



AGNETA EKHOLM

Sojourn

Agneta Ekholm

Sojourn

29 April - 17 May, 2025

[VIEW EXHIBITION ONLINE](#)



EXHIBITION OPENING PARTY

Meet the artist and celebrate with us at the exhibition opening party on
Saturday 10 May 2025, 1 - 3pm

Light refreshments provided.
We look forward to seeing you there.

An elegant, organic flow inhabits Agneta Ekholm's immersive paintings. Characterised by a form of spontaneous, evolving abstraction honed over the artist's career, her gracefully layered compositions evoke the ebb and flow of nature - suggesting the movement of water, the play of light, or the translucence of glass. Each painting evolves directly on the canvas without the aid of preparatory drawings. This spontaneous process of building up and erasing layers of pigment results in delicate veils of colour that pulse with depth and vitality.

Sojourn

Catalogue Essay by Phe Luxford, 2025

There is an invitation embedded in the work of Agneta Ekholm – a beckoning to linger, to dispense with the relentless cadence of contemporary life and surrender to the quiet rhythm of her canvases. In her latest solo exhibition, *Sojourn*, Ekholm evokes a passage, both fleeting and profound, through shifting forms and immersive depths. The title itself suggests a temporary pause, an interlude rich with introspection. These new paintings are not simply to be seen; they are to be experienced.

In an age of relentless distraction, Ekholm's work champions the ethos of slow art – a movement that resists the accelerated consumption of imagery in favour of deeper engagement. To stand before these works is to abandon the imperative for instant comprehension. Instead, one must attune to their quiet pulse, allowing the eye to wander through shifting strata of colour and tone. These paintings possess a tempo of their own, a rhythm shaped by the deliberate, slow gestures of the artist's hand. Through the controlled yet organic flow of pigment, Ekholm crafts spaces that invite contemplation, asking us to inhabit the moment fully, without haste.

Her practice sits confidently within the century-long lineage of abstraction, yet it resists easy categorisation. While rooted in a visual language of crisp, almost hard-edged abstraction, her compositions soften that rigidity, harnessing movement without descending into chaos. There is no relinquishing of control here – each fluid sweep of pigment is measured, each form carefully considered.

This interplay between spontaneity and restraint echoes the works of the modernist masters of abstraction, where visual language is shaped not by direct representation but through attunement to the possible dynamic tension within form itself. The light refractions and shadows of László Moholy-Nagy's abstract film *Lightplay: Black-White-Gray* (1923) comes to mind, as does the influence of Georgia O'Keeffe – not in subject matter, but in approach. As O'Keeffe distilled the essence of an observed moment through a lens of abstraction, so too does Ekholm distil the sensation of a mediated state, creating images that are not of any 'thing' but speak of the flow state itself.

Similarities can also be found in the work of contemporary Australian artist Marion Borgelt, whose elliptic, harmonious and always active forms evoke feelings of universal contemplation. Like Borgelt's work, Ekholm employs abstraction not as a retreat from observation but as a means of distilling experience into something elemental.

Ekholm's surfaces unfold in layers, revealing a sense of interiority that oscillates between presence and absence, light and shadow. Deep, cavernous blues bleed into eggshell whites, punctuated by fleeting flashes of rich yellow, orange, or green – vibrant inclusions that charge her images with emotional intensity, creating momentary fissures in the otherwise calm transitions of tone.

These compositions suggest a world beyond their frames, an expansiveness that extends into unseen dimensions. They hover at the threshold of recognition, tempting the viewer to read a semblance of landscape – perhaps the unfathomable depths of the ocean or the cosmic vastness of space. Such literal interpretations, while incomplete, do not confine or limit the work's power but rather amplify its mystery, tethering it to something both tangible and ineffable.

To sojourn necessitates prior movement, but also involves a moment of intentional pause. Ekholm's paintings are way-points in that journey, spaces where time bends and deepens. They remind us that meaning is not found in speed or efficiency, but in the willingness to stay, to observe, to feel. In this stillness, we find the eternal reflected.

Contact Claire Harris, Director with any enquiries or to make a time to view artworks once they arrive in the gallery.

info@flg.com.au



Drift and Dwell, 2025
acrylic on canvas, 111 x 308cm
\$25,000 AUD



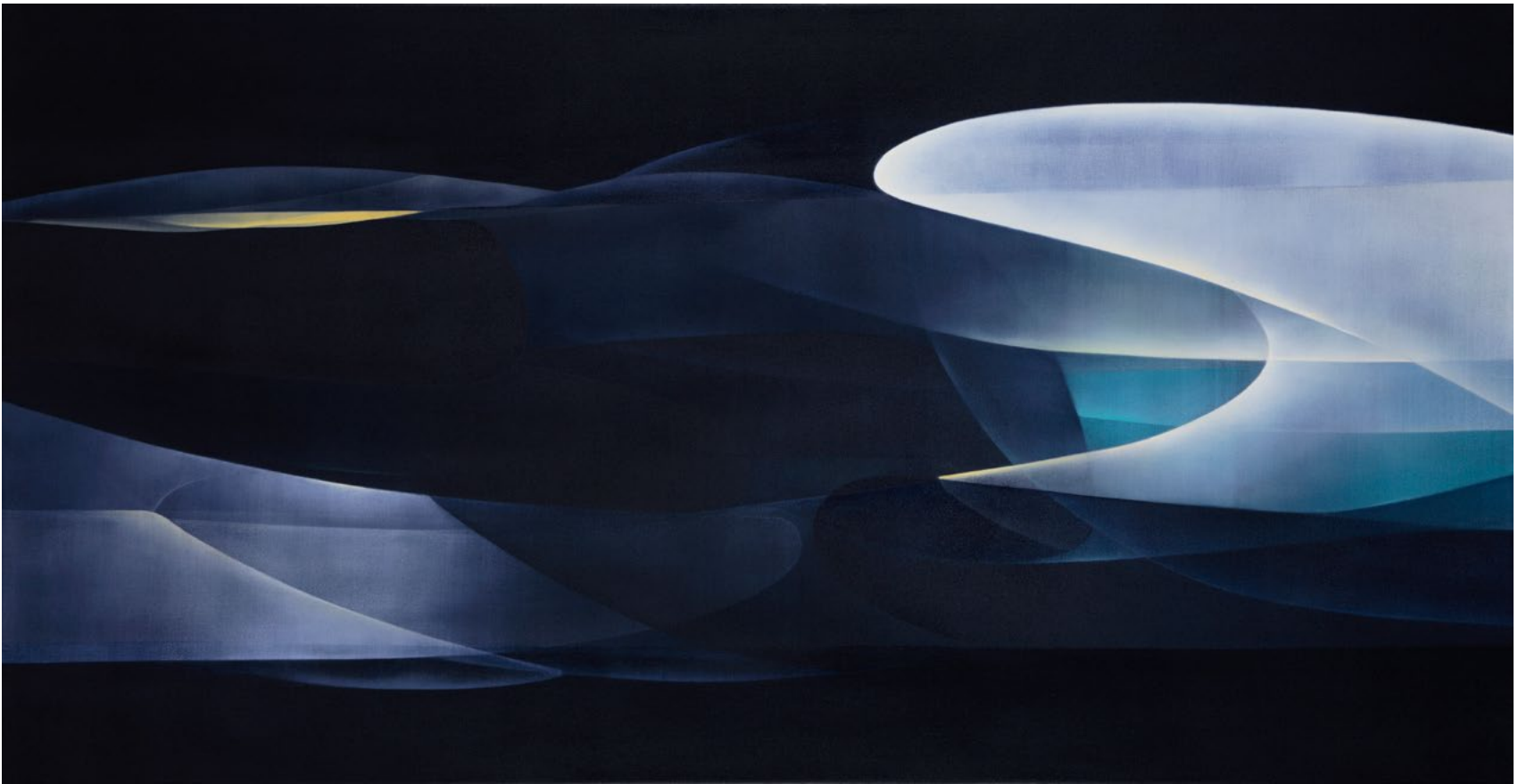
To scale on wall



Shifting Silence, 2025
acrylic on canvas, 100 x 170cm
\$13,000 AUD



To scale on wall



Elsewhere, Inward, 2025
acrylic on canvas, 85 x 150cm
\$10,000 AUD



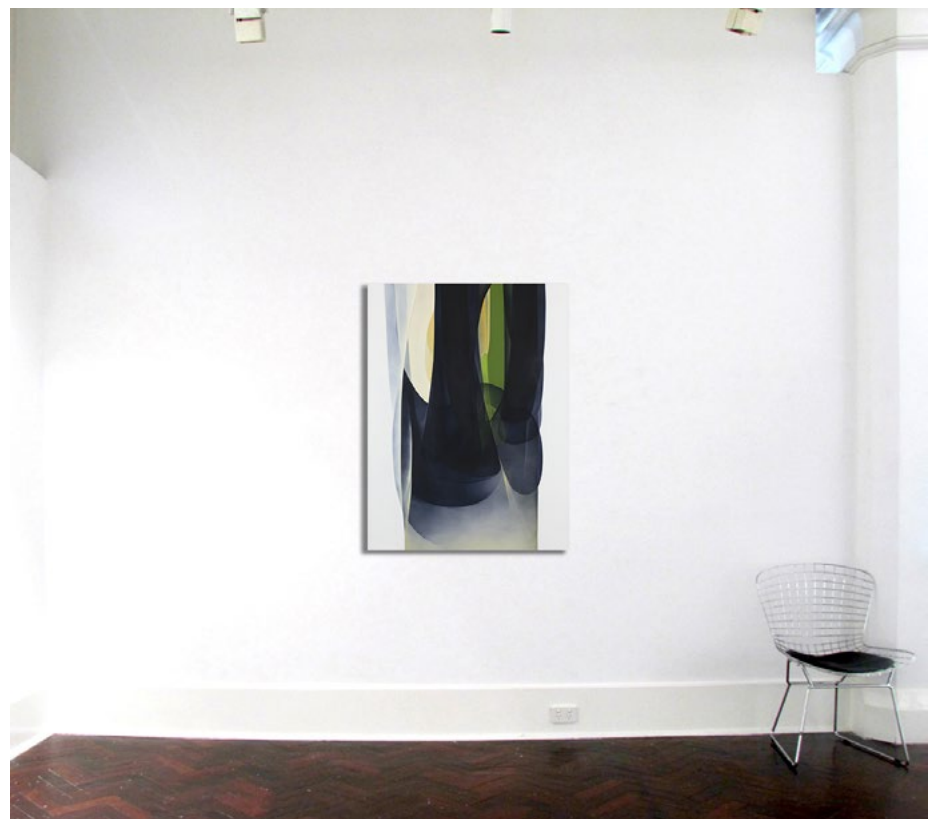
To scale on wall



Between Realms, 2025
acrylic on canvas, 122 x 92cm
\$8,500 AUD



To scale on wall





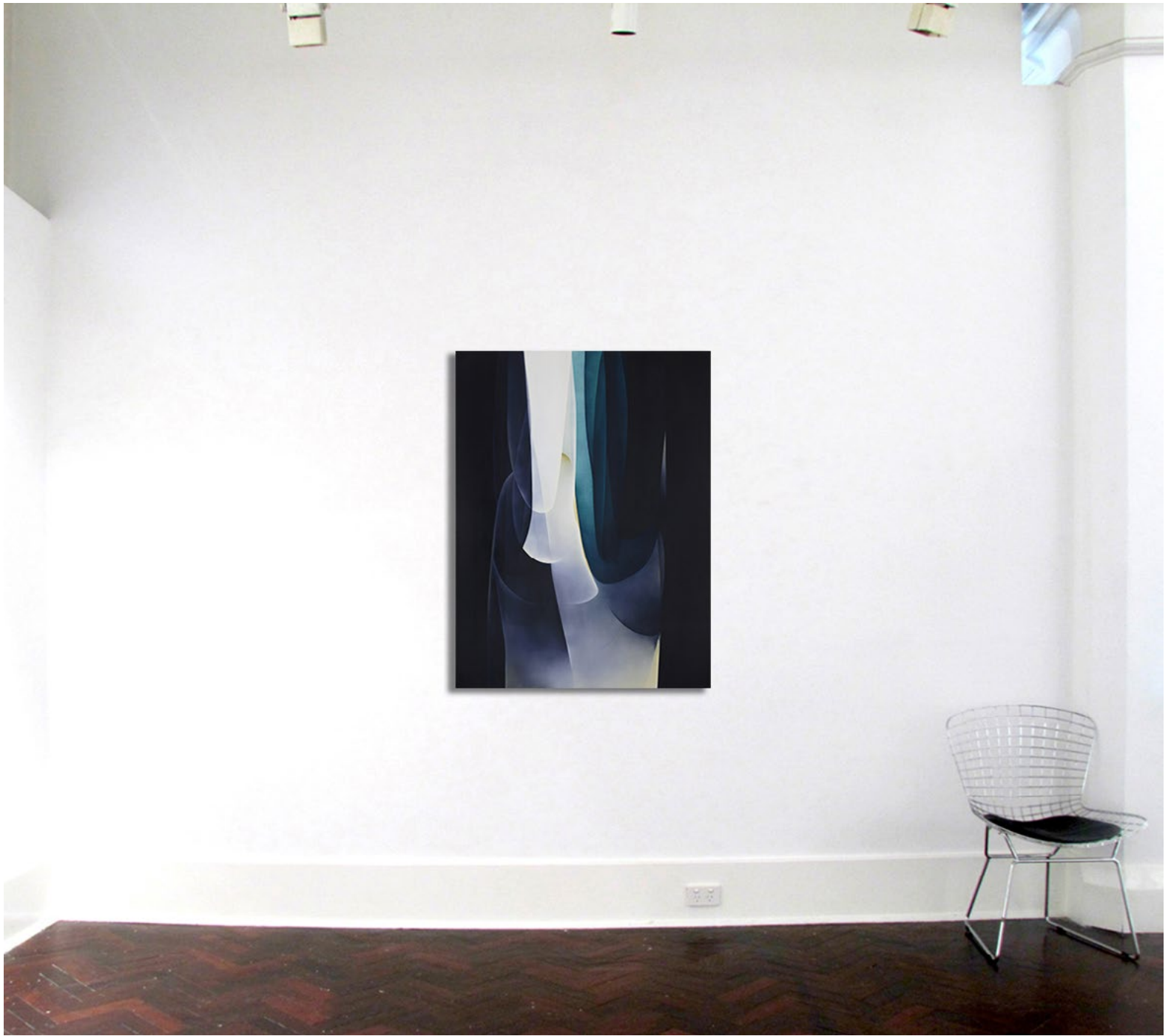
I've been thinking a lot about the passing of time - the idea of sojourning through life resonates with the human experience. An ongoing journey where we pause, reflect and find meaning in fleeting moments. 'Sojourn' evokes a sense of temporary yet meaningful journey, aligning with the introspective and exploratory nature of my work.

It suggests a passage through emotions, ideas and spaces - both physical and metaphorical. Sojourn invites viewers to embark on their own personal experiences while they engage with my work, to step out of their own routines and linger in the presence of my paintings and connect with their own emotions and interpretations.

Agneta Ekholm, 2025



Lumenrest, 2025
acrylic on canvas, 122 x 92cm
\$8,500 AUD



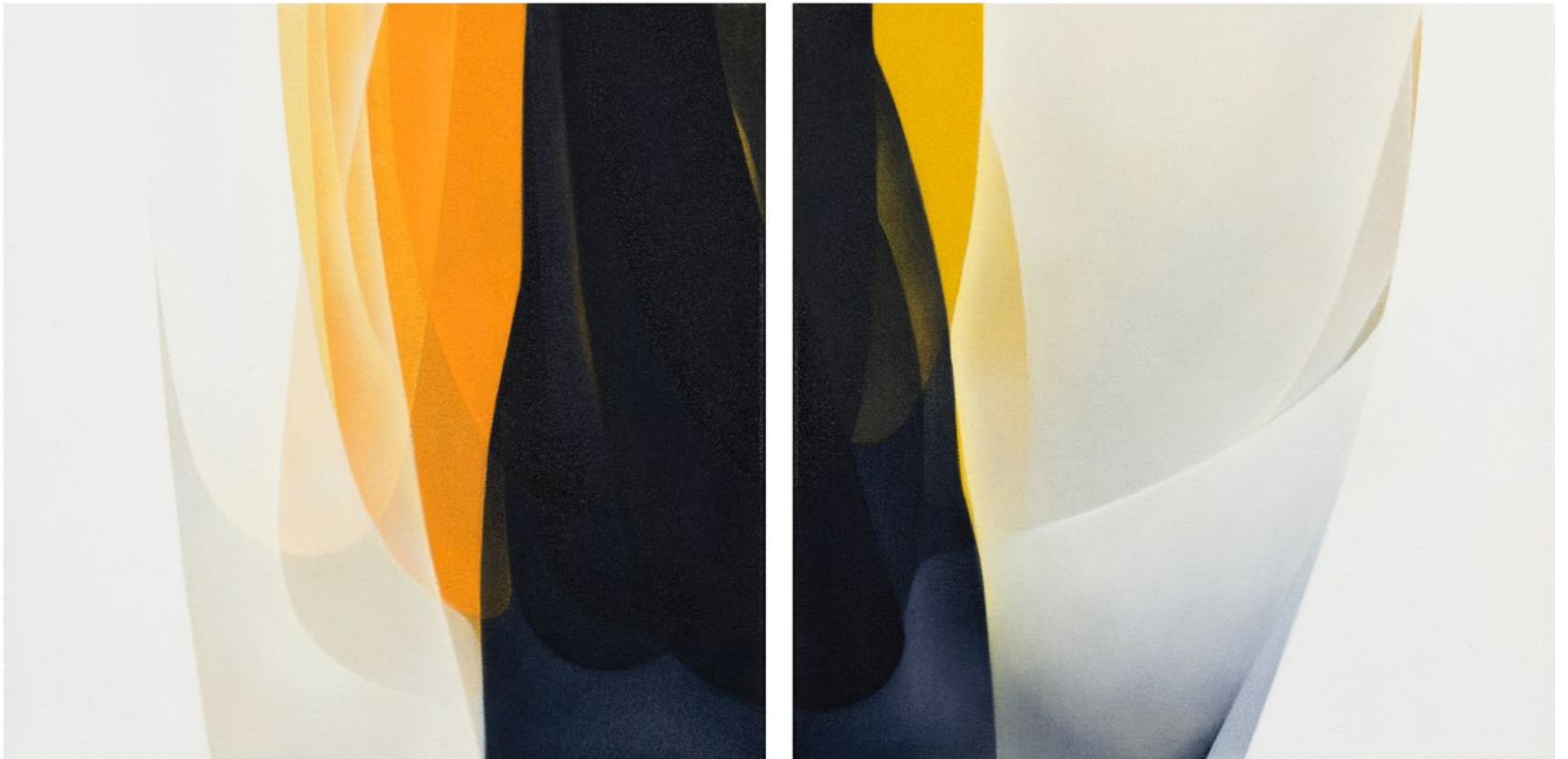
To scale on wall



Tracefold, 2025
acrylic on canvas, 100 x 70cm
\$6,000 AUD



To scale on wall



Resting Rift, 2025
acrylic on canvas (diptych), 35 x 75cm
\$4,000 AUD



Interval of Stillness, 2025
acrylic on canvas (diptych), 35 x 75cm
\$4,000 AUD



To scale on wall

AGNETA EKHOLM

Finnish-born, Victorian-based artist Agneta Ekholm has been a finalist in the Muswellbrook Art Prize (2020), Ravenswood Art Prize (2020, 2018), the Wilson Visual Art Award (2013), the Fleurieu Art Prize (2013), the Mount Eyre Art Prize (2012), the Fisher's Ghost Art Award (2012) and the Redland Art Award (2012) as well as being a six time finalist in the Calleen Art Award (2010-2016). In 2017 Agneta won the Best Artist Award at Denfair. She has completed major commissions for the Novotel, Melbourne, the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Guangzhou, China, the Marriott Hotel, Beijing, and The Parisian Sands, Macau, China. Her works are held in major public and private collections nationally and internationally, including Ritz Carlton Yacht Collection, Artbank, the Embassy of Finland (Australia), Sony Music Corporation, Google (USA), JW Marriott Hotel, Miami, Florida, Marriott Dallas Market Center, USA, Mandarin Oriental, Guangzhou, Marriott Hotel, Beijing and Rydges Hotel Group, York, USA.

Born Helsinki, Finland

Lives and works in Melbourne, Australia

EDUCATION

- 1994-96 Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art with Honours (Painting), RMIT
- 1991-94 Bachelor of Visual Arts, The Swedish Art School of Nykarleby, Finland
- 1988-89 Art Certificate, Västra Nylands College, Finland
- 1984-85 Creative Development certificate, College of Fine Arts, Helsinki

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Sojourn, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2024 Sequences, M Contemporary, Sydney , NSW
- 2023 Confluence, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2023 Where The Light Gets In, M Contemporary, Sydney ,NSW
- 2022 Continuum, Beaver Galleries, Canberra, ACT
- 2022 Holding Space, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2021 New Paintings, M Contemporary, Sydney, NSW
- 2019 Levitate, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2018 Recent Paintings, M Contemporary, Sydney, NSW
- 2017 Figment, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2015 Unfold, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2013 Elements, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2011 Arthouse Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand
- 2011 Nordens Hus, Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2009 Recent Work, Koru Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2009 Trace, Gallery 101, Melbourne, VIC
- 2008 Orbit, Gallery O, Perth, WA
- 2008 Orbit, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2006 arcana, Gallery 101, Melbourne, VIC
- 2006 arcana 2, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2004 Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2003 Reflections, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2003 Embassy of Finland, Canberra, ACT

AGNETA EKHOLM

2002 J Space Contemporary Art Centre, Dandenong, VIC
2002 Goya Galleries, Melbourne, VIC
2002 tmp.worldwide, 333 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC
2000 Hotel Sofitel, Melbourne, VIC
1999 Iridescence, West Space, Melbourne, VIC
1999 Soho Galleries, Sydney, NSW
1999 The Yellow House Gallery, Castlemaine, VIC
1998 Gallery High 445, Melbourne, VIC
1998 Chiara Goya Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
1996 Impulsions, RMIT First Site Gallery, Melbourne, VIC

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 Horizons, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2024 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, M Contemporary, Sydney ,NSW
2023 Small Works, Beaver Galleries, Canberra, ACT
2023 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, M Contemporary, Sydney, NSW
2022 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, M Contemporary, Sydney, NSW
2021 8 Year Anniversary Group Show, M Contemporary , Sydney, NSW
2021 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, M Contemporary, Sydney, NSW
2020 Of Colour and Light - Biennial, West End Art Space, Melbourne, VIC
2019 30 x 30, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne
2019 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Carriageworks, Sydney
2019 Art Central Hong Kong, M Contemporary, Hong Kong
2018 Sydney Contemporary, M Contemporary, Sydney
2018 Subterrain, FLG at Collins Place, Melbourne Art Week
2017 The Winter Collection: Three Painters, Gallery Thirty Three, Wanaka, NZ
2016 FUSE, Flinders Lane Gallery, VIC
2016 Denfair, Flinders Lane Gallery Stall, Melbourne
2016 Painting and Platter, Koru Contemporary Art, Hong Kong
2016 Of Colour and Light, Yarra Sculpture Gallery, Melbourne
2015 Gallery Thirty Three, Wanaka, New Zealand
2015 Aptos Cruz Galleries, Stirling, SA
2014 25th Anniversary Exhibition, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2014 Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, VIC
2014 Energy Continuum, Gallery Thirty Three, Wanaka, New Zealand
2014 The Portrait Show, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2013 Dawn & Dusk, Olsen Irwin Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2013 East Meets West, Koru Contemporary Art, Hong Kong
2013 Gallery Thirty Three, Wanaka, New Zealand
2012 Space, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2012 Laisee Koru -10 Years of Art in Hong Kong, Koru Contemporary Art, Hong Kong, China
2012 AuCourant, Tim Olsen Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2012 The Studio Show II, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2011 Laisee Koru -10 Years of Art in Hong Kong, Koru Contemporary Art, Hong Kong, China
2011 Art Fair Copenhagen '11, Represented by Ama Galleria, Helsinki, Finland

AGNETA EKHOLM

- 2011 Art Fair Helsinki '11, Represented by Ama Galleria, Helsinki, Finland
- 2010 Autumn Collection, James Makin Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2010 Fine Art Asia 2010, Hong Kong International Art, Koru Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2009 Australian Contemporary Art 2009, Koru Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2008 Singapore Art Fair, Singapore
- 2008 A month of Sundays, Sunday & Rex, London, UK
- 2007 Koru Spring Show, Koru Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2007 Auckland Art Fair, represented by Whitespace, Auckland, NZ
- 2006 Group Show, Dagmar Art Consultants, Melbourne, VIC
- 2005 Three abstract painters, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2005 Essoign Club, courtesy of Gallery 101, Melbourne, VIC
- 2005 Auckland Art Fair, Whitespace, New Zealand
- 2004 Melbourne Art Fair, Gallery 101, Melbourne, VIC
- 2004 Harmony and Counterpoint, Gallery 101, Melbourne, VIC
- 2003 Sceggs Art Show, Sydney, NSW
- 2002 South - Sur: Group collaboration with artists in Bogota, Colombia
- 2002 Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra, ACT
- 2002 Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, VIC
- 2001 Morgan & Banks, Melbourne, VIC
- 2001 Ansett Golden Wing Lounge - Sydney Airport, NSW
- 2001 Glass Exposed, Goya Galleries, Melbourne, VIC
- 2001 Sceggs Art Show, Sydney, NSW
- 2001 Pushing Paint, Glass Street Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2000 Goya Galleries, Melbourne, VIC
- 2000 The Exquisite Corpse, Bendigo Art Gallery, (toured Victoria 2001)
- 2000 Hi/Lo Exotico, Espacio Alterno, Bogota, Colombia
- 2000 14 GO: Emerging artists make their mark, Bendigo Art Gallery, VIC
- 1999 The Post-Postcard Show, Linden Gallery, St. Kilda, VIC
- 1999 Coalesce, Dianne Tanzer Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 1999 Goya Galleries, Melbourne, VIC
- 1998 Hi/Lo Exotico: Group collaboration with artists in Bogota, Colombia
- 1996 RMIT Honours Graduate exhibition, Melbourne, VIC
- 1995 Seinajoen Taidehalli, Finland
- 1995 Context, Perception, Readings, RMIT City Campus
- 1995 Graduate Painting Exhibition, VIC
- 1994 Gallery Victor, Nykarleby, Finland
- 1994 Gallery Victor, Nykarleby, Finland
- 1993 Swedish Art School of Nykarleby, Spring exhibition, Umeå, Sweden
- 1992 Swedish Art School of Nykarleby, Spring exhibition, Umeå, Sweden
- 1989 Karis, Finland

AGNETA EKHOLM

GRANTS & PRIZES

2020 Finalist - Ravenswood Art Prize, NSW
2020 Finalist - 47th Muswellbrook Art Prize
2018 Finalist - Ravenswood Art Prize, NSW
2017 Winner - Best Art Award in Denfair, Melbourne
2016 Finalist - Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra
2015 Finalist - Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra
2014 Finalist - Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra
2013 Finalist - Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra
2013 Finalist - Fleurieu Art Prize, South Australia
2013 Finalist - Wilson Visual Art Award, Lismore, New South Wales
2012 Finalist - Mount Eyre Art Prize 2012, Rex Livingston, Sydney
2012 Finalist - Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra
2012 Finalist - Redland Art Award, Cleveland, Queensland
2012 Finalist - Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, NSW
2010 Finalist - Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra
2009 Finalist - Prometheus Visual Arts Award, Gold Coast
2009 Finalist - Mount Eyre Art Prize 2009, Rex Livingston Art Dealer, Sydney
2009 Finalist - DLAP 2009, Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Melbourne
2003 Arts Victoria Grant, Australia
2002 Embassy of Finland Grant, Australia
1999 Pat Corrigan Artist Grant, Australia
1993 Swedish cultural foundation, Finland grant towards studies at RMIT
1992 Scholarship - Swedish Art School of Nykarleby, Finland

REVIEWS / PUBLICATIONS / FEATURES

2023 'The Big Book of Little Art Essays' Flinders Lane Gallery
2023 Sasha Grishin 'Confluence' exhibition catalogue essay, FLG
2023 Art Almanac cover, October 2023
2023 Agneta Ekholm, 'Confluence', Art Guide Australia Sept / Oct 2023, p.54
2022 Sasha Grishin Review "In slow art refined elegance prevails"
2002 The Canberra Times, Sept. 12, 2022, p. 20
2002 InsideOut July Issue, Void House Duo: Hide and Seek, *Out of Darkness* p.91
2002 "Holding Space' Elli Walsh Catalogue Essay, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2021 Richard Morecroft Exhibition Interview, https://youtu.be/c8W7e_d3CSc
2019 Sydney Contemporary Special Ed, Courtney Kidd, Art Collector, p.72
2019 Levitate, Christopher Heathcote, Catalogue Essay, FLG
2017 Figment, Christopher Heathcote, Catalogue Essay, FLG
2016 Top 6 Summer 2016 Shows on Hong Kong's Cultural South Side, Claire Bouchara, Blouinartinfo HK, 18/7
2015 Artist Profile, Agneta Ekholm, Daily Imprint, www.dailyimprint.net, 14/4/15
2015 Unfold, Andrew Gaynor, Catalogue Essay, Flinders Lane Gallery,
2014 Taiteilijaksi Pajalahdentieltä Melbourne, Anni Kotkamaa, Lauttasaari, 19/12/14
2014 Taiteilija lähti maailmalle uudenkarlepyyn eväin, Anni Kotkamaa, Pietarsaaren Sanomat, 16/2 pp.10-11
2014 Modern Vagabond minns somrarna i Nagu, Anni Kotkamaa, Åbo Underrättelser, 12/7
2013 The Almighty Johnsons, artwork featured season 3, episode 4, NZ

AGNETA EKHOLM

- 2013 Elements, Phe Luxford, Catalogue Essay, Flinders Lane Gallery, VIC
- 2012 Space, Phe Luxford, Catalogue Essay, Flinders Lane Gallery
- 2012 Space exhibition, Phe Luxford, The Melbourne review, August
- 2012 Art/The here and now, Financial Review 5/7
- 2011 'Laisee :10 years of Koru Contemporary Art', John Batten, Hong Kong
- 2009 Agneta Ekholm at Koru Contemporary Art, Marguerite Brown, Asian Art News pp.110-112, March/April
- 2009 Art Notes, Art Monthly, September issue
- 2008 Abstract fascination, Claire Halliday, Insite Homes Antiques Art, Autumn issue
- 2008 Orbit, Marguerite Brown, Catalogue Essay, Gallery O, Perth.
- 2008 Whitespace, Auckland NZ
- 2008 The galleries: Hooked by lustre of our heritage. T.J. McNamara,
- 2008 The New Zealand Herald, 5/7
- 2006 101 Collins Quarterly, Melbourne
- 2006 Arcana, Christopher Heathcote, Catalogue Essay, Gallery 101, Melbourne
- 2006 art news.co.nz New Zealand, September
- 2006 nzlive.com New Zealand culture online, September
- 2005 101 Collins Quarterly, Melbourne
- 2004 Harmony & Counterpoint, Art Monthly Australia, November
- 2004 Harmony & Counterpoint, Emma Gill, Catalogue, Gallery 101, Melbourne
- 2004 Abstract Patterns, Megan Backhouse, The Age 30/10
- 2004 Scandinavian snow and Bondi beach, Derek Cheng, The New Zealand Herald, 3/11
- 2004 Imagination takes wing, T. J. McNamara, The New Zealand Herald, 3/11
- 2003 CityScene, Auckland City, 23/3
- 2003 Worldview, SBS radio interview
- 2002 Galleries And Eclectic Furniture, The Melbourne Times, 22/5
- 2002 Melbourne Art Fair 2002 Catalogue
- 2001 Consulting the key to a super purchase, The Age, 18/6
- 2001 Glass Exposed, critic's choice by Jeff Makin, Herald-Sun, 18/6
- 2000 The Arts Show, presented by Jill Singer, ABC-TV, 22/5
- 1999 Rhythm of color, Trish Satori Bendigo Advertiser, 27/11
- 1999 Exhibition at Yellow House Gallery, Castlemaine Mail, 3/12
- 1998 Melbourne Fringe Visual Arts catalogue
- 1996 RMIT Department of Fine Art Graduate catalogue
- 1996 RMIT Fine Art (Painting), Graduate & Honours postcard publication
- 1995 RMIT Department of Fine Art Graduate catalogue
- 1994 Article/review on Gallery Victor exhibition, Vasa Bladet, 19/1
- 1994 Article/review on Gallery Victor exhibition, Keski Pohjanmaa, 20/1
- 1993 Swedish Art School of Nykarleby, 1993 Year Report

AGNETA EKHOLM

COMMISSIONS

2020 Ritz Carlton Yacht Collection, The Netherlands
2018 Novotel Hotel, Melbourne
2017 The Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas, USA
2016 The Parisian, Macau, China
2012 Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Guangzhou, China
2005 George Freeman Collection, Melbourne, Australia
2003 Alan Wilson Consulting, Melbourne, Australia
2000 Book cover collaboration with Nina Sederholm, Berenikes Hår, Schildts, Helsinki, Finland

COLLECTIONS

Artbank; Alan Wilson Collection; Art Associates, Auckland, New Zealand; Brandt Revisionspartnerselskab, Denmark; Dagmar Art Consultants; Elio Sarpi Collection; Embassy of Finland, Australia; George Freeman Collection; Google, San Francisco, USA; Goya Collection; Heidrick & Struggles; JW Marriott Hotel, Miami, FL, USA; Hyatt Tysons Corner, Virginia, USA; LK Mur & Platt Ab, Sweden; Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Guangzhou, China; Manson Group, Auckland, New Zealand; Marriott Hotel, Beijing, China; Orix, Australia; Novotel Hotel, South Wharf, Melbourne; Ritz Carlton Yacht Collection, The Netherlands; Rydges Hotel Group; Sioma Wajchman Collection; Scarpi Collection; S. Keable & Co. Pty. Ltd; Sony Music Corporation; Taylors Group, Australia; Val Morgan Collection; The Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas, USA ; The Parisian, Macau, China ; Washington Court Hotel, Washington DC, USA; Wyatt Alexander & Koistinen; Private Collections in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, Scandinavia; United States and Canada.



FLINDERSLANEGALLERY

Level 1, The Nicholas Building
cnr 37 Swanston St and Flinders Lane
MELBOURNE 3000
WWW.FLG.COM.AU
INFO@FLG.COM.AU
+ 61 3 9654 3332

Tue - Sat 11am - 5pm