Collections: Art at the University of New Sout Wales and College of Fine Arts, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
1990 *Students Print Exhibition*, Canberra School of Art Gallery, Tokyo
National University of Fine Arts and Music Gallery
Canbrart: A Selection of Works by Artists from the ACT and Districts, ANU
1989 *Packsaddle*, New England Regional Art Museum, Armidale
1989: *Sydney*, BMG Fine Art, Sydney
Selected group exhibitions continued
1988 *A New Generation 1983-88: Philip Morris Arts Grant Purchases*, Australian National Gallery
10:1 Print Project, Studio One, Canberra, Wagga City Art Gallery, Print Council Gallery, Melbourne
1987 *The Figure: Andrew and Lillian Pederson Memorial prizes for Drawing and Printmaking*, Queensland Art Gallery
1986 *Prints: a group show*, Reconnaissance Gallery, Melbourne
1985 *Selected Staff Exhibition*, Canberra School of Art Gallery
Faber-Castel Prize for Drawing, Rex Irwin Gallery, Sydney
1984 *Three Artists: Nick Cosgrove, Bruce Reynolds, Ben Taylor*, Bitumen River Gallery, Canberra
1983 *International Print Exhibit: 1983*, Taipei, Taiwan

Collections

Artbank, Baker & McKenzie. BHP Billiton .
Canberra School of Art and Bruce Hall, Australian National University,
Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane. Parliament House,
National Gallery of Australia,
Newcastle Regional Gallery
Sir William Dobell Art Foundation, University of New South Wales.

Awards and commissions

1998 Graphics for 1998 Sydney Fringe Festival
1993 Set design for Canberra Dance Theatre *Wedding on the Eifel*
Tower NGA
1991 Inaugural Canberra Critics Circle Award for Visual Arts
1989 Mural for National Gallery of Australia

Selected bibliography

Sasha Grishin 'Artist's life revealed' *Canberra Times*, 12 September 1999
Nancy Sever *First Canberra Drawing Biennale*, exhibition catalogue, ANU, 1996
Sasha Grishin 'A fresh start in emerging maturity' *Canberra Times*,
Neville Drury *Images Two: Contemporary Australian Painting*, Craftsman
House, 1994
Sasha Grishin 'Taylor has authenticity and intimate vision' *Canberra Times*, 20
August 1994
Sioux Garside *Chandler Coventry*, Campbelltown Regional Art Gallery, 1993
National Gallery of Australia Rotary Collection of Australian Art, exhibition
catalogue, 1993

Selected bibliography (Continued)

Jude Savage 'The Rotary Collection of Australian Art' in *NGA News*, May/June 1993
Katrina Rumley *Integrating Art on Campus: The UNSW Collection*, UNSW, 1992
Peter Haynes *Artists from Canberra & Districts in the Parliament House Art Collection*, 1992
Neville Drury (ed.), *New Art Five*, Craftsman House, 1991
Sonia Barron 'Out of the ordinary' *Canberra Times*, 14 September 1991
Michael Desmond Canbrart: *A Selection of Works from the ACT and Districts*,
exhibition catalogue, National Gallery of Australia, 1990
Christopher Allen 'Exploring the bush experience' *Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 April 1989
Sasha Grishin 'Sensuous masses of glowing paint' *Canberra Times*, 21 August 1989
10:1 Print Project, exhibition catalogue, Studio One, Canberra, 1988
'Exhibition Commentary', *Art & Australia*, Vol 24, No.4, Winter 1987
The Figure: The Andrew & Lilian Pederson Memorial Prize catalogue, QLD Art Gallery, 1987
Karen Middleton 'Lots of Life in the Country' *Canberra Times*, 12 November 1987
Sasha Grishin 'Authentic language of bush humour' *Canberra Times* 21 November 1987
Basil Hall 'Studio One Printmaking Workshop's 10:1 Print Project 1987-88'
Imprint, Vol 23, No.5, March 1987
Sasha Grishin 'Gentle humour in outback' *Canberra Times*, 17 October 1986
Sasha Grishin 'Environmental response' *Canberra Times*, 29 September 1984
Sasha Grishin 'Scenes drenched with humour', *Canberra Times*, 12 November 1983