

A DISTANT VIEW PERSPECTIVES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ART

A three part series

Part One - Making the Modern

The rural dream of the 20s was shattered by the world depression of the 30s. In Western Australia it was also the dawning of internationalism and the time of a gradual introduction of modernism to Western Australian art and artists. While our modernists tended to be realists and their focus was still on the figure and landscape, modernism was here to stay.

This program explores some of the influences of Modernism on Western Australian art and focuses on the work of a number of Western Australian artists including John Barker, Portia Bennett, Elise Blumann, Herbert McKlinton, Walter Meston, John Oldham, Axel Poignant and Harald Vike.

Part Two - The Emerging Contemporary Scene

While the experience of the bush was still a major influence on Western Australian artists and their point of view was tied to the landscape, the 50s saw a commitment to modern forms and an exploration of the latest styles and methods from overseas.

This program looks at some of the influences of international artists including Hans Arhfeldt, David Jones, Howard Taylor, Tom Gibbons, Guy Grey-Smith, George Haynes, Robert Juniper, Brian McKay and performance artist Alan Vizents.

Part Three - Contemporary Art

The growth of a new international urban culture has led artists back to the city to live in the contemporary 'urban chaos' in search of their own history.

This program explores some of the influences on the development of contemporary Western Australian art and focuses on the work of a number of Western Australian artists including Thomas Alberts, Brian Blanchflower, Michelle Elliot, Thomas Horeau, Miriam Stannage, Howard Taylor and Virginia Ward.