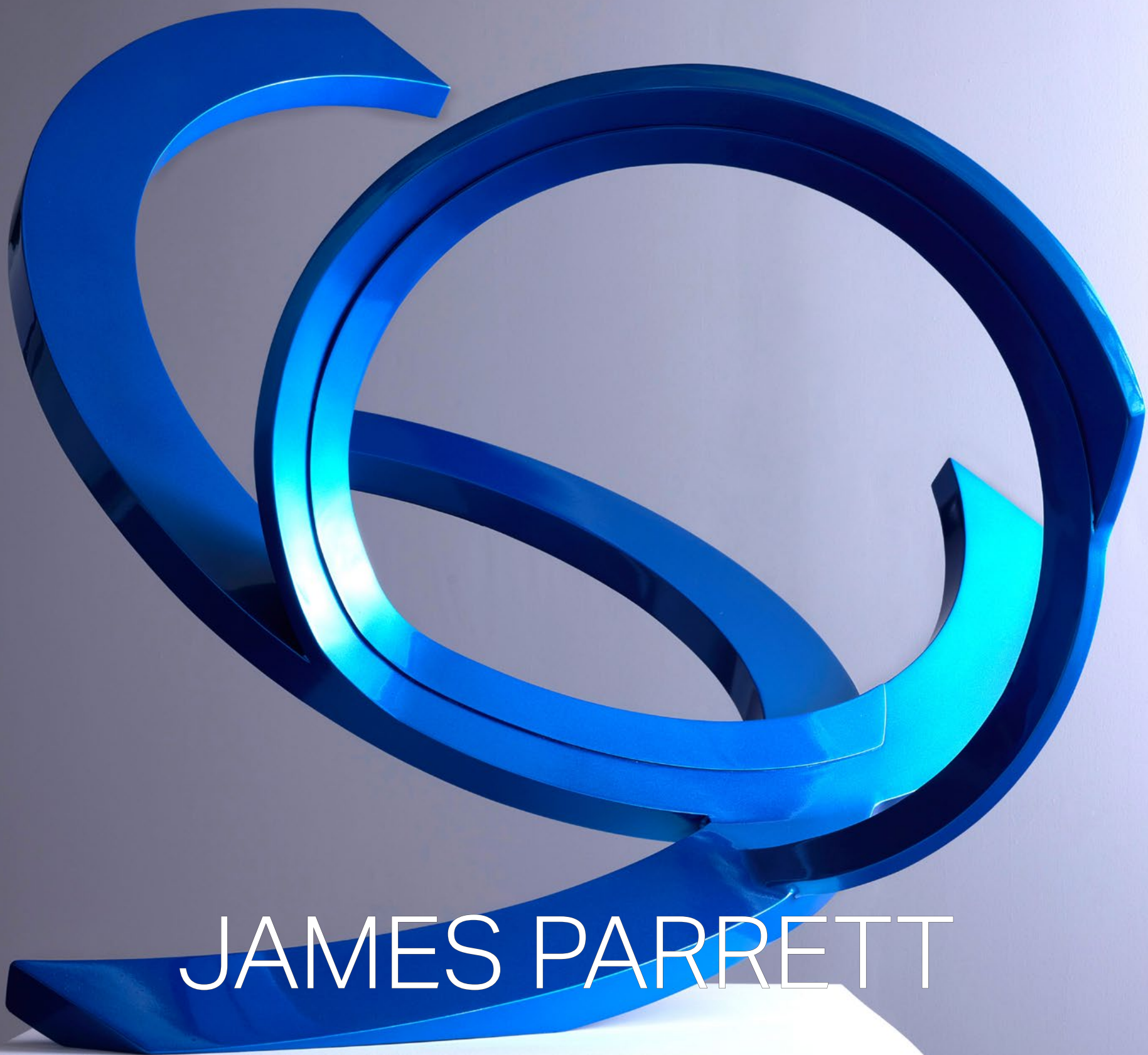




JAMES PARRETT

Bowed

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Bowed

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.

[RSVP](#)

ARTIST PROFILE:

James Parrett completed his Bachelors Degree in Fine Art from Monash University in 1999 and undertook Honours at the Victorian College of the Arts in 2003. He was awarded the major acquisitive prize at Sculpture By the Sea, Bondi in 2018 and was announced as the winner of the prestigious Montalto Sculpture Prize in 2016. Parrett has exhibited in every major sculpture prize in Australia and has completed many public art commissions, notably the Rabaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra in 2012, commemorate the 70th anniversary of Australia's worst maritime disaster.

He has been announced as a finalist in Victoria's two most prestigious competitions, the McClelland Contemporary Sculpture Award (five times), and the Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize (eleven times). Most recently he has been included in the 2024 Swell Sculpture Festival (QLD), the 2024 Sculpture in the Vineyards Festival (NSW) and the Yering Station Sculpture Prize (VIC). His work is held in a number of major sculpture collections in Australia and abroad, notable collections including the High Court of Australia, Monash University, Morry Fraid Collection and BMW Australia. James Parrett first exhibited with Flinders Lane Gallery in 2007 when he was a finalist in the FLG Emerging Artist Award, Exploration 7.

Bowed

Catalogue Essay by Andrew Gaynor, 2025

For two decades, James Parrett has been exploring the sculptural possibilities of circles and arcs. There are echoes of the industrial ethos of Hard Edge abstraction from the 1950s and 1960s, but unlike that manifesto-driven and short-lived movement, Parrett sees his work as possessing a natural and long-standing evolution over time, with no radical departures reflecting the whims of fashion or the market. This resolute, formalist approach is akin to that of revered Australian artist Clarice Beckett who was once asked why she focussed on her own neighbourhood and never travelled overseas. She responded: 'I have only just got the hang of painting Beaumaris after all these years, why should I go somewhere else strange to paint?'¹ It is the same with Parrett; he still finds a rich vein of source material and inspiration within the circular form. Allied to this, he is an avid skateboard rider who built his own skate bowl within his studio, observing that before each move a skater must first calculate the line or angle. These variable arcs further inform his pieces as does his other passion, surfing. 'I'm not just mimicking the waves in my sculptures,' he says. 'Rather, I'm responding to the power of the wave, how it has a peaceful energy at the start and then it turns into this explosive energy that nobody can control. It can go anywhere it wants to go and do anything it wants to do. And it's the contrast between those two energies I want my work to have, often quite peaceful but they sometimes explode.'²

These combinations underpin Parrett's oeuvre with two key examples being the *Rabaul* and *Montevideo Maru* memorial, 2012, commissioned by the Australian War Memorial, Canberra; and *M-Fortysix*, which won the Aqualand Award at *Sculpture by the Sea*, Sydney, in 2018.

Parrett's preferred use of anonymity in his titles (currently running from *M-One*, 2006, to *M-Sixtythree*, 2025) allows the viewer greater range in their own response to his pieces. This does not mean that they *cannot* be emotionally affected by his sculptures, but their interpretive freedom is not forced, directed or criticised by the artist.

The exhibition *Bowed* at Flinders Lane Gallery is full of Parrett's masterly responses to the challenges of circular geometry and the materials he employs. Parrett admits to being fascinated by the light and dark of stainless steel and its ability to reflect its surroundings, but he also employs richly coloured lacquer on pieces such as the red, wall-mounted *M-Fiftyone* or the automotive blue of the cantilevered *M-Fiftyfive*. Increasingly, his recent work experiments with tonality and/or contrast as seen in the burnished ends of *M-Sixty* or the elegant blue inserts within the stainless steel *M-Sixty-one*, constructed from arcs of mathematically related diameter.

James Parrett's *Bowed* is an exhibition full of technical mastery and visual fascination, one which also exudes an optimism that is increasingly rare in an otherwise didactic world of contemporary art.

1. Clarice Beckett, c.1928. Quoted in: Hollinrake, R, Clarice Beckett: the artist and her circle, Macmillan, Melbourne, 1979, p.21

2. James Parrett, 2018. See: 'Aqualand interview series – James Parrett', Sculpture by the Sea (online), <https://sculpturebythesea.com/aqualand-artist-interview-series-james-parrett/> Accessed 28.01.25

M-Sixtyone- angle 1



James Parrett
M-Sixtyone 2025
stainless steel and automotive paint
86cm x 67cm x 62cm
\$18,500 AUD

M-Sixtyone- angle 2



James Parrett
M-Sixtyone 2025
stainless steel and automotive paint
86cm x 67cm x 62cm
\$18,500 AUD

M-Sixtyone- angle 3



James Parrett
M-Sixtyone 2025
stainless steel and automotive paint
86cm x 67cm x 62cm
\$18,500 AUD

M-Fiftyfive- angle 1



James Parrett
M-Fiftyfive 2023
painted aluminium
100cm x 120cm x 85cm
\$20,000 AUD

M-Fiftyfive- angle 2



James Parrett
M-Fiftyfive 2023
painted aluminium
100cm x 120cm x 85cm
\$20,000 AUD

M-Fiftyfive- angle 3



James Parrett
M-Fiftyfive 2023
painted aluminium
100cm x 120cm x 85cm
\$20,000 AUD

M-Fiftyone- angle 1



James Parrett
M-fiftyone 2025
painted aluminium
104cm x 70cm x 48cm
\$20,000 AUD

M-Fortysix- angle 1



James Parrett
M-Fortysix maquette 2025
stainless steel and automotive paint
73cm x 85cm 65cm
\$18,500 AUD

M-Fortysix- angle 2



James Parrett
M-Fortysix maquette 2025
stainless steel and automotive paint
73cm x 85cm 65cm
\$18,500 AUD

M-Fortysix- angle 3

James Parrett
M-Fortysix maquette 2025
stainless steel and automotive paint
73cm x 85cm 65cm
\$18,500 AUD



M-Sixty- angle 1



James Parrett
M-Sixty 2023
painted stainless steel
95cm x 110cm x 45cm
\$16,000 AUD

M-Sixty- angle 2



James Parrett
M-Sixty 2023
painted stainless steel
95cm x 110cm x 45cm
\$16,000 AUD

M-Sixtytwo- angle 1

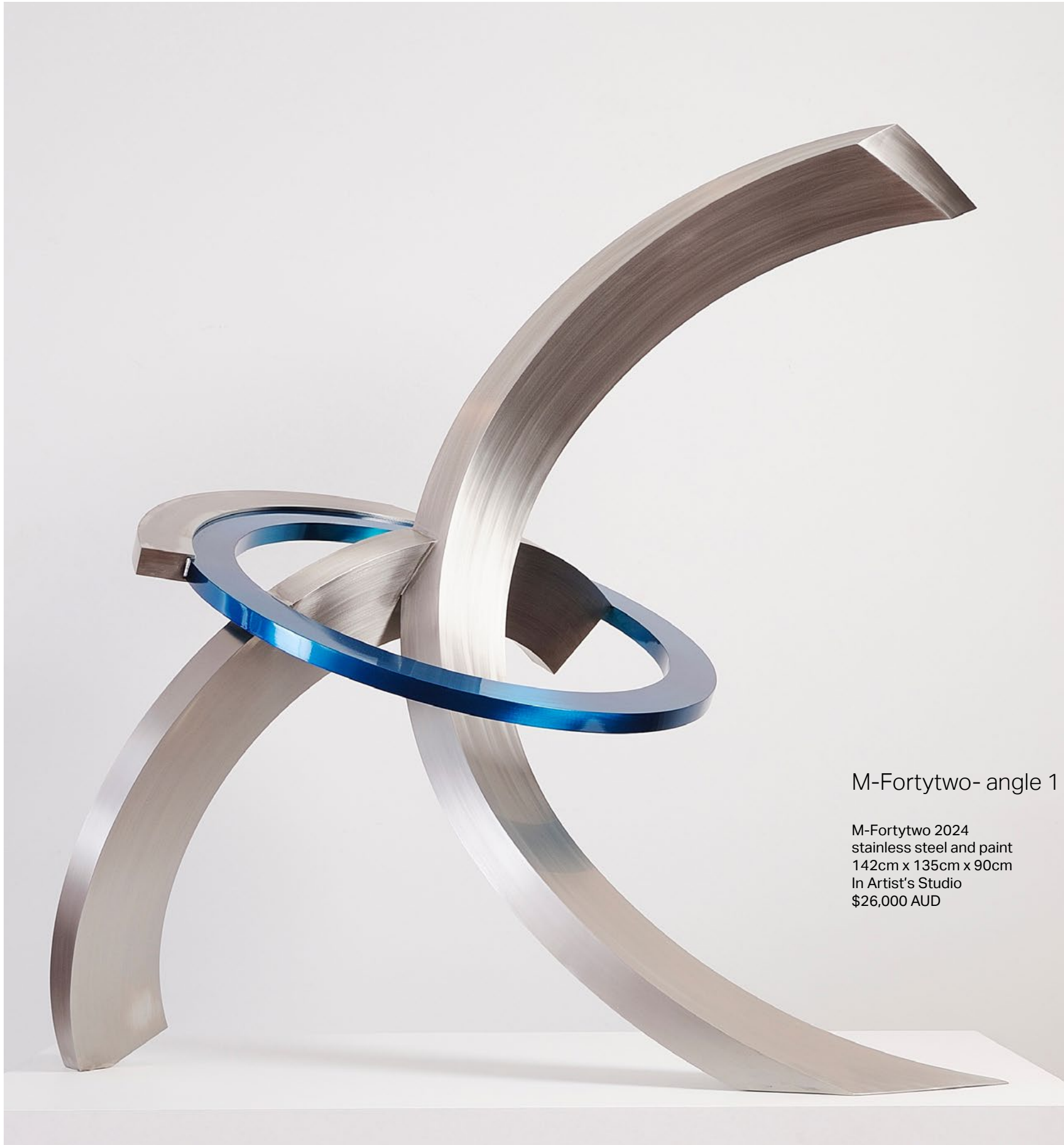


James Parrett
M-Sixtytwo 2025
stainless steel
173cm x 138cm x 45cm
\$22,000 AUD

M-Sixtytwo-angle 2

James Parrett
M-Sixtytwo 2026
stainless steel
173cm x 138cm x 45cm
\$22,000 AUD

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fortytwo- angle 1

M-Fortytwo 2024
stainless steel and paint
142cm x 135cm x 90cm
In Artist's Studio
\$26,000 AUD

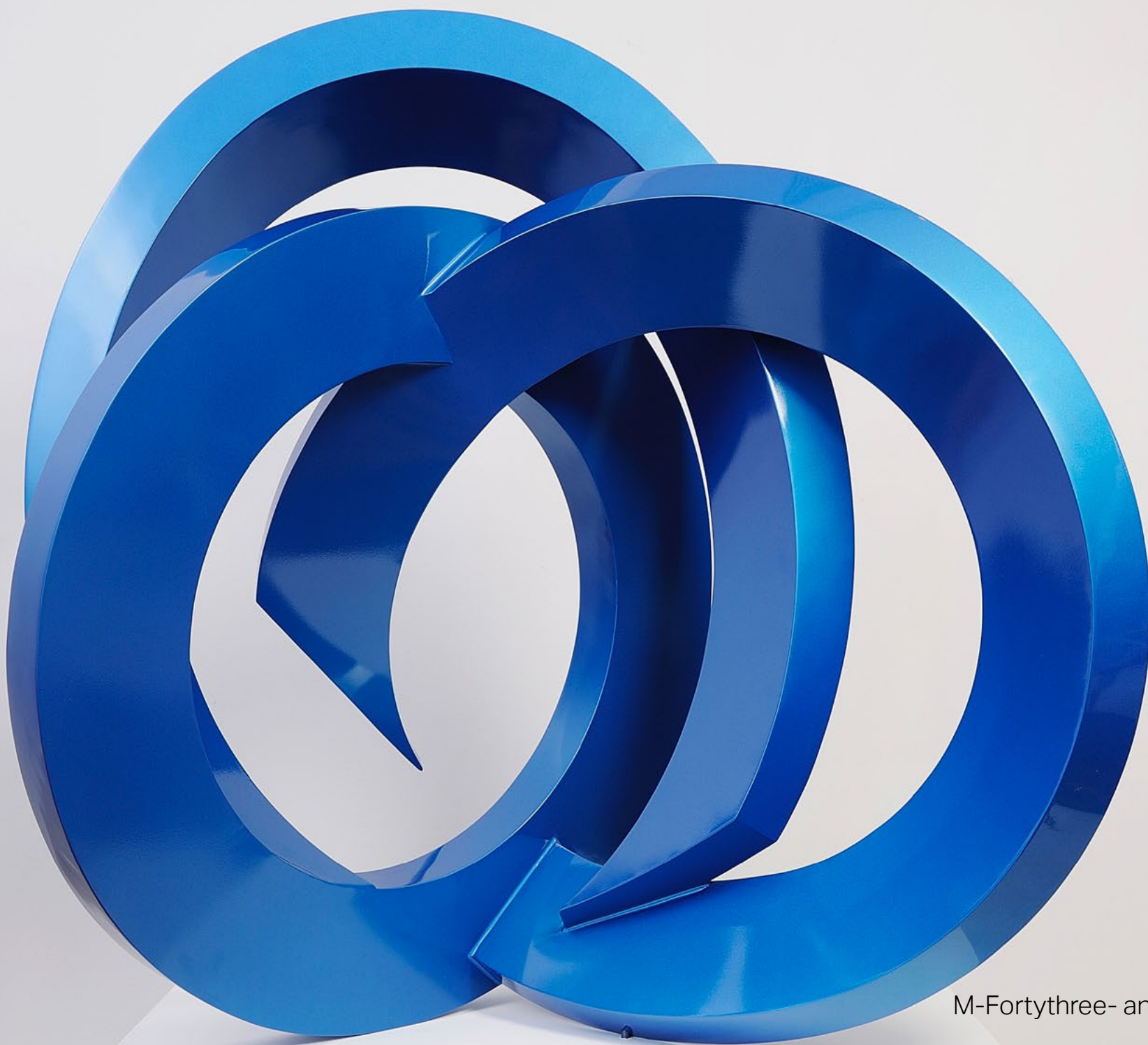
available large scale artworks
in the studio

M-Fortytwo- angle 2

M-Fortytwo 2024
stainless steel and paint
142cm x 135cm x 90cm
In Artist's Studio
\$26,000 AUD



available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fortythree- angle 1

M-Fortythree 2017
painted aluminium with stainless
steel base
140cm x 140cm x 100cm
In Artist's Studio
\$28,000 AUD

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fortythree- angle 2

M-Fortythree 2017
painted aluminium with stainless
steel base
140cm x 140cm x 100cm
In Artist's Studio
\$28,000 AUD

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fortyseven- angle 1

M-Fortyseven 2023
stainless steel
170 x 267 x 215 cm
In Artist's Studio
\$55,000

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fifty- angle 1

M-fifty 2022
stainless steel
230 x 310 x 230 cm
In Artist's Studio
\$85,000

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fiftytwo- angle 1

M-Fiftytwo 2022
painted aluminium with stainless
steel base
160cm x 200cm x 100cm
In Artist's Studio
\$38,000 AUD

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fiftytwo- angle 2

M-Fiftytwo 2022
painted aluminium with stainless
steel base
160cm x 200cm x 100cm
In Artist's Studio
\$38,000 AUD

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fiftythree- angle 1

M-fifty-three 2023
painted aluminium
140cm x 160cm x 150cm
In artist's studio
\$38,000 AUD

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fiftythree- angle 2

M-fifty-three 2023
painted aluminium
140cm x 160cm x 150cm
In artist's studio
\$38,000 AUD

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fiftyfour- angle 1

M-fiftyfour 2022
stainless steel
170 x 225 x 187 cm
In Artist's Studio
\$48,000

available large scale artworks
in the studio



M-Fiftyeight- angle 1

M-fiftyeight 2023
stainless steel
280 x 200 x 200 cm
In Artist's Studio
\$50,000

JAMES PARRETT

EDUCATION

- 1998 B.A. in Sculpture, Monash University, Caulfield, Vic.
- 2002 B.A. (Honours) in Sculpture, Victoria College of the Arts, Melbourne, Vic.

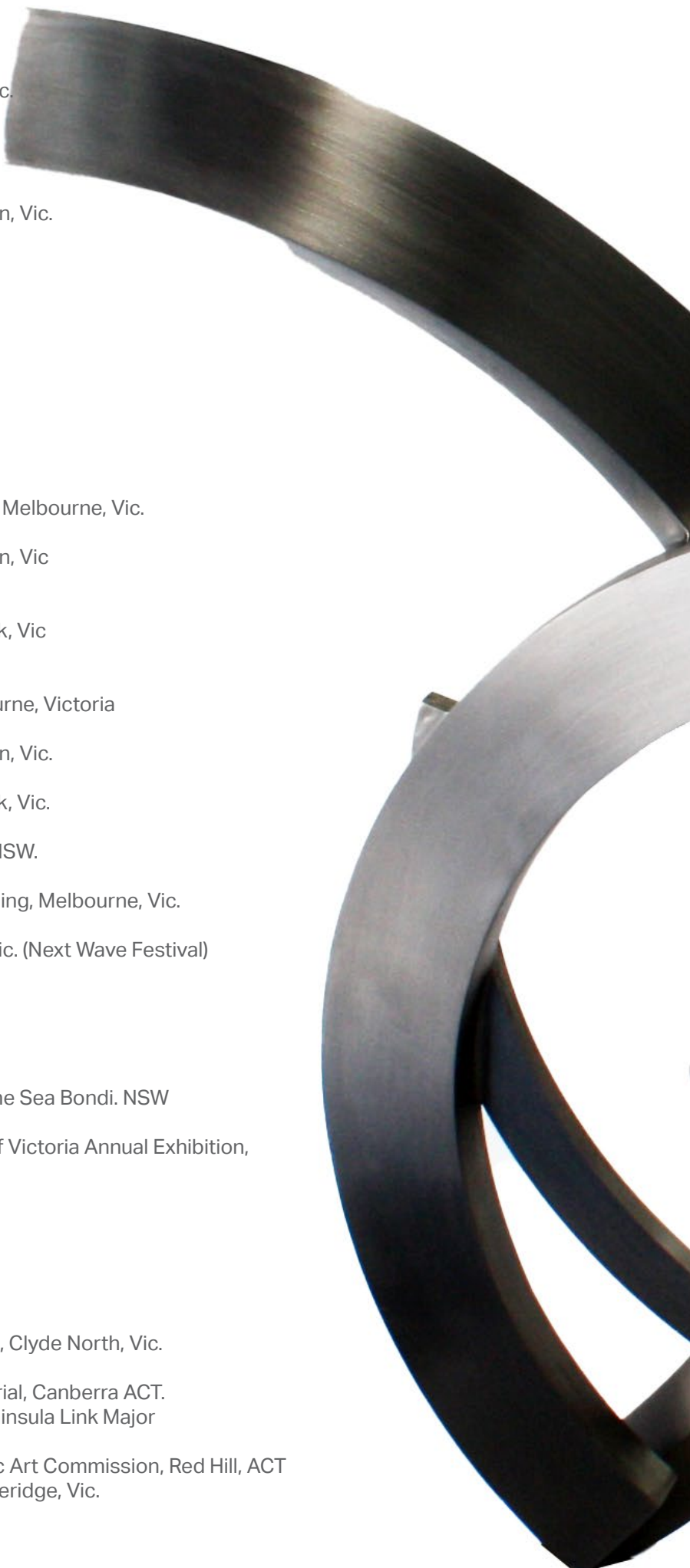
SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Bowed, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, Vic
- 2023 Radius, Gould Creative, Melbourne, Vic.
- 2017 Lines, Gould Galleries, Melbourne, Vic
- 2014 Studio Open Day, Coburg, Vic
- 2013 Arc, Gould Gallery, Melbourne, Vic
- 2011 Intersect, Gould Gallery, Melbourne, Vic,
- 2006 4square (Presented by Andrew Gaynor), Upstairs Flinders, Melbourne
- 2003 Some New Sculptures, Murdoch & Barclay Gallery, Melbourne, Vic.
- 2001 Recent Sculptures, Murdoch & Barclay Gallery, Melbourne, Vic.

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Swell Sculpture Festival, Currumbin Beach, QLD
- 2024 Sculpture in the Vineyards, Wollombi Sculpture Festival, NSW
- 2023 Sculpture on the Farm, Fosterton, NSW.
- 2022 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize, Red Hill, Vic.
- 2022 Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi, Sydney, N.S.W.
- 2022 Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards, Yarra Glen, Vic.
- 2022 Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe, Western Australia.
- 2022 Sculpture on the wharf Exhibition, Woolloomooloo, NSW.
- 2021 Moon Art Fair, Hamburg, Germany
- 2021 Gippsland Sculpture Exhibition, Yinnar, Vic.
- 2021 Swell Sculpture Festival, Currumbin Beach, QLD
- 2021 Sculpture on the farm, Fosterton, NSW.
- 2021 Sculpture on the wharf Exhibition, Woolloomooloo, NSW.
- 2020 Sculpture on the wharf Exhibition, Woolloomooloo, NSW.
- 2020 Art in the Vines, Hanging Rock Winery. Mount Mecedon, Vic.
- 2020 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize, Red Hill, Vic.
- 2019 Sculpture on the wharf Exhibition, Woolloomooloo, NSW.
- 2019 Art in the Vines, Hanging Rock Winery. Mount Mecedon, Vic.
- 2019 Swell Sculpture Festival, Currumbin Beach, QLD
- 2019 Spring 1883, Gould Creative room, Sydney NSW.
- 2018 Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi, Sydney, N.S.W. (Winner)
- 2018 Art in the Vines, Hanging Rock Winery. Mount Mecedon, Vic.
- 2018 Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards, Yarra Glen, Vic.
- 2018 Sculpture on Clyde, Batemans Bay, NSW
- 2018 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize. Red Hill, Vic.
- 2018 The Lorne Sculpture Biennale, Lorne, Vic.
- 2016 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize. Red Hill, Vic. (Winner)
- 2016 Woollahra Sculpture Prize, Woollahra Council Chambers, Sydney, NSW.
- 2015 Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards 2015, Yarra Glen, Vic.
- 2015 Sculpture on the wharf Exhibition 2015, Woolloomooloo, NSW.
- 2015 The Directors Choice, Celebrating 35 years, Gould Gallery, Vic.
- 2014 McClelland Contemporary Sculpture Survey and Award, Langwarrin, Vic.
- 2014 Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards 2014, Yarra Glen, Vic.
- 2014 Toyota Sculpture 14 Exhibition, Port Melbourne, Vic
- 2014 The Lorne Sculpture Biennale, Lorne, Vic.2014
- 2014 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize, Red Hill, Vic.
- 2013 Sculpture for sight, Adelaide, South Australia.
- 2013 Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards 2013, Yarra Glen, Vic.
- 2013 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize, Red Hill, Vic.
- 2012 McClelland Contemporary Sculpture Survey and Award, Langwarrin, Vic.
- 2012 The Melbourne Sculpture Prize 2012, Melbourne Vic.





2012 Toorak Village Festival of Sculpture, Melbourne Vic.
 2012 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize, Red Hill, Vic.
 2011 Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards 2011, Yarra Glen Vic.
 2011 Spectacle and Observer, Traffic Jam Gallery, Neutral Bay, NSW.
 2011 Allsorts 2011, Gould Gallery, Melbourne, Vic.
 2011 The Autumn Collection, Gould Gallery, Melbourne, Vic.
 2011 Sculpture 2011, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney, N.S.W
 2010 McClelland Contemporary Sculpture Survey and Award, Langwarrin, Vic.
 2010 Deakin University small sculpture prize, Burwood, Vic
 2010 Yering station sculpture prize, Yarra Glen, Vic
 2010 Swell Sculpture Festival, Currumbin Beach, QLD
 2010 Toorak Village Festival of Sculpture, Melbourne Vic.
 2010 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize, Red Hill, Vic.
 2009 Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi, Sydney, N.S.W.
 2009 Lorne Sculpture Prize, Lorne, Victoria
 2009 Object and Construct, Axia Modern Art, Melbourne
 2009 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize, Red Hill, Vic.
 2008 Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi, Sydney, N.S.W.
 2008 Toorak Village Festival of Sculpture, Melbourne Vic.
 2008 Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show Sculpture Show, Melbourne, Vic.
 2008 Contempora 2 Sculpture Prize, Docklands, Vic.
 2007 McClelland Contemporary Sculpture Survey and Award, Langwarrin, Vic
 2007 Sculpture 2007, Australian Art Resources, Southbank, Vic.
 2007 Exploration Seven. Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, Vic.
 2007 Keith & Helen Murdoch Travel Scholarship, V.C.A Gallery, Southbank, Vic
 2007 Montalto winery sculpture prize, Red Hill, Vic.
 2006 Moreland Sculpture Prize, Melbourne, Vic.
 2006 Williamstown Festival - Tattersall's Contemporary Art Prize, Melbourne, Victoria
 2006 Montalto winery sculpture prize, Red Hill, Vic.
 2005 McClelland Contemporary Sculpture Survey and Award. Langwarrin, Vic.
 2003 Design Festa, Odaiba Big Site Convention Centre, Tokyo, Japan.
 2003 Keith & Helen Murdoch Travel Scholarship, V.C.A Gallery, Southbank, Vic.
 2002 Grad show, V.C.A School of Art, Melbourne, Vic.
 2002 Woollahra Sculpture Prize, Woollahra Council Chambers, Sydney, NSW.
 2002 The Honours Show, V.C.A Student Gallery, Melbourne, Vic.
 2001 Association of Sculptors of Victoria Annual Exhibition, Telstra Building, Melbourne, Vic.
 2001 Ox cart studio group exhibition, Preview Gallery, Melbourne, Vic.
 2000 Is that the time-no that is a wrist watch, Mass Gallery, Melbourne Vic. (Next Wave Festival)
 1999 Central Gold fields Sculpture Award, C.G.R.A.C, Maryborough, Vic.
 1998 Monash Uni, Ararat Gallery, Ararat Tafe, Ararat, Vic.
 1997 What's all that about, Fresh Gallery, Melbourne, Vic.

AWARDS

2018 Recipient of the 2018 Aqualand Sculpture Award at Sculpture by the Sea Bondi. NSW
 2016 Recipient of the 2016 Montalto Winery Sculpture Prize
 2001 Second Prize, The Tina Wentcher Prize, Association of Sculptors of Victoria Annual Exhibition, Telstra Building, Melbourne, Vic.
 1998 3rd year Open Day Sculpture Prize, Monash University.

COMMISSIONS

2023 Catholic University Vic.
 2022 Hume st Park Commission, North Sydney, NSW
 2021 Ramleggh Active Open Space, City of Casey Public Art Commission, Clyde North, Vic.
 2014 M-twentyfive. Private collector, South Yarra, Vic.
 2012 The Rebaul and Montevideo Maru Memorial, Australian War Memorial, Canberra ACT.
 2011 Invited (one of ten sculptors) for the Southern Way/McClelland Peninsula Link Major Sculpture Commission, Mornington Vic.
 2010 Short listed (one of four sculptors), Red Hill Shopping Centre Public Art Commission, Red Hill, ACT
 2009 Metricon 'Mandalay at Beveridge' Hume Highway Commission Beveridge, Vic.

- 2009 Short listed (one of three sculptors) for proposed Chadstone Shopping Centre western forecourt entrance commission, Chadstone Vic.
- 2008 Australand foyer commission, Rhodes Corporate Park, Rhodes N.S.W
- 2007 Short listed (one of four sculptors), Crown Towers Hotel Lobby Commission, Southbank, Vic
- 2006 Wall piece for the new Becasse Restaurant, Sydney C.B.D, NSW.
- 2002 BMW Executive Lounge/sales room commission, Southbank, Vic.
- 1998 Hotel Sofitel Banner Project, Melbourne City Council and Hotel Sofitel.

COLLECTIONS

Catholic University
 North Sydney Council
 City of Casey
 Sydney Harbour Federation Trust
 Montalto Winery, Red Hill, Victoria
 Australian War Memorial Canberra
 Monash University
 Becasse Restaurant, Sydney
 Spring and Parks Commercial and Industrial Property Consultants, Melb
 Numerous private collections



Yering station sculpture prize, Yarra Glen, Vic



Sculpture in the Vineyards, Wollombi Sculpture Festival, NSW



Swell Sculpture Festival, Currumbin Beach, QLD



FLINDERS LANE GALLERY

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