

# JUSTIN O'BRIEN

CATALOGUE SUPPLEMENT



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compiled by Natalie Wilson

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## COMPLETE LIST OF WORKS

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This catalogue listing has been compiled on the basis of both information supplied by lenders and with reference to the extensive archive of exhibition catalogues, press clippings, interviews and correspondence gathered in the course of research for this exhibition, in particular from the Macquarie Galleries Papers held in the Art Gallery of New South Wales Research Library and Archive. Special acknowledgment is due to the pioneering work of Anthony Bradley and Christine France, whose O'Brien publications of 1982 (*The art of Justin O'Brien*) and 1987/97 (*Justin O'Brien: image and icon*) respectively, have been of invaluable assistance. Thank you also to Ciara Derkenne, Australian art department intern, who assembled the extensive bibliography from the library's vast collection of press clippings, and to Emma Collerton, Assistant registrar (curatorial) – Australian art, who assisted in the preparation of the list of works.

### ABBREVIATIONS

inscr	inscribed
ur	upper right
lr	lower right
ul	upper left
ll	lower left
cnr	corner
col ill	colour illustration
ill	illustration
no	catalogue number
fig	figure number
NFS	not for sale

AGNSW	Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
AGSA	Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
AGWA	Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
NAGNSW	National Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
NAGSA	National Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
NGA	National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
NGV	National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
QAG	Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
QNAG	Queensland National Art Gallery, Brisbane
SHEG	S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney
TMAG	Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery, Hobart

Bradley, 1982	Anthony Bradley, <i>The art of Justin O'Brien</i> , The Craftsman's Press, Sydney 1982
France, 1987	Christine France, <i>Justin O'Brien: image and icon</i> , Craftsman House, Sydney 1987
France, 1997	Christine France, <i>Justin O'Brien: image and icon</i> , Craftsman House, Sydney 1997 (rev edn)

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

This is a complete catalogue of works displayed in the retrospective exhibition, *Justin O'Brien: the sacred music of colour*, held at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 18 December 2010 – 27 February 2011. An abbreviated, summary version is published in the printed exhibition catalogue: Barry Pearce & Natalie Wilson, *Justin O'Brien: the sacred music of colour*, AGNSW 2010

## Title

Titles of works are based on the first known exhibited title, unless documentation indicates the artist changed the title at a later date. Where a title is unknown, a descriptive title or the title it has been known by is given in parentheses.

## Date

O'Brien rarely dated his work. Works have been assigned dates based on research for the exhibition and information supplied by lending institutions and private collectors. Circa dates generally relate to the year when a work was first exhibited.

## Medium and support

O'Brien's preferred medium for painted works was oil, applied to either a canvas or paper support. From the 1940s onwards the support was then laid onto hardboard or, occasionally, cardboard. The artist also made drawings in pencil, ink (with an extremely fine nib) and watercolour. His paper of choice was Fabriano watercolour paper which, when utilised with oil paint, he first sized to prevent the absorption of the binder from the oil-based paint.

## Dimensions

Measurements are in centimetres, height before width.

## Inscriptions

These are recorded where it is felt they may be pertinent.

## Provenance

Collectors of note or previous owners who had connections with the artist are listed where known. Additional information has been provided where possible.

## Exhibited

Exhibitions in which each work is known or thought to have been included are listed. See the online Exhibition History for a comprehensive listing of all solo, joint and group exhibitions in which the artist's work was shown.

## Literature

Known references to each work are listed. See the online Bibliography for a comprehensive listing of all monographs, reference books, journals, newspapers, unpublished interviews and manuscripts.

### 1 (Still life) 1938

painted in Sydney  
oil on hardboard; 40.5 x 61 cm  
inscr ul cnr, brown oil: Justin O'Brien/ 1938  
Private collection, courtesy Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane

Provenance: Private collection (until 2001); Shapiro Auctioneers, Sydney, 10 Dec 2001, lot no 66, p 38 col ill

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 1, 'Still life' 1938, private collection

### 2 Self portrait 1939

painted in Sydney  
oil on canvas; 71 x 56.2 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: Justin O'Brien/ 1939  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (until late 1970s); Geoff K Gray Auctions, Sydney (late 1970s)

Exhibited: *Archibald Prize 1939*, NAGNSW, 20 Jan – 20 Mar 1940, no 31, 'Self portrait'; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 1, ill

Literature: Bradley, 1982, pp 13, 92 ill, 97, 106, 'Self portrait' 1939, fig 1; France, 1987, pp 10, 34, 35 col ill, 126, 'Self portrait' 1939, plate 1; Jean Campbell, *Early Sydney moderns: John Young and the Macquarie Galleries 1916–1946*, Craftsman House, Sydney 1988, pp 180 ill, 181–82; France, 1997, pp 10, 42, 43 col ill, 'Self portrait' 1939, plate 1

### 3 Self portrait 1941

painted in Kokkinia, Greece  
oil on cardboard (army medical supply box); 41.7 x 26 cm  
inscr ul cnr, dark brown oil: O'Brien/ 1941  
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
Purchased with funds provided by the De La Salle Brothers 2010 <sup>61.2010</sup>

Provenance: Gifted by the artist to Charles Mahieu, France (c1943); thence by descent until 2010

### 4 (Portrait) 1942

also known as *Portrait of a French doctor*  
painted in Toruń, Poland  
oil on plywood; 55 x 38 cm  
inscr ur cnr, black oil: Justin O'Brien/ 1942  
Private collection, NSW

Provenance: Gifted by the artist to Charles Mahieu, France (c1943); thence by descent until Christie's, London, 28 Nov 1991, lot 88, p 57 col ill, 'Portrait'; Frank Rickwood, Barbados (1991–2008); Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 2008, 'Portrait of a French doctor'

## 5 English Padre c1943

also known as *Padre Wild*

drawn in Toruń, Poland

pencil on white wove paper; 58.6 x 44.2 cm

inscr ur cnr, pencil: To Will from/ Justin O'Brien/ 1963

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Gift of Grenville Spencer 1977 77.701

Provenance: Gifted by the artist to Grenville Spencer, England (1963–77)

Exhibited: *An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Jesse Martin and Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1–13 Mar 1944, no 36, 'English Padre', 5 guineas; *Drawn in*, NGA, 14 July 2007 – 30 Mar 2008

Literature: Andrew Sayers, *Drawing in Australia*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne 1989, p 208 ill, 'Padre Wild' c1943

Note: This is a portrait of Reverend David Wild MC, MBE (1910–95), who volunteered to serve as chaplain in Stalag XXA in Poland from November 1941; for this work he was appointed MBE. His experiences were the basis of his autobiography *Prisoner of hope*, The Book Guild, Sussex 1992

## 6 Man with the beard 1943

also known as *Head of a fellow Prisoner of War, Crete, WWII*

painted in Toruń, Poland

oil on cardboard (Red Cross packing case); 41.6 x 29.4 cm

inscr ul cnr, black oil: JuSTIN O'BriEN/ 1943

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Dr A C Thomas (from 1944); thence by descent, Private collection, Sydney; Lawson-Menzies, Sydney, 6 Dec 2007, lot 377, p 145 col ill, 'Head of a fellow Prisoner of War, Crete, WWII'

Exhibited: *An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Jesse Martin and Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1–13 Mar 1944, no 21, 'Man with the beard', 12 guineas; *The Herald exhibition of Australian present-day art*, Lower Town Hall, Melbourne, 13–27 Feb 1945, no 78, lent by Dr and Mrs A C Thomas

## 7 Man with the yellow shirt c1943

also known as *Man in yellow shirt*; *Self portrait* [erroneously]; *Man with yellow shirt*

painted in Toruń, Poland

oil on wood; 49.9 x 39.9 cm

not inscr

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

Purchased with funds provided by Russell and Sarah Keddie 1986 52.1986

Provenance: Margaret Clarke, Sydney (c1959–86)

Exhibited: *An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Jesse Martin and Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1–13 Mar 1944, no 16, 'Man with the yellow shirt', 18 guineas; *Paintings from the back room*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 25 Jan – 4 Feb 1956, no 17, 'Man in yellow shirt'; *A loan exhibition from private collections*, Museum of Modern Art, Sydney, 24 Oct 1959, no 16, 'Self portrait', Margaret Clarke collection; *Five years on*, AGNSW, 29 Sept – 23 Nov 1986, no 95; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 2, 'Man with yellow shirt' 1944; *Favourites: Margaret Olley and Jeffrey Smart*, SHEG, 12 Jan – 24 Feb 2002



Literature: [Paul Haefliger], 'Repatriated war prisoners' art', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1 Mar 1944, p 10; France, 1987, pp 11, 12, 36, 37 col ill, 126, 'Man with the yellow shirt' 1944, plate 2; Jackie Menzies (ed), *Art Gallery of New South Wales handbook*, AGNSW 1988, p 27; Anthony Bradley, 'Painter with deep religious sensibility', *Australian*, Canberra, 25 Jan 1996, p 17; France, 1997, pp 11, 12, 44, 45 col ill, 168, 'Man with the yellow shirt' 1944, plate 2; Barry Pearce, *Australian art in the Art Gallery of New South Wales*, AGNSW 2000, p 301

## 8 A Spaniard 1943

also known as *The Polish prisoner*; *Self portrait* [erroneously]; *Portrait of a Prisoner of War*  
painted in Toruń, Poland  
oil on cardboard; 49.8 x 33.2 cm  
inscr ur cnr, black oil: O'BRIEN/ 1943  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Mr R A Henderson, Sydney (1944–c1988); Peter Gant Fine Art, Melbourne (in 1988); Deutscher Fine Art, Melbourne, Aug 1996, lot 66, p 52 col ill, 'Portrait of a Prisoner of War' 1943

Exhibited: *An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Jesse Martin and Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1–13 Mar 1944, no 28, 'A Spaniard', 18 guineas; *Autumn exhibition: modern to contemporary Australian art*, Peter Gant Fine Art, Melbourne, 17 May – 14 June 1988, no 28, 'Self portrait' 1943, p 29 col ill; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 2 col ill, 'The Polish prisoner' 1943, private collection

Literature: [Paul Haefliger], 'Repatriated war prisoners' art', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1 Mar 1944, p 10; Bradley, 1982, pp 14, 32, 33 col ill, 105, 'A Spaniard' 1944, plate 2

## 9 (Flight into Egypt) c1945

painted in Sydney  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 68.5 x 47 cm  
inscr ur cnr, yellow oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Melbourne

Provenance: Private collection (until 1983); Macquarie Galleries, Sydney (in 1983); Private collection, Sydney (1983–2004); Sotheby's, Sydney, 24 Aug 2004, lot 16, p 28 col ill; Private collection, Sydney (2004–08); Sotheby's, Melbourne, 25 Aug 2008, lot 49 col ill

## 10 Palm Sunday c1945

painted in Sydney  
oil on paper laid on hardboard; 59 x 43.5 cm  
not inscr  
Private collection, New Zealand, courtesy Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney

Provenance: Sali Herman, Sydney (in 1947); Mrs Beatrice Instone, Sydney (until 1991); Sotheby's, Melbourne, 22–23 Apr 1991, lot 232 col ill; Private collection, Brisbane (1991–98); Christie's, Sydney, 17–18 Aug 1998, lot 1009 col ill; Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney (1998–99)

Exhibited: *A review of 1945*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 17 Dec 1945 – 21 Jan 1946, no 22, 'Palm Sunday', 25 guineas; *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 23 Oct – 1 Nov 1947, no 27, on loan from Sali Herman; *Merioola and beyond: painters of the Sydney Charm School*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, May 1999, no 29, 'Palm Sunday' 1947

Literature: [Paul Haefliger], 'Art review of 1945', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 Dec 1945; Bradley, 1982, pp 16, 98, 'Palm Sunday'; France, 1987, pp 15, 101 ill, 127, 'Palm Sunday' c1947, fig 3; France, 1997, p 133 ill, 'Palm Sunday' c1947, fig 3

## 11 The Draught of Fishes c1946

also known as *The Miraculous Draught; The Apostles hauling in the net; Miraculous Draught of Fishes*; possibly also known as *Miracle of the Fishes* [addendum]  
painted in Sydney  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 75.5 x 60.3 cm  
inscr ur cnr, incised in oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: R Ormsby Martin (c1946); Leonard Joel, Melbourne, 2 Nov 1983, lot 92, 'The Apostles hauling in the net'; Private collection (after 1983); Christies, Melbourne, 23 Nov 1999, lot 11, 'Miraculous Draught of Fishes', p 17 col ill

Exhibited: *CAS Second State Exhibition 1946*, Education Gallery, Sydney, 26 Apr – 10 May 1946, no 133, 'The Draught of Fishes', 35 guineas; *Sydney Group: oils and watercolours*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 6–21 Aug 1946, no 41, 'The Miraculous Draught', in the possession of R Ormsby Martin Esq; possibly *Australian irresistibles 1930–1970*, Bonython Gallery, Sydney, 11 Aug – 2 Sept 1970, no 89, 'Miracle of the Fishes' c1949

Literature: [Paul Haeffliger], 'Sydney Group's second annual show', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 Aug 1946; Harry Tatlock Miller, 'Artists turn backs on bikini', *Sun*, Sydney, 7 Aug 1946; Bradley, 1982, pp 14, 98

## 12 (Adoration of the Kings) c1946

also known as *The Adoration of the Magi*  
painted in Sydney  
oil on paperboard; 42.8 x 53.3 cm  
inscr ur cnr, incised in oil: O'BRIEN  
Collection Sam and Janet Cullen, Sydney

Provenance: Lady Storey, Melbourne (c1946), thence by descent; Private collection, Melbourne (until 1998); Christie's, Melbourne, 23 Nov 1998, lot 3, 'The Adoration of the Magi', p 16 col ill; Christie's, Melbourne, 27 Nov 2001, lot 16, 'The Adoration of the Magi', col ill

Exhibited: Probably *Christmas 1946*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, no 20, 'Adoration of the Kings', kindly lent

Literature: Probably [Paul Haeffliger], 'Realism and the artist', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 Dec 1946

## 13 Christ at Emmaus c1946

painted in Sydney  
oil on canvas on hardboard; 95.5 x 67 cm  
inscr ur cnr, black oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Melbourne

Provenance: Warwick Fairfax Esq (1947–87); thence by descent until Sotheby's, Sydney, 17 Nov 2002, Collection of Fairfax Corporation, lot 22, pp 28, 29 col ill; Fine Art Auctions, Melbourne

Exhibited: *Sulman Prize 1946*, NAGNSW, 18 Jan – 2 Mar 1947, no 26, 'Christ at Emmaus'; *Easter 1947*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 26 Mar – 14 Apr 1947, no 15, 70 guineas; *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 23 Oct – 1 Nov 1947, no 16, kindly lent by Warwick Fairfax Esq

Literature: Tatlock Miller, 'Foreword', *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney 1947; [Paul Haeffliger], 'Easter art show reveals man varied interests', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 Mar 1947; Harry Tatlock Miller, 'Religion in art', *PLX*, Sydney, 29 Mar 1947, p 27 ill; 'Art – Easter show', *Catholic Weekly*, Sydney, c Apr 1947; 'Artburst', *Bulletin*, Sydney, 2 Apr 1947; Harry Tatlock Miller, 'Christian art of Justin O'Brien', *Sun*, Sydney, 23 Oct 1947; [Paul Haeffliger], 'Exhibition by Justin O'Brien', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 Oct 1947



## 14 The dancer c1946

also known as *Seated figure study*; *Seated figure*

painted in Sydney

oil on canvas; 62.5 x 50 cm

inscr ul cnr, purple oil: O'BRIEN

S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney. Alan Renshaw Bequest 10101

Provenance: On loan from the artist to Peter Bellew (in 1947); Alan Renshaw (until 1975)

Exhibited: *Twenty-first annual exhibition of the Contemporary Group*, Blaxland Galleries, Farmer's, Sydney, 9–20 July 1946, no 29, 'The dancer', NFS; *Exhibition of Australian contemporary art*, Australia House, London, 9–30 Apr 1947, no 37, 'The dancer', collection of Peter Bellew Esq; *Justin O'Brien*, Hanover Gallery, London, 19 July – 1 Aug 1949, no 17, 'The dancer', 35 guineas; *The Alan Renshaw Bequest*, SHEG, 9 Jan – 25 Feb 1979, no 13, 'Seated figure study'; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 7, 'Seated figure study', c1949

Literature: Harry Tatlock Miller, 'Display by important art group', *Sun*, Sydney, 9 July 1946; [Paul Haefliger], 'Contemporary Group sets pattern', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 July 1946; Bradley, 1982, pp 14 (as *The dancer*), 18 (as *Seated figure study*); France, 1987, pp 17, 18, 103 ill, 127, 'Seated figure' c1949, fig 5; France, 1997, pp 17, 18, 135 ill, 'Seated figure' c1949, fig 5

## 15 Boy in oriental robe c1946

also known as *Oriental robe*

painted in Sydney

oil on canvas; 136 x 90.5 cm

inscr ur cnr, dark red oil: O'BRIEN

Rio Tinto Ltd, Melbourne

Provenance: Peter Bellew (c1947–79); Joshua McClelland Print Room, Melbourne (in 1979); Rio Tinto Art Collection, Melbourne (from 1979)

Exhibited: *Exhibition of Australian contemporary art*, Australia House, London, 9–30 Apr 1947, no 34, 'Boy in oriental robe', collection of Peter Bellew Esq; *Exhibition and sale: Australian painting and some important prints*, Joshua McClelland Print Room, Melbourne, 27 Mar – 6 Apr 1979, no 12, front cover col ill, 'Oriental robe' (ex-Peter Bellew collection)

Note: A study for this painting is held in the collection of the S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, (*Study of a boy seated*) c1946, pen, brush and ink, 42.2 x 30.7 cm sight, Alan Renshaw Bequest 10100. Another study is held in a private collection in Melbourne, (*Study for 'Boy in oriental robe'*) c1946, pen, brush and blue and black ink, 40 x 29 cm, and was formerly in the collection of Edgar Ritchard

## 16 Figures in a room c1946

also known as *Interior with figures*

painted in Sydney

oil on hardboard; 80 x 92 cm

inscr ur cnr, black oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Victoria

Provenance: Dr John Halliday (from 1947); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Sulman Prize 1946*, NAGNSW, 18 Jan – 2 Mar 1947, no 40, 'Figures in a room'; *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 23 Oct – 1 Nov 1947, no 19, kindly lent by Dr John Halliday; *Australian painting: Pacific loan exhibition*, toured the Pacific Ocean on board the SS *Orcades*, Sydney, 2 Oct 1956, Auckland, 8 Oct 1956, Honolulu, 16 Oct 1956, Vancouver, 22 Oct 1956, San Francisco, 25 Oct 1956 and NAGNSW, 13 Nov – 2 Dec 1956, no 66 ill, 'Interior with figures', collection of Dr and Mrs J H Halliday

Literature: Bradley, 1982, pp 16, 92 ill, 106, 'Figures in a room' 1947, fig 5; France, 1987, pp 18, 102 ill, 127, 'Figures in a room' 1947, fig 4; France, 1997, pp 15, 134 ill, 'Figures in a room' 1947, fig 4

### 17 Mending the nets c1947

probably drawn in Sydney  
pen and ink, watercolour on paper; 36 x 49.4 cm  
inscr ll cnr, pencil: O'Brien  
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Purchased 1947 1716-4

Provenance: Purchased from Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1947

Exhibited: *Sydney painters*, The Macquarie Galleries at the Kozminsky Gallery, Melbourne, 4–13 Mar 1947, no 16, 'Mending the nets', 18 guineas

Literature: 'Melbourne invaded by Sydney painters', *Age*, Melbourne, c Mar 1947

### 18 (Women in bathing shed) c1947

probably drawn in Sydney  
pen and ink, watercolour on paper; 34.5 x 47.5 cm  
inscr ll cnr, black ink: O'Brien  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from c1947); thence by descent

Exhibited: Possibly *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 23 Oct – 1 Nov 1947, no 14, 'Women in bathing shed'

### 19 (Lamentation) c1947

probably drawn in Sydney  
pen and ink, watercolour, crayon on thin white wove lithographic paper;  
37.6 x 39.8 cm image/sheet  
inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'Brien; ul verso, black ink: Many thanks Ellen  
for such a nice time/ Justin  
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Purchased 1979 79.4

Provenance:  
Peter Bellew (until 1979); Joshua McClelland Print Room, Melbourne (in 1979)

Literature:  
Andrew Sayers, *Drawing in Australia*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne 1989, p 209 col ill,  
'Lamentation' c1951

## 20 Greek burial c1947

also known as *The Greek burial* [addendum]

painted in Sydney

oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 88.8 x 65 cm

inscr ur cnr, dark blue oil: O'BRIEN

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

Purchased with funds provided by the Art Gallery Society of New South Wales 2002 230.2002

Provenance: Mary Tooth (from c1947); thence by descent until 2002

Exhibited: *Merioola Group of Sydney*, Myer Mural Hall, Melbourne, 9–23 Sept 1947, no 22, 'Greek burial', kindly lent by Mrs Mary Tooth; *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 23 Oct – 1 Nov 1947, no 21, kindly lent by Mrs Mary Tooth; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 5

Literature: Tatlock Miller, 'Christian art of J O'Brien', *Sun*, Sydney, 23 Oct 1947; [Paul Haefliger], 'Exhibition by Justin O'Brien', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 Oct 1947; Tatlock Miller, 'Recent paintings of Justin O'Brien', *Art and design*, Sydney, no 1, 1949, pp 6 ill, 7, 'The Greek Burial', collection of Mrs Mary Tooth; John Hetherington, 'Australian artists in profile. Justin O'Brien: his inspiration in Christian themes', *Age*, Melbourne, 16 Dec 1961; Bradley, 1982, pp 16, 36, 37 col ill, 98, 105, 'The Greek burial' c1947, plate 4; John McDonald, 'Return of a truer Byzantium?', *National Times on Sunday*, 19 Oct 1986, p 29; Gary Catalano, 'Seeing God in still life', *Age*, Melbourne, 21 Nov 1987; John McDonald, 'Justin O'Brien is our Renaissance man', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 Dec 1987, p 75; France, 1987, pp 11, 14, 21, 38, 39 col ill, 126, 'Greek burial' c1947, plate 3; France, 1997, pp 11, 14, 46, 47 col ill, 168, 'Greek burial' c1947, plate 3; Barry Pearce, 'Death in Greece: the experience that transformed Justin O'Brien', *Look*, Sydney, Dec 2002 – Jan 2003, pp 24, 25 col ill; Barry Pearce, 'Presenting our own artists: how the AGS put balance into the Australian collection', *Look*, Sydney, May 2003, p 44; Barry Pearce, 'Justin O'Brien: two promises fulfilled', *Look*, Sydney, Nov 2009, pp 34, 35 col ill

## 21 The Kiss of Judas 1947

painted in Sydney

oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 40.6 x 60.3 cm

inscr ur cnr, dark blue oil: O'BRIEN

Art Gallery of New South Wales. Purchased 1947 7996

Provenance: Purchased from David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, Oct 1947

Exhibited: *Merioola Group of Sydney*, Myer Mural Hall, Melbourne, 9–23 Sept 1947, no 19, 'The Kiss of Judas', 40 guineas; *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 23 Oct – 1 Nov 1947, no 30; *Religious art: from the permanent collection*, NAGNSW, 4–20 Aug 1961, no 10

Literature: Tatlock Miller, 'Foreword', *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney 1947; [Review of Merioola Group exhibition], unidentified newspaper, Melbourne, 9 Sept 1947, AGNSW Archives; 'Paintings of a cosmopolitan', *Age*, Melbourne, 9 Sept 1947; Tatlock Miller, 'Christian art of J O'Brien', *Sun*, Sydney, 23 Oct 1947; [Paul Haefliger], 'Exhibition by Justin O'Brien', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 Oct 1947; '1947–1948', *The Australian artist*, vol 1, pt 4, winter 1948, p 27 ill; Tatlock Miller, 'Recent paintings of Justin O'Brien', *Art and design*, Sydney, no 1, 1949, p 7; Herbert E Badham, *A study of Australian art*, Currawong Publishing, Sydney 1949, pp xiii, 141 ill, plate 75; Herbert E Badham, *A gallery of Australian art*, Currawong Publishing, Sydney 1954, ill, plate 70; Bradley, 1982, pp 16, 92 ill, 106, 'The Kiss of Judas' 1947, fig 3

## 22 The Dormition of the Virgin 1947

also known as *Triptych*

painted in Sydney

triptych: oil on canvas laid on hardboard;

side panels 93 x 34 cm; centre panel 101.2 x 70.3 cm

inscr ll cnr left panel / lr cnr centre panel / lr cnr right panel, dark blue oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Commissioned by Marion Hall Best, Sydney, from the artist in 1947;  
thence by descent

Exhibited: *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 23 Oct – 1 Nov 1947, no 29, 'Triptych', kindly lent by Mrs J V Hall-Best; *National Gallery Society of NSW: first loan exhibition*, NAGNSW, 28 Sept – 19 Oct 1955, no 75, lent by Dr and Mrs J Hall-Best; *Australian painting: Pacific loan exhibition*, toured the Pacific Ocean on board the SS *Orcades*, Sydney, 2 Oct 1956, Auckland, 8 Oct 1956, Honolulu, 16 Oct 1956, Vancouver, 22 Oct 1956, San Francisco, 25 Oct 1956 and NAGNSW, 13 Nov – 2 Dec 1956, no 67, 'The Dormition of the Virgin', Sir John and Lady Hall Best; *The broad canvas: Art in Australia (1770–1967)*, Sancta Sophia College, Sydney University, 12/13 and 19/20 Aug 1967, no 129, 'Dormition of the Virgin' 1948, Sir John and Lady Hall Best; *Merioola and after*, SHEG, 12 July – 17 Aug 1986, no 70, 'The Dormition of the Virgin' 1948, private collection; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 2, 'The Dormition of the Virgin' 1948, Lady Hall Best, Sydney; *Sydney style: Marion Hall Best/ Interior designer*, Greenway Gallery, Hyde Park Barracks, Sydney, 31 July – 17 Oct 1993, no 241, 'The Dormition of the Virgin' c1947, private collection

Literature: Tatlock Miller, 'Foreword', *Exhibition of oils and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney 1947; [Paul Haefliger], 'Exhibition by Justin O'Brien', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 Oct 1947; Tatlock Miller, 'Recent paintings of Justin O'Brien', *Art and design*, Sydney, no 1, 1949, pp 6 ill, 7, 'The Dormitian [sic] of the Virgin', collection of Mrs J V Hall Best; 'Unusual colour schemes: she based her décor on her paintings', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 Mar 1953; 'Paintings had honours in gay colours', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 29 Sept 1955; D R W, 'At Sydney galleries: contemporary Australian art', *Le Courier Australien*, Sydney, 7 Oct 1955; Kenneth Hood, 'Justin O'Brien', *Art and Australia*, vol 7, no 3, Dec 1969, p 226 col ill, erroneously dated 1948, owned by Marion Hall Best; Bradley, 1982, pp 15, 19, 34, 35 col ill, 105, 'Dormition of the Virgin' c1947, plate 3; France, 1987, pp 15, 18, 42, 43 col ill, 126, 'The Dormition of the Virgin' 1947, plate 5; Judy Newman, 'The life of O'Brien', *Age*, Melbourne, 25 July 1987, p 10; Michaela Richards, *The Best style: Marion Hall Best and Australian interior design 1935–1975*, Art and Australia Books, Sydney 1993, pp 34 ill, 35 col ill, 104 col ill; France, 1997, pp 15, 18, 50, 51 col ill, 168, 'The Dormition of the Virgin' 1947, plate 5

## 23 The pink bridge c1948–49

painted in London

oil on canvas; 51 x 60.2 cm

inscr ur cnr, red oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Mrs Eileen Platt, London (1949–74); Macquarie Galleries, Sydney (in 1974);  
Private collection, Sydney (from c1974); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Hanover Gallery, London, 19 July – 1 Aug 1949, no 1, 'The pink bridge', 40 guineas; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 8, private collection

Literature: Bradley, 1982, pp 18, 92 ill, 106, 'The pink bridge' 1949, fig 6; France, 1987, p 17;  
France, 1997, p 17

## 24 **The park** c1948–49

possibly also known as *The gardens*  
probably painted in London  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 44.5 x 58.4 cm  
inscr ur cnr, blue oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, London

Provenance: Sir Colin Anderson for Orient Lines (1950–c1970s); Private collection, London (from 1970s)

Exhibited: Possibly *Justin O'Brien*, Hanover Gallery, London, 19 July – 1 Aug 1949, no 18, 'The gardens', 40 guineas; *Exhibition of paintings: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 17–29 May 1950, no 8, 'The park', 40 guineas; *Society of Artists annual exhibition*, Education Department's Art Gallery, Sydney, 2–20 Sept 1950, no 130, 'The park', 40 guineas

## 25 **Nativity** c1949–50

also known as *The Nativity*  
probably painted in London  
oil canvas laid on cardboard; 45.7 x 56.4 cm  
inscr ur cnr, blue oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, NSW

Provenance: Robert A Henderson (1950–86); thence by descent to his daughter, Margaret Jarrett, Sydney; The Estate of the Late Margaret Louise Jarrett, Sydney (until 2009); Bonhams & Goodman, Melbourne, 6 May 2009, lot 45, pp 94, 95 col ill

Exhibited: *Exhibition of paintings: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 17–29 May 1950, no 5, 'Nativity', 35 guineas

Literature: [Paul Haefliger], 'Artist Justin O'Brien is not dulled', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 May 1950; Bradley, 1982, pp 18, 92 ill, 106, 'The Nativity' 1950, fig 7

## 26 **(The dressing shed)** c1950

also known as *Boys in a bathing shed*  
probably drawn in Sydney  
pen and ink, watercolour, coloured pencil on paper; 36 x 49 cm  
inscr ur cnr, pencil: O'Brien  
Private collection, NSW

Provenance: Christie's, Melbourne, 22 Aug 2000, lot 5, 'Boys in a bathing shed', p 10 col ill

Exhibited: Possibly *Exhibition of paintings: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 17–29 May 1950, no 10, 'The dressing shed', 25 guineas, OR no 13 'The dressing shed (2)', 20 guineas; possibly *Paintings and drawings by nine painters*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 11–23 Oct 1950, no 22, 'The dressing shed', 25 guineas; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 7, 'The dressing shed', NFS

## 27 Working drawing for The Virgin Enthroned 1950

drawn in Sydney

pencil on paper, squared; 38 x 62.6 cm

inscr ll cnr centre panel, black ink: Justin O'Brien; lr centre panel, black ink: Working Drawing for "The Virgin Enthroned"

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Gift of the artist 1951 2902a-4

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 5, 'Study for The Virgin Enthroned'; *The art of drawing*, NGV, 3 Dec 1964 – Feb 1965, AGNSW, 7 June – 4 July 1965, no 93

### Literature:

'Recent acquisitions to the Art Gallery', *The quarterly bulletin of the National Gallery of Victoria*, vol 5, no 4, 1951; Ursula Hoff, *The art of drawing*, NGV 1965, no 93, np; Rosslyn Beeby, 'An artist finds religion is the cross he has to bear', *Age*, Melbourne, 1 Oct 1984, p 5 ill; Rosslyn Beeby, 'Artist finds Christianity a source of inspiration', *Age*, Melbourne, 1 Oct 1984, p 5 ill; France, 1987, pp 18, 104 ill, 127, fig 6, 'The Virgin Enthroned' 1950; France, 1997, pp 18, 136 ill, fig 6, 'The Virgin Enthroned' 1950

## 28 The Virgin Enthroned 1950–51

painted in Sydney

triptych: oil on canvas; side panels 113 x 49.2 cm; centre panel 113 x 81.2 cm

not inscr

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Felton Bequest 1951 2901-4

Exhibited: *Blake Prize 1951*, Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney, 13–30 Mar 1951, no 43, Prize Winner; *Twelve Australian artists*, Arts Council of Great Britain touring exhibition, 12 July – 22 Aug 1953, no 44; *Art and the Church*, Anglican Church of St John the Divine, Melbourne, Apr 1967; *Fortieth Eucharistic Congress*, St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, 18–25 Feb 1973; *Merioola and after*, SHEG, 12 July – 17 Aug 1986, no 73; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 6, col ill; *O Soul O Spirit O Fire: celebrating fifty years of the Blake Prize for Religious Art*, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane, 23 Nov 2001 – 24 Feb 2002

Literature: 'Justin O'Brien's £210 art prize', *Sun*, Sydney, 12 Mar 1951; James Gleeson, 'Exhibition of religious paintings', *Sun*, Sydney, 12 Mar 1951, p 4; [Paul Haefliger], 'Religious art: Blake Prize exhibition', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 13 Mar 1951; [Paul Haefliger], 'Sydney artist wins religious art prize', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 Mar 1951, ill; [Paul Haefliger], 'Justin O'Brien wins Blake Prize', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 Mar 1951; 'Recent acquisitions to the Art Gallery', *The quarterly bulletin of the National Gallery of Victoria*, vol 5, no 4, 1951; Ursula Hoff, 'Recent acquisitions to the Art Gallery', *The quarterly bulletin of the National Gallery of Victoria*, vol 6, no 1, 1952, ill; 'Art competitions', *Bulletin*, Sydney, 20 Feb 1952; [Paul Haefliger], 'The Blake Prize: entries on show Mar 12', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 Feb 1952; Patrick McCaughey, 'Magic of context', *Age*, Melbourne, 26 Apr 1967, p 6; Ursula Hoff & Margaret Plant, *National Gallery of Victoria: painting, drawing, sculpture*, FW Cheshire Pty Ltd, Melbourne 1968, pp 202, 203 col ill, detail of centre panel; James Gleeson, *Masterpieces of Australian painting*, Lansdowne Press Pty Ltd, Melbourne 1969, pp 164, 165 col ill, plate 67; Kenneth Hood, 'Justin O'Brien', *Art and Australia*, vol 7, no 3, Dec 1969, p 224; Robert Hughes, *The art of Australia*, Penguin Books Ltd, Melbourne 1970, p 178 ill, fig 68; James Gleeson, *Modern painters 1931–1970*, Lansdowne Press Pty Ltd, Melbourne 1971, pp 49 col ill, 99–100, plate 46; Bernard Smith, *Australian paintings 1788–1970*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne 1971, pp 290 col ill, detail of centre panel, 294, plate 167; James Gleeson, *Australian painters: colonial 1788–1880, impressionist 1881–1930, modern 1931–1970*, Lansdowne Press Pty Ltd, Sydney 1976, pp 313 col ill, 363, 364, plate 226; Brian Finemore, *Freedom from prejudice*, NGV 1977, pp 90, 91 col ill, 92, no 62; 'Stamps will feature original art work', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 27 Sept 1980; Brian Dunlop, 'Justin O'Brien: Composition', *Art and Australia*, vol 18, no 4, winter 1981, pp 368; Bradley, 1982, pp 18, 19, 25, 44, 45 col ill, 100, 105, 'The Virgin Enthroned' 1951, plate 8; Sasha Grishin, 'Significant exhibition and launching of publication', *Canberra Times*, 6 Oct 1982; Rosslyn Beeby,

'An artist finds religion is the cross he has to bear', *Age*, Melbourne, 1 Oct 1984, p 5; Rosemary Crumlin, *The Blake Prize for Religious Art – the first 25 years, a survey*, Monash University, Melbourne 1984, pp 6, 7 ill, 23; Sasha Grishin, 'An Australian artist in Rome: Justin O'Brien', *Art and Australia*, winter 1984, pp 492, 494 col ill; France, 1987, pp 17, 18, 46, 47 col ill, 126, 'The Virgin Enthroned' 1951, plate 7; Robert Rooney, 'Colour and form merged with precise perfection', *Australian*, Canberra, 12 Aug 1987, p 10; Gary Catalano, 'Seeing God in still life', *Age*, Melbourne, 21 Nov 1987; John McDonald, 'Justin O'Brien is our Renaissance man', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 Dec 1987, p 75; Rosemary Crumlin, *Images of religion in Australian art*, Bay Books, Sydney 1988, pp 46, 47 col ill, 196, plate 18; 'Blake winner at home near Vatican', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 Jan 1996, p 13; Anthony Bradley, 'Painter with deep religious sensibility', *Australian*, Canberra, 25 Jan 1996, p 17 ill; 'Blake Prize artist, Justin O'Brien dies in Rome', *Vetaffairs: a newspaper for the veteran community*, Mar 1996; Christine France, 'Justin O'Brien', *Art and Australia*, vol 33, no 4, winter 1996, pp 483; France, 1997, pp 17, 35, 37, 54, 55 col ill, 168, 'The Virgin Enthroned' 1951, plate 7; Catherine Palmer, 'A profile of Justin O'Brien', *Australian decorative and fine arts societies bulletin*, 1998, p 12; Dr Dugald McClellan, 'College artworks', *The Pauline*, St Paul's College, The University of Sydney 2002, pp 99, erroneously titled 'The Enthroned Madonna'; Sasha Grishin, 'Justin O'Brien in retrospect', *Justin O'Brien: a survey exhibition 1938–1995*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 2006, p 11

## 29 (Study for the Entombment) c1951

also known as *Ecce Homo*; *The Entombment*

painted in Sydney

oil on canvas; 25.5 x 36 cm

inscr ul cnr, incised in oil: O'BRIEN

Collection Philip Bacon, Brisbane

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (in 1970s); Lawson's, Sydney, 6 Sept 1983, lot 164, 'Ecce Homo'; Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne (in 1986)

Exhibited: Probably *Exhibition of pictures: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 16–29 June 1953, no 8, 'Study for the Entombment', 25 guineas; probably *Christmas exhibition*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 8–22 Dec 1971, no 15, 'The Entombment'; probably *The human form*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 15–27 Mar 1972, no 40, 'The Entombment'; *Modern Australian paintings*, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne, 31 Oct – 14 Nov 1986, no 20, 'The Entombment', ill; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 5, 'Ecce Homo', p 2 col ill

Literature: Probably By Our Art Critic, 'O'Brien's works on show', *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, 16 June 1953

Note: Another study in pencil and watercolour is held in a private collection in New South Wales, *The Entombment* c1953, *Exhibition of pictures: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 16–29 June 1953, no 11



### 30 Still life c1951

painted in Sydney

oil on canvas; 61 x 76.2 cm

not inscr

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Purchased 1952 <sup>2952-4</sup>

Provenance: Purchased from the Victorian Artists Society, Melbourne, July 1952

Exhibited: Probably *The Sydney Group: paintings, drawings and sculptures*, David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney, 2–14 July 1951, no 35, 'Still life', 60 guineas; probably *Macquarie Galleries exhibition: Sydney paintings*, Finneys Gallery, Brisbane, 25 Sept – 5 Oct 1951, no 46, 'Still life', 60 guineas; probably *Christmas 1951*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 5–21 Dec 1951, no 26, 'Still-life', 60 guineas; *Sydney painting 1952*, Victorian Artists Society, Melbourne, 11–21 June 1952, no 41, 'Still life', 60 guineas; *The arts festival of the Olympic Games Melbourne*, NGV, 18 Nov – 15 Dec 1956, no 96; *Australian painting: colonial, impressionist, contemporary*, Adelaide Festival of Arts 1962 and touring: AGSA, AGWA, Tate Gallery, London, National Gallery of Ottawa, Vancouver National Gallery, 17 Mar 1962 – 22 June 1963, no 157; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 4, col ill

Literature: Brian Finemore, *The arts in Australia: painting*, Longmans, Melbourne 1961, front cover col ill, p 31 col ill; Brian Finemore, *Freedom from prejudice*, NGV 1977, p 90, plate XX col ill; Ronald Millar, 'No justice for artist who "lacks" macho', *The Herald*, Melbourne, 12 Aug 1987, p 16 ill; Bradley, 1982, pp 20, 21, 46, 47 col ill, 105, 'Still life' 1950–51, plate 9; France, 1987, pp 18, 19, 48, 49 col ill, 126, 'Still life' 1950–51, plate 8; France, 1997, pp 18, 19, 56, 57 col ill, 168, 'Still life' 1950–51, plate 8

### 31 Composition c1952

probably painted in Sydney

oil on canvas; 61 x 76.2 cm

not inscr

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide. Elder Bequest Fund 1952 <sup>0.1491</sup>

Provenance: Purchased from Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1952

Exhibited: *Easter 1952*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 2–21 Apr 1952 [not listed in catalogue]; *Twelve Australian artists*, Arts Council of Great Britain touring exhibition, 12 July – 22 Aug 1953, no 43, lent by the AGSA; *Australian contemporary paintings*, NGV, 16 Mar – 27 Apr 1955; NAGNSW, 11–29 May 1955; and touring to NAGSA, QNAG, TMAG and AGWA

Literature: [Paul Haeffliger], 'Interesting Easter art show', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 Apr 1952; James Gleeson, 'Fine collection at Easter exhibition', *Sun*, Sydney, 2 Apr 1952; O F, 'Sundry shows: a mixed bag', *Bulletin*, Sydney, 9 Apr 1952; "'Composition" by Justin O'Brien', *Bulletin of the National Gallery of South Australia*, vol 14, no 2, Oct 1952, ill; [Paul Haeffliger], 'Mediocre art in exhibition', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12 May 1955; 'Artbursts: modern Australian art', *Bulletin*, Sydney, 25 May 1955; Brian Dunlop, 'Justin O'Brien: *Composition*', *Art and Australia*, vol 18, no 4, winter 1981, pp 368, 369 col ill; France, 1987, p 21, 'Composition' 1952; France, 1997, p 21, 'Composition' 1952

### 32 Madonna and Child c1953

drawn in Sydney

pen and ink, watercolour on paper; 52.4 x 20.3 cm

inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'BRIEN

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1953 <sup>8730</sup>

Provenance: Purchased from Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, June 1953

Exhibited: *Exhibition of pictures: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 16–29 June 1953, no 13, 'Madonna and Child', 18 guineas; *Religious art: from the permanent collection*, AGNSW, 4–20 Aug 1961, no 13; *Third annual arts and crafts exhibition*, Glenbrook School of Arts, Blue Mountains, 17–18 Apr 1964

Literature: D R W, 'At Sydney galleries: Justin O'Brien', *Le Courier australien*, Sydney, [June] 1953, AGNSW Archives; Bradley, 1982, pp 20, 93 ill, 106, 'Madonna and Child' 1953, fig 11

### 33 The Dormition of the Virgin c1953

also known as *Dormition of the Virgin*

drawn in Sydney

pencil, pen and ink, watercolour wash on paper; 50 x 32.5 cm

inscr ur cnr, brown ink: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from 1953); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Exhibition of pictures: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 16–29 June 1953, no 12, 'The Dormition of the Virgin', 20 guineas; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 10, 'Dormition of the Virgin', private collection

Literature: D R W, 'At Sydney galleries: Justin O'Brien', *Le Courier australien*, Sydney, [June] 1953, AGNSW Archives; By Our Art Critic, 'O'Brien's works on show', *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, 16 June 1953; James Gleeson, 'Exhibition of Justin O'Brien's work', *Sun*, Sydney, 16 June 1953; France, 1987, pp 21, 106 ill, 127, 'The Dormition of the Virgin' 1953, fig 8; France, 1997, pp 21, 138 ill, fig 8

### 34 Still life c1953

painted in Sydney

oil on canvas; 61 x 49.5 cm

not inscr

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

South Australian Government Grant 1954 <sup>0.1576</sup>

Provenance: Purchased from Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1954

Literature: "'Still life" by Justin O'Brien', *Bulletin of the National Gallery of South Australia*, vol 16, no 4, Apr 1955, front cover ill; Bradley, 1982, pp 20, 92 ill, 106, 'Still life' c1953, fig 9

### 35 (Butterfly catchers) 1953

also known as *The butterfly catchers*; *Butterfly catcher*

painted in Sydney

oil on canvas; 50.5 x 61 cm

inscr lr cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Melbourne, courtesy Sotheby's Australia

Provenance: Commissioned by Dr and Mrs Silvio Daneo from the artist in 1953; on loan to the Italian Embassy, Somaliland 1961–63 and to the Italian Embassy, Norway 1964–65; thence by descent to Edoardo and Marika Daneo; until Sotheby's, Melbourne, 19 Aug 1991, lot no 219, 'The butterfly catchers'

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 9, 'Butterfly catcher' 1952, private collection

Literature: France, 1987, p 21, 'Butterfly catchers' 1952; France, 1997, p 21, 'Butterfly catchers' 1952

Note: A study for this painting is held in a private collection in Italy, *Butterfly catchers* c1953, *Exhibition of pictures: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 16–29 June 1953, no 14

### 36 The Betrayal of Christ c1955

drawn in Sydney

pencil, pen and brown ink, coloured pencil and wash on paper,

squared for transfer; 46.6 x 32 cm

not inscr

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Purchased 1955 3230-4

Provenance: Purchased from the artist, 1955

Note: This is a study for a painting held in the collection of the National Gallery of Australia, *Kiss of Judas* c1956, see no 38

### 37 The Raising of Lazarus 1955

drawn in Sydney

pen and ink, watercolour on paper; 47 x 33.3 cm

inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'Brien

State Art Collection, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth

Purchased 1955 1955/0D28

Provenance: Purchased from the artist, 1955

Literature: France, 1987, pp 21, 105 ill, 127, 'The Raising of Lazarus' c1953, fig 7; France, 1997, c1953, pp 21, 137 ill, 'The Raising of Lazarus' c1953, fig 7

### 38 Kiss of Judas c1956

painted in Sydney  
oil on canvas; 137.4 x 91.7 cm  
inscr lr cnr, green oil: O'BRIEN  
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Purchased 1969 <sup>69.72</sup>

Provenance: Purchased from the artist by Peter Scriven, Sydney; Artarmon Galleries, Sydney (until 1969)

Exhibited: *Blake Prize 1956*, Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney, opened 15 Feb 1956, no 46, 'Kiss of Judas', 150 guineas; *Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 22 Aug – 3 Sept 1956, no 17, 'Kiss of Judas', 150 guineas; probably *Christmas exhibition*, Dominion Art Galleries, Sydney, 6–24 Dec 1963, no 36, 'The Kiss of Judas', 475 guineas

Literature: [Paul Haeffliger], 'Paintings by O'Brien', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 22 Aug 1956, p 2; Douglas Dundas, 'Big problem for artist', *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, 23 Aug 1956; Kenneth Hood, 'Justin O'Brien', *Art and Australia*, vol 7, no 3, Dec 1969, p 224 ill, owned by Artarmon Galleries; France, 1987, pp 21, 22, 'The Kiss of Judas' 1956; France, 1997, pp 21, 22, 'The Kiss of Judas' 1956

Note: A study for this painting is held in the collection of the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, *The Betrayal of Christ* c1955, see no 36

### 39 Adoration of the Magi c1956

painted in Sydney  
oil on canvas; 76.2 x 57.2 cm  
inscr ur cnr, green oil: O'BRIEN  
State Art Collection, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth  
Purchased 1957 <sup>1957/00P3</sup>

Provenance: Purchased from the artist, June 1957

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 22 Aug – 3 Sept 1956, no 1, 'Adoration of the Magi', 65 guineas; *Sydney painting 1957*, Victorian Art Society, Melbourne, 4–14 June 1957, no 46, 'Adoration of the Magi', 65 guineas

Literature: James Gleeson, 'Artist's changing moods', *Sun*, Sydney, 24 Aug 1956; Bradley, 1982, pp 21, 93 ill, 106, 'Adoration of the Magi' 1956, fig 12

### 40 (Clowns and acrobats) c1957

also known as *Harlequins*  
painted in Sydney  
oil on paper laid on hardboard; 46 x 46 cm  
inscr ur cnr, ochre oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection (until 1988); Sotheby's, Sydney, 17 Nov 1988, lot 353, 'Harlequins', col ill; Private collection (1988–92); Sotheby's, Melbourne, 23 Aug 1992, lot 201, 'Harlequins', col ill; Sotheby's, Sydney, 29–30 Nov 1993, lot 124, 'Harlequins', col ill

Exhibited: Probably *Macquarie Galleries Canberra exhibition*, Canberra Art Club Gallery, Riverside, 29 Mar – 6 Apr 1957, no 29, 'Clowns and acrobats', 25 guineas; probably *Easter exhibition*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 10–29 Apr 1957, no catalogue number, notation on catalogue in Macquarie Galleries Archive

Literature: Probably [Paul Haeffliger], 'Easter exhibition at Macquarie Galleries', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 Apr 1957, 'Clowns and acrobats'

#### 41 (The harlequin boy) c1957

painted in Sydney  
oil on paper laid on hardboard; 77.8 x 56 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Villiers Fine Art Pty Ltd, Sydney (in 1969); Private collection, Sydney (from 1969); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Inaugural exhibition*, Villiers Gallery, Sydney, Feb 1969, 'The harlequin boy', \$2500

Literature: James Gleeson, 'Quality unifies show', *Sun*, Sydney, 5 Feb 1969; Elwyn Lynn, 'Prices that sweeten the sorrow of parting', *Bulletin*, Sydney, 22 Feb 1969

Note: The painting *Little boy in costume* 1957, in the collection of the AGNSW (see no 42), can be seen on the wall in the background

#### 42 Little boy in costume 1957

also known as *The young clown*  
painted in Sydney  
oil on hardboard; 61.5 x 41 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1957 <sup>9388</sup>

Provenance: Purchased from Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, Sept 1957

Exhibited: *29th annual exhibition: Contemporary Group*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 4–16 Sept 1957, no 17, 'The young clown', 40 guineas; *Purchases and acquisitions for 1957*, NAGNSW, 18 Feb – 16 Mar 1958, no 18, 'Little boy in costume', p 10, title changed at artist's request; *Modern Australian painting*, Manly Regional Art Gallery and Museum, 1 Sept – 30 Oct 1967

Literature: By the 'Mirror' art critic, 'Festive note in display', *Daily Mirror*, Sydney, 5 Sept 1957

#### 43 Man in a red shirt 1957

also known as *Boy in a red shirt*  
painted in Sydney  
oil on canvas; 41.1 x 33.7 cm  
inscr ur cnr, dark green oil: O'BRIEN  
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
Gift of Colonel Aubrey H L Gibson (Rtd) 1957 <sup>3715-4</sup>

Provenance: Purchased by Aubrey Gibson and gifted to NGV, 1957

Exhibited: *Sydney painting 1957*, Victorian Art Society, Melbourne, 4–14 June 1957, no 48, 'Man in a red shirt', 45 guineas

Literature: Arnold Shore, 'Recent acquisitions of modern Australian paintings', *The quarterly bulletin of the National Gallery of Victoria*, vol XII, no 3, 1958, 'Boy in a red shirt'; Bradley, 1982, p 22, 'Boy in a red shirt' c1957

Note: This is a portrait of Australian artist, John Montefiore (born 1936), who was a student at Cranbrook School in Sydney during O'Brien's tenure

#### 44 The Miraculous Draught c1958

also known as *Miraculous Draught of Fishes*

painted in Sydney

triptych: oil over gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard;

side panels 34.2 x 12.6 cm; centre panel 41.5 x 22.1 cm

inscr ur cnr right panel, incised in gold leaf: O'BRIEN

Private collection, courtesy Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane

Provenance: Commissioned by Geoffrey Ellsworth from the artist, c1958

Exhibited: *Waratah Spring Festival*, Sydney, 4–11 Oct 1958, no 29, 'The Immaculate [sic] Draught', from the private collection of Mr Geoffrey Ellsworth; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 12, 'Miraculous Draught of Fishes' 1958, NFS

Literature: Bradley, 1982, pp 26, 96 ill, 106, 'The Miraculous Draught of Fishes' c1958, fig 29

Note: A study for this triptych is held in the collection of the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, *Miraculous draught of the fishes* c1958, pen and ink, watercolour, left sheet 32.3 x 10.5 cm, centre sheet 39.8 x 20.4 cm, right sheet 32.4 x 10.5 cm, Purchased 2000 2000.460.a–c

#### 45 Portrait of a young man 1959

also known as *Portrait of a young man (Martin Sharp)*; *Portrait of Martin Sharp*

painted in Sydney

oil on paper laid on hardboard; 76 x 56.5 cm

inscr ur cnr, green oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from 1959); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 25 Nov – 7 Dec 1959, no 10, 'Portrait of a young man', 50 guineas; *Cranbrook School art exhibition*, Cranbrook School, Sydney, 14–17 Oct 1976, no 77, 'Portrait of Martin Sharp', NFS; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 12, 'Portrait of a young man (Martin Sharp)', private collection

Literature: France, 1987, pp 19, 107 ill, 127, 'Portrait of a young man' 1959, fig 9; France, 1997, pp 19, 139 ill, 'Portrait of a young man', fig 9

Note: This is a portrait of Australian artist, Martin Sharp (born 1942), who was a student at Cranbrook School in Sydney during Justin O'Brien's tenure

#### 46 Madonna c1959

also known as *Madonna and Child*

painted in Sydney

oil, gold leaf on canvas laid on hardboard; 110 x 86 cm

not inscr

Private collection, Melbourne

Provenance: W A Thwaites Esq (from 1959)

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 25 Nov – 7 Dec 1959, no 18, 'Madonna', 150 guineas; *Religious art in our time*, St Peter's Parish Hall, Melbourne, 14–21 Oct 1962, no 31, 'Madonna and Child', collection of W A Thwaites Esq

Literature: Robert Hughes, 'O'Brien revives his art', *Daily Mirror*, Sydney, 26 Nov 1959

#### 47 (Study for Stations of the Cross) c1959–61

drawn in Sydney

pencil, pen and black ink, watercolour on ivory wove paper; 37.9 x 29.8 cm

inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'BRIEN

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

Purchased with funds provided by the De La Salle Brothers 2009 340.2009

Provenance: James Gleeson, Sydney (until 2008); Bonhams & Goodman, Sydney, 27 Aug 2009, lot 72, pp 152, 153 col ill

#### 48 Stations of the Cross c1959–61

drawn in Sydney

pen and ink, watercolour on paper; 41.2 x 32.5 cm each sheet

inscr each sheet ur cnr, black ink: O'Brien

Cabrini Hospital Malvern, Melbourne. Commissioned for the Cabrini Chapel and donated by Mr Alwyne Rowlands, Surgeon 1905–85, benefactor and founding member of Cabrini Hospital

**Jesus is condemned to death (I)**

**Jesus is made to bear His Cross (II)**

**Jesus falls the first time under the Cross (III)**

**Jesus meets His afflicted Mother (IV)**

also known as **Christ meets his mother (IV)**

**The Cyrenean helps Jesus to carry His Cross (V)**

**Veronica wipes the face of Jesus (VI)**

**Jesus falls for the second time (VII)**

**Jesus speaks to the Daughters of Jerusalem (VIII)**

**Jesus falls the third time (IX)**

**Jesus is stripped of His garments (X)**

**Jesus is nailed to the Cross (XI)**

**Jesus dies on the Cross (XII)**

**Jesus is taken down from the Cross (XIII)**

**Jesus is placed in the Sepulchre (XIV)**

Provenance: Commissioned by Mrs M F Thompson through Macquarie Galleries, Sydney for 750 guineas; probably gifted to Mr Alwyne Rowlands in 1961

Exhibited: *An exhibition of drawings by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 22 Feb – 3 Mar 1961 nos 1–14; *Stations of the Cross by Justin O'Brien*, South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne 13–16 Apr 1961, nos 1–14; *Fortieth Eucharistic Congress*, St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, 18–25 Feb 1973

Literature: Kenneth Hood, 'Justin O'Brien', *Art and Australia*, vol 7, no 3, Dec 1969, p 228 ill, 'Stations of the Cross (IV) Christ meets his mother' (1959); Bradley, 1982, pp 21, 22, 93 ill, 94 ill, 106, 'Jesus is made to bear His Cross' 1961 fig 14, 'Jesus meets His afflicted Mother' 1961 fig 15, 'Jesus is nailed to the Cross' 1961 fig 16; France, 1987, pp 22, 108 ill, 109 ill, 127, 'Jesus falls for the second time' 1961 fig 10, 'Jesus is stripped of His garments' 1961 fig 11; France, 1997, pp 22, 140 ill, 141 ill, 'Jesus falls for the second time' 1961 fig 10, 'Jesus falls for the second time' 1961 fig 11



#### 49 (Man in a red jacket) c1960

painted in Sydney  
oil on canvas; 60.5 x 50.4 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Purchased 2000 2000.1005

Provenance: Christie's, Melbourne, 27–28 Nov 2000, lot 70, cover col ill, p 65 col ill

Literature: Brian Kennedy, 'Man in a red jacket', in Anne Gray (ed), *Australian art in the National Gallery of Australia*, NGA 2002, p 259 col ill

#### 50 Greek burial c1961

drawn in Sydney  
pen and ink, watercolour on paper; 56.6 x 41.6 cm  
inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'Brien  
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Purchased 1961 912-5

Provenance: Purchased from the artist, Oct 1961

Exhibited: *The art of drawing*, NGV, 3 Dec 1964 – Feb 1965, AGNSW, 7 June – 4 July 1965, no 18

Literature: Ursula Hoff, *The art of drawing*, NGV 1965, no 18, np; Kenneth Hood, 'Justin O'Brien', *Art and Australia*, vol 7, no 3, Dec 1969, p 221 ill, erroneously dated c1949–50; Kenneth Hood, 'Justin O'Brien: his inspiration in Christian themes', *Age*, Melbourne, 16 Dec 1961, ill

#### 51 (Study for The Dormition of the Virgin) c1961

drawn in Sydney  
pencil, pen and ink on paper; 38 x 25.3 cm  
inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'Brien  
Geelong Gallery, Victoria. Bequest of John Mockridge 1995 1995.22

Provenance: John Mockridge, Melbourne (until 1995)

#### 52 (Study for The Dormition of the Virgin) c1961

also known as *The Deposition*  
painted in Sydney  
pencil, oil on paper laid on hardboard; 53 x 65 cm  
not inscr  
Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Victoria. Gift of Mack Jost 1992 1992-20

Provenance: Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney (in 1970); Leonard Joel, Melbourne, 7 Nov 1981, lot 1659, 'The Deposition', ill; Leonard Joel, Melbourne, 4 Nov 1982, lot 726, 'The Deposition'

Literature: *Art and Australia*, vol 8, no 2, Sept 1970, col ill, 'The Deposition', Barry Stern Galleries advertisement; *The Mack Jost Collection*, Horsham Regional Gallery 1986, no 94, col ill, 'The Deposition'

### 53 The Dormition of the Virgin c1961

also known as *Dormition of the Virgin*  
painted in Sydney  
triptych: oil on canvas; 115 x 153 cm  
inscr ur cnr right panel, green oil: O'BRIEN  
Collection Philip Bacon, Brisbane

Provenance: Purchased by Harold W McGregor, Adelaide, from the artist's studio (1962–78); thence by descent until Sotheby's, Sydney, 27 Oct 1987, lot 383, col ill; Earl Gallery, Geelong (c1988)

Exhibited: *Christmas exhibition*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 13–22 Dec 1961, no 16, 'The Dormition of the Virgin', 450 guineas; *Blake Prize 1962*, Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney, 21 Feb – 7 Mar 1962, no 34, 'The Dormition of the Virgin', 450 guineas, awarded the Darcy Morris Memorial Prize; *Australian painting: colonial, impressionist, contemporary*, Adelaide Festival of Arts 1962 and touring: AGSA, AGWA, Tate Gallery, London, National Gallery of Ottawa, Vancouver National Gallery, 17 Mar 1962 – 22 June 1963, no 159, 'Dormition of the Virgin', collection H W McGregor, Adelaide; *Exhibition of Australian paintings and Russian icons*, Earl Gallery, Geelong, c1988, no 34, p 35 col ill; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 8, erroneously dated 1956, NFS

Literature: By Our Art Critic, 'Varied themes at Macquarie Galleries', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 13 Dec 1961; James Gleeson, 'Intriguing ambiguity', *Sun*, Sydney, 13 Dec 1961; John Hetherington, 'Justin O'Brien: his inspiration in Christian themes', *Age*, Melbourne, 16 Dec 1961; By the Sunday Mirror Art Critic, 'End-of-year blues go on show', *Sunday Mirror*, Sydney, 17 Dec 1961; 'Fourth Blake Prize win to Eric Smith', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 Feb 1962; 'Judge's choice', *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, 20 Feb 1962; James Gleeson, 'Art – Blake prize', *Sun*, Sydney, 20 Feb 1962; By Our Art Critic, 'Blake Prize works "quite ordinary"', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 21 Feb 1962; By the Mirror Art Critic, 'No prize for Blake title', *Daily Mirror*, Sydney, 21 Feb 1962; Bradley, 1982, p 100; Sebastian Smee, 'Seeking the sublime', *Australian*, Canberra, 'Weekend Review', 14–15 Oct 2006, p 19

### 54 (Still life and drapery, Skyros) c1965

also known as *Flower piece*, *Still life with native flowers*  
possibly painted in Skyros  
oil on hardboard; 91.5 x 52.5 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Collection Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane

Provenance: Christie, Manson & Woods, Sydney, 3 Oct 1973, lot no 526, 'Flower piece', plate XLII, ill; Sotheby's, Melbourne, 18–19 Nov 1996, lot no 73, 'Still life with native flowers', col ill; Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane (c1996–2006); Private collection, Gold Coast (2006–09); Shapiro, Sydney, 7 Dec 2009, lot no 4, 'Still life and drapery, Skyros', col ill

Exhibited: *Merioola and beyond: painters of the Sydney Charm School*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, May 1999, no 31, 'Still life and drapery, Skyros' 1965, \$30 000; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 21, 'Still life and drapery, Skyros', \$85 000; *Fine Australian paintings*, Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney, Nov 2008; *Autumn exhibition 2009*, Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney, Apr–May 2009, 'Still life and drapery, Skyros'; *Important Australian paintings: winter exhibition 2009*, Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney, June–July 2009

Literature: Sebastian Smee, 'Seeking the sublime', *Australian*, Canberra, 'Weekend Review', 14–15 Oct 2006, p 19 col ill, 'Still life and drapery, Skyros' 1965

## 55 St George's Day c1965

also known as *St George's Day, Skyros*; probably also known as *Monastery in Skyros*  
painted in Skyros/Rome  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 93 x 59 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Colonel Alistair W Sandford (from 1965); Christie, Manson & Woods, Sydney, 2 Oct 1974, lot 459, 'St George's Day'; Sotheby's, Melbourne, 29 May 1984, lot 135, 'St George's Day, Skyros'; Private collection (in 1987); Christie's, Melbourne, 16 Sept 1991, lot 139, p 58 col ill

Exhibited: *Exhibition of paintings: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 21 July – 2 Aug 1965, no 12, 'St George's Day', kindly lent by Col A W Sandford; *Cranbrook School art exhibition*, Cranbrook School, Sydney, 14–17 Oct 1976, probably no 87, 'Monastery in Skyros', NFS; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 17, 'St George's Day, Skyros', 1965, private collection; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 22, 'St George's Day' c1965, NFS

## 56 Dormition of the Virgin 1965

also known as *Death of the Virgin; Greek burial*  
painted in Rome  
oil on canvas; 70 x 80 cm  
inscr ur cnr, pale brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, courtesy Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane

Provenance: Morris West (1965–99); thence by descent until, Christie's, Melbourne, 24 Nov 2002, lot 70, Property of Mrs Morris West, 'Death of the Virgin', p 93 col ill; Barry Stern Galleries (in 2002); Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane (until 2003)

Exhibited: *Exhibition of paintings: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 21 July – 2 Aug 1965, no 1, 'Dormition of the Virgin', 350 guineas; *Blake Prize 1965*, Sydney, 13 Oct – 14 Nov 1965, no 43, 'The Dormition of the Virgin', NFS, kindly lent by Morris West Esq; *Survey: Donald Friend, Justin O'Brien, Jeffrey Smart, David Strachan*, NGV, 4 Mar – 25 Apr 1966, no 14, collection Mr Morris West; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 6, 'Greek burial', erroneously dated c1952, NFS

Literature: Daniel Thomas, 'This week in art – Byzantium', *Sunday Telegraph*, Sydney, 1 Aug 1965; Hilde & Hans Knorr, *Religious art in Australia*, Longmans, Melbourne 1967, p 12 col ill, collection Mr Morris West; Bradley, 1982, pp 23, 100, 'Dormition of the Virgin' 1965

Note: A study for this painting is held in a private collection in Sydney, *Sketch for Dormition* c1965, pencil and oil on paper, *Exhibition of paintings: Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 21 July – 2 Aug 1965, no 2

## 57 (Study for tabernacle) c1967

probably drawn in Greece  
ball-point pen on paper; 16.7 x 24.9 cm  
inscr ul cnr, black ball-point pen: O'Brien  
Geelong Gallery, Victoria. Bequest of John Mockridge 1995 1995.23

Provenance: John Mockridge, Melbourne (until 1995)

### 58 (Study for angels) c1967

probably drawn in Greece  
black ball-point pen on paper; 16.5 x 24 cm  
inscr ur cnr, black ball-point pen: O'Brien  
Geelong Gallery, Victoria. Bequest of John Mockridge 1995 1995.25

Provenance: John Mockridge, Melbourne (until 1995)

### 59 (Study for Palm Sunday) c1967

probably drawn in Greece  
ball-point pen on paper; 29 x 39 cm  
inscr lr cnr, black ball-point pen: O'Brien  
Geelong Gallery, Victoria. Bequest of John Mockridge 1995 1995.26

Provenance: John Mockridge, Melbourne (until 1995)

### 60 Fruit and flowers with fresco c1967–68

painted in Rome  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 82.3 x 60.4 cm  
inscr ur cnr, pale brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from 1968)

Exhibited: *Recent paintings and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 16–28 Oct 1968, no 1, 'Fruit and flowers with fresco', \$2250; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 13, private collection, Sydney

Literature: 'The Macquarie Galleries', *Art and Australia*, vol 6, no 1, June 1968, col ill; James Gleeson, 'A full catalogue of local artwork', *Sun*, Sydney, 16 Oct 1968; Bradley, 1982, pp 24, 95 ill, 106, 'Fruit and flowers with fresco' 1968, fig 25; Mervyn Horton (ed), *Present day art in Australia*, Ure Smith Publishers, Sydney 1969, p 148 col ill; France, 1987, pp 25, 62, 63 col ill, 126, 'Fruit and flowers with fresco' 1968, plate 15; France, 1997, pp 25, 70, 71 col ill, 168, 'Fruit and flowers with fresco' 1968, plate 15

### 61 Skyros evening I c1967–68

painted in Rome  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 53.5 x 60 cm  
inscr ur cnr, pale brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Collection James O Fairfax AC, Sydney

Provenance: James O Fairfax AC, Sydney (from 1968)

Exhibited: *Recent paintings and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 16–28 Oct 1968, no 6, 'Skyros evening I', \$1800; *Merioola and after*, SHEG, 12 July – 17 Aug 1986, no 75, c1967, J O Fairfax Collection; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 24, c1967, J O Fairfax Collection, back cover col ill

Literature: 'Exhibition commentary', *Art and Australia*, vol 6, no 3, Dec 1968, p 195 ill; France, 1987, pp 24, 60, 61 col ill, 126, 'Skyros evening I' 1968, plate 14; Anthony Bradley, 'Painter with deep religious sensibility', *Australian*, Canberra, 25 Jan 1996, p 17; France, 1997, pp 24, 68, 69 col ill, 168, 'Skyros evening I' 1968, plate 14

## 62 Annunciation 1968

Painted in Rome

oil, gold leaf on canvas laid on hardboard; 63.2 x 32 cm

inscr ur cnr, incised in gold leaf: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Sir Alexis Albert, Sydney (1968–96); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Recent paintings and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 16–28 Oct 1968, no 10, 'Annunciation', \$1500

Literature: James Gleeson, 'A full catalogue of local artwork', *Sun*, Sydney, 16 Oct 1968; Bradley, 1982, pp 24, 95 ill, 106, 'Annunciation' 1968, fig 22

## 63 Madonna and Angel c1968–69

drawn in Rome

pencil, pen and ink, watercolour on white Fabriano wove paper;

32.4 x 22.5 cm each sheet

inscr each sheet lr, black ink: O'Brien

St Paul's College, The University of Sydney

A gift from the estate of Penny Henschman

Provenance: Penny Henschman, Sydney (1969–2002)

Exhibited: *Twelve recent works by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1–13 Oct 1969, no 11 'Drawing "Madonna"' and no 12 'Drawing "Angel"', \$250 framed together; *Cranbrook School art exhibition*, Cranbrook School, Sydney, 14–17 Oct 1976, no 76, 'Madonna and angel'; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 29, 'Madonna and Angel', private collection

Literature: France, 1987, p 114 ill, 167, 'Madonna and Angel' 1969, fig 16; France, 1997, p 146 ill, 'Madonna and Angel' 1969, fig 16; Dr Dugald McClellan, 'College artworks', *The Pauline*, St Paul's College, The University of Sydney 2002, pp 99 ill

## 64 (Madonna and Child) c1969

also known as *Madonna and Child seated, supported by two angels*

Painted in Rome

oil, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 33 x 24.5 cm

inscr lr cnr, black oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Lt Col C P Dawnay (until 1978); Christie's, London, 2–3 Mar 1978, lot 98, 'Madonna and Child, seated, supported by two angels'; Private collection (1978–86); Christie's, Melbourne 14 Apr 1986, lot 253, 'Madonna and Child seated, supported by two angels', p 50 ill

## 65 The Dormition of the Virgin 1969

Painted in Rome  
oil, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 40 x 48.5 cm  
inscr lr cnr, pale brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, courtesy Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane

Provenance: Consigned to Macquarie Galleries, Canberra (c1970); Private collection (1970–95); Christie's, Melbourne, 1 Aug 1995, lot 2; Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane (1996)

Exhibited: *Twelve recent works by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1–13 Oct 1969, no 2, 'The Dormition of the Virgin', \$1600; *Easter exhibition*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 18–30 Mar 1970, no 15, 'Dormition of the Virgin', \$1600

Literature: *Art and Australia*, vol 33, no 3, autumn 1996, p 444 col ill, erroneously dated c1958

## 66 The Crucifixion 1969

Painted in Rome  
oil, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 58 x 41.8 cm  
inscr lr cnr, pale brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from 1969)

Exhibited: *Twelve recent works by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 1–13 Oct 1969, no 3, 'The Crucifixion', \$1800; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 31, erroneously dated c1970, private collection

## 67 Woman with veil c1970

Painted in Rome  
oil on paper laid on hardboard; 32 x 22 cm  
inscr lr, grey oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Exhibited: Probably *Eight Australian artists*, Festival of Arts Exhibition, Osborne Art Gallery, Adelaide, 7–26 Mar 1970, no 19, 'Woman with veil', \$500

## 68 Pieta 1970

Painted in Rome  
oil, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 78.7 x 55.9 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Australian Catholic University, Brisbane. Gift of Emeritus Professor Di Yerbury

Provenance: South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne (c1970); Macquarie Galleries, Sydney (in 1972); Joseph Brown Gallery, Melbourne (1972–75); Professor Di Yerbury AO, Sydney (1975–2010)

Exhibited: *Paintings for collectors*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 9–23 Aug 1972, no 32, 'Pieta', \$4000; *Spring exhibition 1975*, Joseph Brown Gallery, Melbourne, 14–30 Oct 1975, no 58, 'Pieta', c1970, ill

## 69 The Virgin with Angels 1970

also known as *The Holy Family; Madonna & Child; Virgin and Child*

painted in Rome

oil, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 58 x 77 cm

inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

Collection Philip Bacon, Brisbane

Provenance: Purchased by Joseph Brown Gallery, Melbourne, from Macquarie Galleries, Sydney in May 1971; Private collection, Melbourne (1971–95); James R Lawson, Sydney, 25 July 1995, lot 132, 'Madonna & Child', pp front cover col ill (detail), 22 col ill

Exhibited: *Winter exhibition 1971*, Joseph Brown Gallery, Melbourne, 10–30 June 1971, no 40, 'The Virgin with Angels', ill; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 20, 'The Holy Family', c1968, NFS, pp 13, 20 col ill (detail), 21 col ill

Literature: *Art and Australia*, vol 33, no 4, winter 1996, p 444 col ill, 'Virgin and Child', erroneously dated c1959, Graham Reynolds advertisement

## 70 Fishermen with nets 1970

also known as *Fishermen with nets, Skyros; Nude fishermen*

painted in Rome

oil on canvas; 50 x 60 cm

inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney. Alan Renshaw Bequest 1976 10108

Provenance: Alan Renshaw (1971–76)

Exhibited: *Easter exhibition: pictures for collectors*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 31 Mar – 19 Apr 1971, no 9, 'Fishermen with nets', NFS; *The Alan Renshaw Bequest*, SHEG, 9 Jan – 24 Feb 1979, no 11, 'Nude fishermen'; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 14, 'Fishermen with nets, Skyros'

Literature: Bradley, 1982, pp 24, 95 ill, 106, 'Fishermen with nets' 1971, fig 26; France, 1987, pp 26, 66, 67 col ill, 126, 'Fishermen with nets' 1971, plate 17; France, 1997, pp 24, 74, 75 col ill, 168, 'Fishermen with nets' 1971, plate 17

## 71 Still life with angel fresco c1971–72

also known as *Still life with fresco* [addendum]

painted in Rome

oil on paper laid on hardboard; 73.4 x 54.4 cm

inscr lr cnr, grey oil: O'BRIEN

Collection James O Fairfax AC, Sydney

Provenance: James O Fairfax AC, Sydney (from 1972)

Exhibited: *Recent works by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 11–23 Oct 1972, no 3, 'Still life with angel fresco', \$3500; *Cranbrook School art exhibition*, Cranbrook School, Sydney, 14–17 Oct 1976, no 83, 'Still life with fresco', NFS; *Merioola and after*, SHEG, 12 July – 17 Aug 1986, no 77, collection J O Fairfax; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 15, collection James Fairfax

Literature: Bradley, 1982, pp 24, 66, 67 col ill, 105, 'Still life with angel fresco' 1972, plate 19; Sasha Grishin, 'An Australian painter in Rome: Justin O'Brien', *Art and Australia*, vol 21, no 4, Winter 1984, pp 493, 494 col ill; France, 1987, pp 25, 68, 69 col ill, 126, 'Still life with angel fresco' 1972, plate 18; France, 1997, pp 25, 76, 77 col ill, 168, 'Still life with angel fresco' 1972, plate 18



## 72 The terrace no 1 c1971–72

painted in Rome  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 52.5 x 68.5 cm  
inscr ul cnr, green oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Mrs Norman Palmer (from 1972); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Recent works by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 11–23 Oct 1972, no 1, 'The terrace no 1', NFS; *Merioola and after*, SHEG, 12 July – 17 Aug 1986, no 78, private collection; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 16, collection of Mrs NLL Palmer, Sydney

Literature: Nancy Borlase, 'Story-book worlds', *Bulletin*, Sydney, 28 Oct 1972, p 47; Elizabeth Riddell, 'A build-up to bi-centennial breast-beating', *Bulletin*, Sydney, 9 Mar 1982, p 73 ill; Bradley, 1982, pp 25, 70, 71 col ill, 105, 'The terrace no 1' 1972, plate 21; Robert Rooney 'Colour and form merged with precise perfection', *Australian*, Canberra, 12 Aug 1987, p 10 ill, 'The terrace'; France, 1987, pp 26, 70, 71 col ill, 126, 'The terrace no 1' 1972, plate 19; France, 1997, pp 26, 78, 79 col ill, 168, 'The terrace no 1' 1972, plate 19

## 73 (Study for shutters and mirror, Rome) early 1970s

drawn in Rome  
pencil, ball-point pen on paper; 24 x 32.8 cm  
inscr ur cnr, blue ball-point pen: O'Brien  
Geelong Gallery, Victoria. Gift of John Mockridge 1993 1993.18

Provenance: John Mockridge (until 1993)

## 74 (Study for kitchen and window, Rome) c1973

drawn in Rome  
pencil, blue ball-point pen on paper; 33 x 24 cm  
inscr ur cnr, blue ball-point pen: O'Brien  
Geelong Gallery, Victoria. Bequest of John Mockridge 1995 1995.27

Provenance: John Mockridge (until 1995)

## 75 Sacred concert 1973–74

also known as *The Sacred Concert*  
painted in Rome  
triptych: oil on canvas; 112 x 144.5 cm  
inscr ur cnr, right panel, pale brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, courtesy Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane

Provenance: South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne (1974–76); Private collection, Melbourne (1976–93); Leonard Joel, Melbourne, 20 Apr 1993, lot 76, p 42 col ill; Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane (1993–2006)

Exhibited: *Recent works by Justin O'Brien*, South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne, opened 29 Oct 1974, no 9, 'Sacred concert', col ill; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 24, 'The Sacred Concert', pp cover col ill (detail), 15, 23, 24–26 col ill (details), 27 col ill

Literature: Michael Shannon, 'A lifetime of devotion', *Australian*, Canberra, 9 Nov 1974, p 18; Bradley, 1982, pp 25, 72, 73 col ill, 100, 105, 'The Sacred Concert' 1974, plate 22; 'Previews', *Australian Financial Review*, 16 Apr 1993, p 6 ill; Susan McCulloch, *Encyclopedia of Australian art*, Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd, Sydney 1994 (3<sup>rd</sup> edn), pp 541, 649 col ill; Sebastian Smee, 'Seeking the sublime', *Australian*, Canberra, 'Weekend Review', 14–15 Oct 2006, p 19 col ill

## 76 Madonna and Child against landscape c1974

also known as *Madonna and Child against a landscape*

painted in Rome

oil on canvas; 50 x 68 cm

inscr ur cnr, grey oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Melbourne, courtesy Australian Galleries

Provenance: Private collection, Melbourne (from c1974)

Exhibited: *Recent works by Justin O'Brien*, South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne, opened 29 Oct 1974, no 10, 'Madonna and Child against landscape'; *Changing hemispheres: two eras of Australian art abroad*, Melbourne University Gallery, Melbourne, 3–27 July 1984, no 25

Literature: Margaret Riddle (ed), *Changing hemispheres: two eras of Australian art abroad*, University of Melbourne 1984; Robert Rooney, 'Bridging the gap between the artist and the academic', *Australian*, Canberra, 25 July 1984, ill, 'Madonna and Child against a landscape'

## 77 The Kiss of Judas c1974

painted in Rome

oil on canvas; 50.2 x 63 cm

inscr ur cnr, pale brown oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from 1974); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Recent works by Justin O'Brien*, South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne, opened 29 Oct 1974, no 6, 'The Kiss of Judas'

Note: A study for this painting is held in the collection of Castlemaine Art Gallery, Victoria, *The Kiss of Judas* 1974, pen and ink, 46.5 x 60.5 cm sight, Purchased 1974 <sup>647</sup>

## 78 Tivoli c1974–75

also known as *Study at Tivoli*

drawn in Tivoli and Rome

pen and sepia ink on paper; 46.8 x 34.2 cm

inscr lr cnr, black ink: O'Brien

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Purchased 1976 <sup>76. 655</sup>

Provenance: Purchased from Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, Oct 1976

Exhibited: *Exhibition of paintings and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 13–25 Oct 1976, no 26, 'Tivoli', \$900

Literature: Janet McKenzie, *Drawing in Australia: contemporary images and ideas*, Macmillan Co, Melbourne 1986, pp 29, 134, 135 ill, 'Study at Tivoli', illus no 3.5

Note: This is a study for a painting held in the collection of the National Gallery of Australia, *View at Tivoli* c1975, see no 79

## 79 View at Tivoli c1975

also known as *View of Tivoli* [addendum]

painted in Rome

pencil, oil on canvas; 48.2 x 35.2 cm

inscr ur cnr, orange oil: O'BRIEN

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Purchased 1976 76.561

Provenance: Purchased from Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, Oct 1976

Exhibited: *Exhibition of paintings and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 13–25 Oct 1976, no 4, 'View at Tivoli', \$3500; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 18, dated 1976, collection Australian National Gallery, Canberra

Literature: Bradley, 1982, p 26, 'View of Tivoli' 1976, fig 27; France, 1987, pp 26, 27, 74, 75 col ill, 126, 'View of Tivoli' 1976, plate 21; Anthony Bradley, 'Painter with deep religious sensibility', *Australian*, Canberra, 25 Jan 1996, p 17; France, 1997, pp 26, 27, 82, 83 col ill, 168, 'View of Tivoli' 1976, plate 21

Note: A study for this painting is held in the collection of the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, *Tivoli* c1974–75, see no 78

## 80 The Miraculous Draught of Fishes no 1 c1977

also known as *La Pesca Miracolosa*

painted in Rome

oil, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 55.5 x 57.7 cm

inscr lr cnr, grey oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, courtesy Australian Galleries

Provenance: Richard Crebbin, Sydney (1978–c1987); Pat Corrigan (in 1987); Private collection, NSW (until 2001); Lawson's, Sydney, 23–24 Apr 2001, lot 140, p 19 col ill

Exhibited: *Quadriennale di Roma*, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, June–July 1977, 'La Pesca Miracolosa'; *Recent works by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 20 Sept – 9 Oct 1978, no 3, 'The Miraculous Draught of Fishes no 1', \$6250

Literature: Sandra McGrath, 'On the State of the art', *Weekend Australian*, Canberra, 23–24 Sept 1978, p 6; Nancy Borlase, 'A Zusters blockbuster', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 Sept 1978, p 16; Susanna Short, 'The other-world of Justin O'Brien', *National Times*, 30 Sept 1978, p 39 ill (detail); Nadine Amadio, 'Paintings too good to miss', *Sunday Telegraph*, Sydney, 26 Sept 1982, p 6 ill (detail); Bradley, 1982, pp 26, 80, 81 col ill, 105, 'The Miraculous Draught of Fishes no 1' 1978, plate 26; *Art and Australia*, vol 39, no 1, spring 2001, p 54 col ill

## 81 The Miraculous Draught of Fishes no 2 c1978

painted in Rome

oil, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 66 x 50 cm

inscr lr cnr, grey oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, courtesy Australian Galleries

Provenance: John Lockhart AO QC, Sydney (c1978–2007); Sotheby's, Sydney (Late John Lockhart AO QC collection), 27 Nov 2007, lot 1, p 5 col ill

Exhibited: *Recent works by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 20 Sept – 9 Oct 1978, no 5, 'The Miraculous Draught of Fishes no 2', \$6250; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 21, private collection Sydney

Literature: Sandra McGrath, 'On the State of the art', *Weekend Australian*, Canberra, 23–24 Sept 1978, p 6; Nancy Borlase, 'A Zusters blockbuster', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 Sept 1978, p 16; Susanna Short, 'The other-world of Justin O'Brien', *National Times*, 30 Sept 1978, p 39

## 82 The Baptism of Christ 1978

painted in Rome

oil, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 74 x 56.5 cm

inscr lr cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: John Foster, Melbourne (1978–c1982); Private collection, Sydney (from c1982)

Exhibited: *Recent works by Justin O'Brien*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 20 Sept – 9 Oct 1978, no 2, 'The Baptism of Christ', \$6750

Literature: Nancy Borlase 'A Zusters blockbuster', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 Sept 1978, p 16; Susanna Short, 'The other-world of Justin O'Brien', *National Times*, 30 Sept 1978, p 39

## 83 The meeting c1982

drawn in Rome

pen and sepia ink, gold leaf on paper laid on hardboard; 46.5 x 33.9 cm

inscr lr cnr, black ink: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from 1982); thence by descent

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien: recent paintings from Rome*, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, 28 Sept – 16 Oct 1982, no 15, 'The meeting', \$3500; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 44, private collection

Literature: Desmond O'Grady, 'Fruit and Velasquez trigger Justin O'Brien's artistic adrenalin', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 Sept 1982, p 35; Sasha Grishin, 'Significant exhibition and launching of publication', *Canberra Times*, 6 Oct 1982, the painting, no 10 'The meeting', is described

## 84 Tuscan landscape c1984

drawn in Maremma and Rome

pen and ink, watercolour on paper; 33 x 46 cm

inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'Brien

Private collection, Melbourne, courtesy Australian Galleries

Provenance: Private collection, Melbourne (from c1986)

Exhibited: *Paintings and drawings by Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 17–29 Sept 1984, no 12, 'Tuscan landscape'

Literature: Janet McKenzie, *Drawing in Australia: contemporary images and ideas*, Macmillan, South Melbourne 1986, pp 29, 134 ill, 'Tuscan landscape' 1985, collection Australian Galleries, Melbourne

### 85 Interior with still life c1985

also known as *Still life with chair draped with a towel*; *Still life (Interior)*  
painted in Rome

oil on canvas; 67.2 x 48 cm

inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

Parliament House Art Collection, Department of Parliamentary Services, Canberra

Purchased 1986 1986/0089

Provenance: Purchased through Joseph Brown Gallery, Melbourne, Jan 1986

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, The Painters Gallery, Sydney, 9–27 Sept 1986, no 6, 'Interior with still life', NFS

Literature: Peter & Susan Ward, *In a different light: Australian artists working in Italy*, UQ Press, Queensland, 1991, pp front cover col ill, 46 col ill, 'Still life with chair draped with a towel', 1985

### 86 Study for drapery (no 1) c1986

also known as *Study for drapery*; *Study for 'Drapery' I*; *Study for drapery no 1*  
drawn in Rome

pencil, pen and sepia ink on paper; 32 x 47 cm

inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'Brien

Collection Philip Bacon, Brisbane

Provenance: Collection of artist; gifted to Philip Bacon by the artist

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, The Painters Gallery, Sydney, 9–27 Sept 1986, no 17, 'Study for drapery (no 1)', \$7000; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 45, 'Study for drapery no 1', courtesy The Painters Gallery, Sydney; *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 8–29 Aug 1988, no 17, 'Study for 'Drapery' I'; *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Sydney, 13 Aug – 5 Sept 1990, no 22, 'Study for 'Drapery' I'; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, opened 21 July 1995, no 30, 'Study for drapery'; *Justin O'Brien*, Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane, 3–28 Oct 2006, no 35, 'Study for drapery'

Literature: France, 1987, p 119 ill, fig 21, 'Study for Drapery II' [sic], collection of the artist; France, 1997, p 151 ill, fig 21, 'Study for Drapery II' [sic], collection of the artist

### 87 Study for drapery (no 2) c1986

also known as *Study for 'Drapery' II*; *Study for drapery no 2* [addendum]  
drawn in Rome

pencil, pen and sepia ink on paper; 33 x 47 cm

inscr ur cnr, black ink: O'Brien

Collection Australian Galleries, Sydney and Melbourne

Provenance: Collection of the artist; gifted to Australian Galleries by the artist

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, The Painters Gallery, Sydney, 9–27 Sept 1986, no 18, 'Study for drapery (no 2)', \$7000; *Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*, S H Ervin Gallery, Sydney, 6–30 Aug 1987, no 46, 'Study for drapery no 2', courtesy The Painters Gallery, Sydney; *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 8–29 Aug 1988, no 18, 'Study for 'Drapery' II'; *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Sydney, 13 Aug – 5 Sept 1990, no 23, 'Study for 'Drapery' II'

Literature: France, 1987, pp 118 ill, fig 20, 'Study for Drapery I' [sic], collection of the artist; France, 1997, p 150 ill, fig 20, 'Study for Drapery I' [sic], collection of the artist

## 88 Maremma landscape c1986

Painted in Rome  
oil on canvas; 49.2 x 66 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Sydney

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from 1986)

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, The Painters Gallery, Sydney, 9–27 Sept 1986, no 4, 'Maremma landscape', \$20 000; *Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, 31 July – 13 Sept 1987, no 29, Private collection, Sydney

Literature: Desmond O'Grady, 'Justin O'Brien revels in Rome', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 'Good Weekend', 16–17 Aug 1986, p 50; Joanna Mendelssohn, 'Art of the past still inspires O'Brien', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12 Sept 1986, p 12; France, 1987, pp 28, 96, 97 col ill, 126, 'Maremma landscape' 1986, plate 32; France, 1997, pp 28, 104, 105 col ill, 168, 'Maremma landscape' 1986, plate 32

## 89 Woman in red dress c1988

Painted in Rome  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 55 x 36 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Melbourne

Provenance: Private collection, Melbourne (from 1988)

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 8–29 Aug 1988, no 9, 'Woman in red dress'

## 90 Portrait of a young man c1988

Painted in Rome  
oil on canvas laid on hardboard; 49 x 37 cm  
inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN  
Private collection, Melbourne, courtesy Australian Galleries

Provenance: Private collection, Melbourne (from 1988)

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 8–29 Aug 1988, no 10, 'Portrait of a young man'

Literature: Peter & Susan Ward, *In a different light: Australian artists working in Italy*, UQ Press, Queensland 1991, p 43 col ill

### 91 Venus no 1 1988

painted in Rome

oil on canvas; 69.1 x 49.4 cm

inscr ul cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1988 445.1988

Provenance: Purchased from Australian Galleries, Nov 1988

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Melbourne, 8–29 Aug 1988, no 1, 'Venus no 1'; *Modern muses*, SHEG, 19 Oct – 19 Nov 1989, no 18; *The naked and the nude*, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, 13 Sept – 7 Dec 2008

Literature: Ted Snell, 'The pilgrim who refuses to leave the shrine', *Australian*, Canberra, 17 Aug 1988, p 10; Ewen McDonald (ed), *The Art Gallery of New South Wales collections*, AGNSW 1994, p 86 col ill; France, 1997, pp 153 ill, 169, 'Venus no 1' 1988, fig 23; Barry Pearce et al, *Australian art in the Art Gallery of New South Wales*, AGNSW 2000, pp 268 col ill, 301

### 92 Interior no 5 c1989–90

painted in Rome

oil on canvas; 70 x 50 cm

inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, Sydney, courtesy Australian Galleries

Provenance: Private collection, Sydney (from 1990)

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Sydney, 13 Aug – 5 Sept 1990, no 7, col ill, 'Interior no 5'

Literature: Pamela Williams, 'From Italy, with constant mastery', *Business Review Weekly*, 10 Aug 1990, pp 100–01 col ill

### 93 Wildflowers c1990

painted in Rome

oil on canvas; 68.2 x 47 cm

inscr ur cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

Private collection, NSW, courtesy Australian Galleries

Provenance: Private collection (from 1990)

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien*, Australian Galleries, Sydney, 13 Aug – 5 Sept 1990, no 8, 'Wildflowers'

Literature: France, 1997, pp 108, 109 col ill, 168, 'Wildflowers' 1990, plate 34

### 94 Still life on a window ledge c1991–93

painted in Rome

oil on paper laid on hardboard; 48 x 33 cm

inscr lr cnr, brown oil: O'BRIEN

Collection James O Fairfax AC, Sydney (Owned by Bridgestar Pty Ltd)

Provenance: James O Fairfax AC, Sydney (from 1993)

Exhibited: *Justin O'Brien: paintings*, Australian Galleries, Sydney, 26–31 July 1993, no 18, 'Still life on a window ledge', \$22 500

Literature: France, 1997, pp 36, 114, 115 col ill, 168, 'Still life on a window ledge' 1993, plate 37, collection James Fairfax



## EXHIBITION HISTORY

### SOLO & JOINT EXHIBITIONS

*An exhibition of paintings and drawings  
by Jesse Martin and Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
1–13 Mar 1944

*Exhibition of oils and drawings  
by Justin O'Brien*  
David Jones' Art Gallery  
7th Floor, Elizabeth Street Store, Sydney  
23 Oct – 1 Nov 1947

*Justin O'Brien*  
Hanover Gallery  
32A St George Street, London  
19 July – 1 Aug 1949

*Exhibition of paintings: Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
17–29 May 1950

*Exhibition of pictures: Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
16–29 June 1953

*Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
22 Aug – 3 Sept 1956

*Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
25 Nov – 7 Dec 1959

*An exhibition of drawings by Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
22 Feb – 3 Mar 1961

*Stations of the Cross by Justin O'Brien*  
South Yarra Gallery  
10 William Street, South Yarra, Melbourne  
13–16 Apr 1961

*Exhibition of paintings: Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
21 July – 2 Aug 1965

*Recent paintings and drawings  
by Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
16–28 Oct 1968

*Twelve recent works by Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
1–13 Oct 1969

*Recent works by Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
11–23 Oct 1972

*Recent works by Justin O'Brien*  
South Yarra Gallery  
10 William Street, South Yarra, Melbourne  
Opened 29 Oct 1974

*Exhibition of paintings and drawings  
by Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
13–25 Oct 1976

*Recent works by Justin O'Brien*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
20 Sept – 9 Oct 1978

*Justin O'Brien: recent paintings from Rome*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
22 Oct – 8 Nov 1980

*Justin O'Brien: recent paintings from Rome*  
Macquarie Galleries  
204 Clarence Street, Sydney  
28 Sept – 16 Oct 1982

*Justin O'Brien*  
Philip Bacon Galleries  
2 Arthur Street, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane  
23 Apr – 12 May 1983

*Paintings and drawings by Justin O'Brien*  
Australian Galleries  
35 Derby Street, Collingwood, Melbourne  
17–29 Sept 1984

*Justin O'Brien*  
The Painters Gallery  
32½ Burton Street, East Sydney  
9–27 Sept 1986

*Justin O'Brien: a birthday tribute*  
National Gallery of Victoria  
31 July – 13 Sept 1987

*Justin O'Brien and friends: a birthday celebration*  
S H Ervin Museum and Art Gallery  
The National Trust of Australia,  
Observatory Hill, Sydney  
6–30 Aug 1987

*Justin O'Brien*  
Australian Galleries  
35 Derby Street, Collingwood, Melbourne  
8–29 Aug 1988

*Justin O'Brien*  
Australian Galleries  
15 Royston Street, Paddington, Sydney  
13 Aug – 5 Sept 1990

*Justin O'Brien: paintings*  
Australian Galleries  
15 Royston Street, Paddington, Sydney  
26–31 July 1993

*Justin O'Brien*  
Philip Bacon Galleries  
2 Arthur Street, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane  
Opened 21 July 1995

*Justin O'Brien*  
Philip Bacon Galleries  
2 Arthur Street, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane  
3–28 Oct 2006

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

*Archibald Prize 1937*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
Feb–Mar 1938

*Archibald Prize 1938*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
21 Jan – 20 Feb 1939

*Archibald Prize 1939*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
20 Jan – 20 Mar 1940

*Under 30 Group*  
Educational Gallery  
6th Floor, Bridge Street, Sydney  
June 1944

*Contemporary Art Society:  
sixth annual exhibition*  
Education Building  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
Opened 28 June 1944

*Nineteenth annual exhibition of  
the Contemporary Group*  
Blaxland Galleries, Farmer's, Sydney  
3–14 July 1944

*Art exhibition: conducted by the Men's  
Auxiliary of the Kindergarten Union of NSW*  
Department of Education Gallery  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
14–27 Oct 1944

*Contemporary drawings*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
1–13 Nov 1944

*A review of 1944*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
29 Nov – 11 Dec 1944

*Wynne Prize 1944*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
18 Jan – 2 Mar 1945

*The Herald exhibition of Australian  
present-day art*  
Lower Town Hall, Melbourne  
13–27 Feb 1945

*Easter exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
27 Mar – 16 Apr 1945

*Contemporary Art Society: special exhibition*  
Education Building  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
26 Apr – 11 May 1945

*Contemporary Art Society*  
Royal South Australian Society of Arts,  
Adelaide  
Opened c 14 June 1945

*Contemporary Group*  
Blaxland Galleries, Farmer's, Sydney  
17–28 July 1945

*The Sydney Group's inaugural exhibition*  
David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney  
7–28 Aug 1945

*Contemporary Art Society*  
Myer Gallery, Melbourne  
21–31 Aug 1945

*Contemporary Art Society:  
seventh annual exhibition*  
Education Gallery, Loftus Street, Sydney  
9–29 Nov 1945

*A review of 1945*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
17 Dec 1945 – 21 Jan 1946

*Eighth annual Show of Fives*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
6–25 Feb 1946

*Easter exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
10–29 Apr 1946

*Contemporary Art Society: second state  
exhibition*  
Education Gallery  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
26 Apr – 10 May 1946

*Twenty-first annual exhibition of the  
Contemporary Group*  
Blaxland Galleries, Farmer's, Sydney  
9–20 July 1946

*Sydney Group: oils and watercolours*  
David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney  
6–21 Aug 1946

*International exhibition of modern art*  
Maison de l'Unesco, Paris  
Nov 1946

*Christmas 1946*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
11 Dec 1946 – 18 Jan 1947

*Sulman Prize 1946*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
18 Jan – 2 Mar 1947

*Ninth annual Show of Fives*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
19 Feb – 10 Mar 1947

*Sydney painters*  
Macquarie Galleries at the Kozminsky  
Gallery, Collins Gate  
377 Little Collins Street, Melbourne  
4–13 Mar 1947

*Salon des Refuses*  
Education Department Art Gallery  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
Opened 24 Mar 1947

*Easter 1947*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
26 Mar – 14 Apr 1947

*Exhibition of contemporary Australian art*  
Exhibition Hall, Australia House,  
Strand, London  
9–30 Apr 1947

*Society of Artists annual exhibition*  
Education Department Art Gallery  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
23 Aug – 10 Sept 1947

*Art in industry*  
'Modernage' fabrics printed by Silk and  
Textile Printers Ltd  
Australia Hotel, Sydney, 1–6 Sept 1947;  
Hotel Windsor, Melbourne, 6–12 Oct 1947;  
Hallmark Ltd Offices, Adelaide,  
10–15 Nov 1947

*Merioola Group*  
Myer Mural Hall, Melbourne  
9–23 Sept 1947;  
David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney,  
27 Nov – 5 Dec 1947

*Christmas 1947*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
10–24 Dec 1947

*Easter 1948*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
17 Mar – 5 Apr 1948

*100 years of Australian painting*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
19 Apr – 17 May 1948

*Summer exhibition*  
Redfern Gallery, London  
July–Sept 1949

*Exhibition of paintings 1937–49 by five  
Australian artists*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
2–14 Nov 1949

*Society of Artists annual exhibition*  
Education Department Gallery  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
2–20 Sept 1950

*110 years of Australian art*  
Blaxland Galleries, Farmer's, Sydney  
Opened 18 Sept 1950

*Paintings and drawings by nine painters*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
11–23 Oct 1950

*Sydney art today*  
Presented by Macquarie Galleries  
Finneys Gallery, Brisbane  
14–25 Nov 1950

*Show of Sixes*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
7–19 Feb 1951

*Jubilee exhibition of Australian art*  
Touring Australian national galleries:  
Hobart, Launceston, Melbourne, Sydney,  
Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth  
12 Mar – 10 Dec 1951

*Blake Prize 1951*  
Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney  
13–30 Mar 1951

*Easter 1951*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
20 Mar – 9 Apr 1951

*The Contemporary Group: twenty-fourth  
annual exhibition of paintings*  
Blaxland Galleries, Farmer's, Sydney  
10–21 Apr 1951

*The Sydney Group: paintings, drawings  
and sculptures*  
David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney  
2–14 July 1951

*Sydney art today*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
3–14 July 1951

*Society of Artists Jubilee Exhibition*  
Education Department Art Gallery  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
1–17 Sept 1951

*Macquarie Galleries exhibition: Sydney  
paintings*  
Finneys Gallery, Brisbane  
25 Sept – 5 Oct 1951

*Christmas 1951*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
5–21 Dec 1951

*Show of Sixes*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
6–18 Feb 1952

*Blake Prize 1952*  
Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney  
12–29 Mar 1952

*Easter 1952*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
2–21 Apr 1952

*Sydney painting 1952*  
Presented by Macquarie Galleries  
Victorian Artists Society  
430 Albert Street, East Melbourne  
11–21 June 1952

*Sydney painting 1952*  
Presented by Macquarie Galleries  
Finneys Gallery, Brisbane  
15–25 July 1952

*Sydney Group*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
30 July – 18 Aug 1952

*Christmas 1952*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
10–23 Dec 1952

*Show of Sixes*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
4–16 Feb 1953

*Purchases and acquisitions for 1952*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
26 Mar – 24 May 1953

*Blake Prize 1953*  
Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney  
9–30 Apr 1953

*Drawings and prints*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
20 May – 1 June 1953

*Twelve Australian artists*  
Burlington Galleries, London  
12 July – 22 Aug 1953  
and five other British venues

*Society of Artists Annual Exhibition*  
Education Department Art Gallery  
Loftus Street, Sydney  
28 Aug – 14 Sept 1953

*A retrospective exhibition of  
Australian painting*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
25 Sept – 25 Oct 1953

*Sydney Group*  
David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney  
1–15 Oct 1953

*Christmas 1953*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
9–22 Dec 1953

*Show of Sixes*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
27 Jan – 12 Feb 1954

*Festival of talent*  
Woollahra Arts Centre  
548 New South Head Road,  
Double Bay, Sydney  
6–21 Feb 1954

*Purchases and acquisitions for 1953*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
16 Mar – 4 Apr 1954

*Blake Prize 1954*  
Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney  
17–31 Mar 1954

*Easter 1954*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
Opened 31 Mar 1954

*Show of Sixes*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
2–14 Feb 1955

*Blake Prize 1955*  
Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney  
Opened 9 Mar 1955

*Australian contemporary painting*  
National Gallery of Victoria  
16 Mar – 27 Apr 1955

*The Contemporary Group's twenty-seventh  
exhibition of paintings*  
Blaxland Galleries, Farmer's, Sydney  
23 Mar – 1 Apr 1955

*Easter 1955*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
30 Mar – 18 Apr 1955

*Contemporary Australian paintings*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
11–29 May 1955

*Sydney painting 1955*  
Victorian Artists Society  
430 Albert Street, East Melbourne  
31 May – 11 June 1955

*Drawing exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
13–25 July 1955

*Sydney painting 1955*  
Royal South Australian Society of Arts,  
Adelaide  
9–20 Aug 1955

*Landscape exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
21 Sept – 1 Oct 1955

*National Gallery Society of NSW: first loan exhibition*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
Sydney  
28 Sept – 19 Oct 1955

*Exhibition of loan paintings*  
Canberra Art Club Gallery  
Riverside, Canberra  
11–20 Nov 1955

*Christmas selection I*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
23 Nov – 5 Dec 1955

*Christmas selection II*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
7–22 Dec 1955

*Paintings from the back room*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
25 Jan – 4 Feb 1956

*Show of Sixes*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
8–20 Feb 1956

*Blake Prize 1956*  
Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney  
Opened 15 Feb 1956

*Easter 1956*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
28 Mar – 16 Apr 1956

*Drawings and prints*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
16–28 May 1956

*Australian painting: Pacific loan exhibition*  
Toured the Pacific Ocean on board the  
SS *Orcades*, Sydney, 2 Oct 1956, Auckland,  
8 Oct 1956, Honolulu, 16 Oct 1956,  
Vancouver, 22 Oct 1956, San Francisco,  
25 Oct 1956 and NAGNSW, 13 Nov – 2 Dec 1956

*The arts festival of the Olympic Games*  
*Melbourne*  
National Gallery of Victoria  
18 Nov – 15 Dec 1956

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
12–22 Dec 1956

*Show of Eights 1957*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
13–25 Feb 1957

*Back room show*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
13–25 Mar 1957

*Macquarie Galleries Canberra exhibition*  
Canberra Art Club Gallery  
Riverside, Canberra  
29 Mar – 6 Apr 1957

*Easter 1957*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
10–29 Apr 1957

*Famous paintings from Australian homes*  
David Jones' Art Gallery, Sydney  
14–24 May 1957

*Sydney painting 1957*  
Victorian Artists Society  
430 Albert Street, East Melbourne  
4–14 June 1957

*29th annual exhibition: Contemporary Group*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
4–16 Sept 1957

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
4–21 Dec 1957

*Australian contemporary paintings: an exhibition of recent acquisitions arranged by the state art galleries*  
Touring to Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney and Brisbane  
1958–59

*Pictures from 'The back room'*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
15–25 Jan 1958

*Show of Eights*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
12–24 Feb 1958

*Purchases and acquisitions for 1957*  
National Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
18 Feb – 16 Mar 1958

*Easter exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
31 Mar – 14 Apr 1958

*Fifteen-guinea pictures*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
25 June – 7 July 1958

*Waratah Spring Festival*  
Commonwealth Bank, Sydney  
4–11 Oct 1958

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
3–23 Dec 1958

*Easter exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
11 Mar – 6 Apr 1959

*An exhibition of paintings drawn from the several collections within the University*  
War Memorial Gallery of Fine Arts  
University of Sydney  
11 Mar – 7 Apr 1959

*A loan collection from private collections*  
Museum of Modern Art, Sydney  
23 Roslyn Gardens, Elizabeth Bay  
Opened 24 Oct 1959

*Collector's exhibition*  
Chatterton Gallery  
78 Castlereagh Street, Sydney  
Opened 16 Mar 1960

*Easter collection*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
6–25 Apr 1960

*Contemporary Australian art*  
Auckland City Art Gallery, New Zealand  
May 1960

*Macquarie Galleries Adelaide exhibition*  
Royal South Australian Society of Arts, Adelaide  
30 Aug – 10 Sept 1960

*Australian painting today*  
Legacy House  
Robertson Park, Orange  
2–8 Oct 1960

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
14–23 Dec 1960

*Show of eights*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
15–20 Feb 1961

*Easter exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
15–30 Mar 1961

*Religious art: from the permanent collection*  
Art Gallery of New South Wales  
4–20 Aug 1961

*Contemporary Australian paintings*  
Barry Stern Galleries  
28 Glenmore Road, Paddington, Sydney  
Opened 1 Nov 1961

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
13–22 Dec 1961

*Contemporary drawings and sketches*  
Barry Stern Galleries  
28 Glenmore Road, Paddington, Sydney  
Opened 14 Dec 1961

*Blake Prize 1962*

Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney  
21 Feb – 7 Mar 1962

*Australian painting: colonial,  
impressionist, contemporary*

Adelaide Festival of Arts 1962 and touring:  
Art Gallery of South Australia; Art Gallery  
of Western Australia; Tate Gallery, London;  
National Gallery of Ottawa; Vancouver  
National Gallery  
17 Mar 1962 – 22 June 1963

*Easter exhibition*

Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
11–19 Apr 1962

*First art dealer's fair*

Barry Stern Galleries  
28 Glenmore Road, Paddington, Sydney  
27 June – July 1962

*Religious art in our time*

St Peter's Parish Hall  
Gisborne Street, Melbourne  
14–21 Oct 1962

*Easter exhibition*

Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
10–22 Apr 1963

*Loan exhibition of contemporary*

*Australian painting*  
Newman College  
University of Melbourne  
20 Nov – 1 Dec 1963

*Christmas exhibition*

Dominion Art Galleries  
192 Castlereagh Street, Sydney  
6–24 Dec 1963

*Christmas exhibition*

Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
11–23 Dec 1963

*Third annual Australian arts and  
crafts exhibition*

Glenbrook School of Arts  
Glenbrook, NSW  
17–18 Apr 1964

*Friends of the National Gallery of  
Victoria loan collection*

Georges Gallery, Melbourne  
17 July – 8 Aug 1964

*The art of drawing*

Art Gallery of New South Wales,  
7 June – 4 July 1965;  
National Gallery of Victoria,  
3 Dec 1965 – Feb 1966

*Blake Prize 1965*

Mark Foy's Department Store, Sydney  
13 Oct – 14 Nov 1965

*Christmas exhibition*

Macquarie Galleries  
19 Bligh Street, Sydney  
8–23 Dec 1965

*Christmas exhibition 1965*

Barry Stern Galleries  
28 Glenmore Road, Paddington, Sydney  
Dec 1965

*1966 Opening exhibition*

Leveson Street Gallery  
Cnr Leveson & Victoria Streets,  
North Melbourne  
20 Feb – 3 Mar 1966

*Survey: Donald Friend, Justin O'Brien,  
Jeffrey Smart, David Strachan*

National Gallery of Victoria  
4 Mar – 25 Apr 1966

*Acquisitions 1966*

Art Gallery of New South Wales  
9 Mar – 3 Apr 1966

*The new gallery exhibition*

Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
9–21 Mar 1966

*Artists of Australia: Festival of Arts exhibition*

Osborne Art Gallery  
13 Leigh Street, Adelaide  
9–26 Mar 1966

*Loan exhibition of works of art*

Sancta Sophia College  
University of Sydney  
May 1966

*Loreto Arts Festival*

Loreto Convent, Kirribilli  
6–8 May 1966

*The nude in Australian art*

Gallery A  
21 Gipps Street, Paddington, Sydney  
Opened 12 May 1966



*Autumn exhibition*  
Dominion Art Galleries  
192 Castlereagh Street, Sydney  
24 May – 3 June 1966

*Artist's Trust Fund exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
Opened 22 Aug 1966

*Paintings from the collection of  
Mr and Mrs Douglas Carnegie*  
National Gallery of Victoria  
27 Oct – 30 Nov 1966

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
14–22 Dec 1966

*Opening exhibition*  
South Yarra Gallery, Melbourne  
Opened 10 Feb 1967

*Exhibition of still life paintings*  
Barry Stern Galleries  
28 Glenmore Road, Paddington, Sydney  
Opened 8 Mar 1967

*The broad canvas: art in Australia (1770–1967)*  
Sancta Sophia College  
University of Sydney  
12/13 Aug & 19/20 Aug 1967

*The best of Blake*  
Fifth Adelaide Festival of Arts 1968  
The Reserve Bank, 182 Victoria Ave, Adelaide  
11–22 Mar 1968

*Elizabeth Price – Opera House Campaign  
exhibition and art sale*  
Conference Room, Australia Square, Sydney  
Opened 22 Mar 1968

*Panorama of Australian painting 1818–1968*  
Studley House  
Studley Park Road, Kew, Victoria  
20–23 Apr 1968

*Looking at people: perception in  
Australian art*  
Sancta Sophia College  
University of Sydney  
9–11 Aug 1968

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
11–23 Dec 1968

*John Glover to Brett Whiteley*  
Joseph Brown Galleries  
5 Collins Street, Melbourne  
7–18 Apr 1969

*Catalogue of special collectors' exhibition*  
Great Synagogue War Memorial Centre,  
Sydney  
13–15 July 1969

*Eight Australian artists*  
Festival of Arts Exhibition  
Osborne Art Gallery  
13 Leigh Street, Adelaide  
7–26 Mar 1970

*Easter exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
18–30 Mar 1970

*The nude*  
Leveson Street Gallery  
cnr Leveson & Victoria Streets,  
North Melbourne  
5–16 July 1970

*Australian irresistibles 1930–1970*  
Bonython Gallery  
52 Victoria Street, Paddington, Sydney  
11 Aug – 2 Sept 1970

*Easter exhibition: pictures for collectors*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
31 Mar – 19 Apr 1971

*Winter exhibition 1971*  
Joseph Brown Gallery  
5 Collins Street, Melbourne  
10–30 June 1971

*Group exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
25 Aug – 6 Sept 1971

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
8–22 Dec 1971

*Autumn exhibition 1972*  
Joseph Brown Gallery  
5 Collins Street, Melbourne  
7–29 Mar 1972

*The human form*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
15–27 Mar 1972

*Australian paintings and tapestries  
of the past 20 years*  
New South Wales House, Sydney  
Opened 24 May 1972

*Paintings for collectors*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
9–23 Aug 1972

*Loan exhibition: a century of Australian art*  
Everett Hall  
Abbotsleigh Junior High School  
Woonona Ave, Wahroonga  
22–24 Sept 1972

*Nine Australian artists of distinction*  
Festival of Arts Exhibition  
Osborne Art Gallery  
13 Leigh Street, Adelaide  
18–30 Mar 1974

*Jubilee art exhibition: a private view*  
Knox Grammar School, Sydney  
26–29 Apr 1974

*The Australian image: a collection of works  
by living Australian artists*  
Arts Victoria 75  
National Gallery of Victoria  
1975

*Australia 75 exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
35 Murray Crescent, Manuka, ACT  
6–23 Mar 1975

*Paintings from Sydney private collections*  
MacLaurin Hall  
University of Sydney  
8–20 Apr 1975

*Fifty years of the Macquarie Galleries:  
the third decade 1945–1955*  
Macquarie Galleries  
40 King Street, Sydney  
7–26 May 1975

*The Art Galleries Fair*  
Sydney Opera House  
June – July 1975

*Spring exhibition 1975*  
Joseph Brown Gallery  
5 Collins Street, Melbourne  
14–30 Oct 1975

*Nine artists of distinction*  
Festival of Arts Exhibition  
Osborne Art Gallery  
13 Leigh Street, Adelaide  
9–28 Mar 1976

*Cranbrook School art exhibition*  
Cranbrook School, Sydney  
14–17 Oct 1976

*Spring exhibition 1976*  
Joseph Brown Gallery  
5 Collins Street, Melbourne  
18–29 Oct 1976

*Christmas exhibition*  
Macquarie Galleries  
35 Murray Crescent, Manuka, ACT  
25 Nov – 19 Dec 1976

*Christmas exhibition 1976*  
Delmar Weekend Gallery  
Trinity Grammar School, Sydney  
Opened 12 Dec 1976

*The Alan Renshaw Bequest*  
S H Ervin Museum and Art Gallery  
The National Trust of Australia,  
Observatory Hill, Sydney  
9 Jan – 25 Feb 1979

*Exhibition and sale: Australian paintings  
and some important prints*  
Joshua McClelland Print Room  
81 Collins Street, Melbourne  
27 Mar – 6 Apr 1979

*Autumn exhibition 1979*  
Joseph Brown Gallery  
Caroline House, 74 Caroline Street,  
South Yarra, Melbourne  
5–20 Apr 1979

*Art & craft exhibition*  
St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst  
1–3 Aug 1980

*Spring exhibition 1980*  
Joseph Brown Gallery  
Caroline House, 74 Caroline Street,  
South Yarra, Melbourne  
1–10 Sept 1980

*Art from collections of the Institutional  
Members of the Art Gallery Society of NSW*  
Blaxland Galleries, Sydney  
17 Sept – 2 Oct 1980

*A private eye in a public place art exhibition*  
St Swithun's Church Hall  
cnr Telegraph & Merrivale Roads,  
Pymble, Sydney  
16–18 Oct 1980

*Spring exhibition 1981*  
Joseph Brown Gallery  
Caroline House, 74 Caroline Street,  
South Yarra, Melbourne  
10–24 Sept 1981

*The first show – group show*  
Macquarie Galleries  
204 Clarence Street, Sydney  
16 June – 3 July 1982

*Prouds annual Christmas exhibition*  
Prouds Jewellers  
Pitt Street, Sydney  
23–27 Nov 1982

*Collectors show*  
The Painters Gallery  
32½ Burton Street, East Sydney  
20 Mar – 7 Apr 1983

*Tribute to Mervyn Horton*  
Art Gallery of New South Wales  
10 Oct – 14 Nov 1983

*Changing hemispheres: two eras of  
Australian art abroad*  
University Gallery  
University of Melbourne  
3–27 July 1984

*The great decades of Australian art: selected  
masterpieces from the JGL collection*  
National Gallery of Victoria  
4 Nov 1984 – 28 Jan 1985

*Treania Smith collection*  
The Painters Gallery  
32½ Burton Street, East Sydney  
18 June – 6 July 1985

*Australian and European paintings*  
Kathie Robb Fine Art  
56 Middle Head Road, Mosman, Sydney  
7–22 Aug 1985

*Modern Australian paintings*  
Charles Nodrum Gallery  
292 Church Street, Richmond, Melbourne  
21 May – 4 June 1986

*Merioola and after*  
S H Ervin Museum and Art Gallery  
The National Trust of Australia,  
Observatory Hill, Sydney  
12 July – 17 Aug 1986

*Cranbrook School 'Artist's choice' exhibition*  
Queen Street Galleries  
38 Queen Street, Woollahra, Sydney  
18–20 July 1986

*Five years on: a selection of acquisitions  
1981–86*  
Art Gallery of New South Wales  
26 Sept – 23 Nov 1986

*Modern Australian paintings*  
Charles Nodrum Gallery  
292 Church Street, Richmond, Melbourne  
31 Oct – 14 Nov 1986

*Mixed show for Young Presidents Association*  
Australian Galleries  
35 Derby Street, Collingwood, Melbourne  
July 1987

*A century of Australian painting*  
Savill Galleries  
156 Hargrave Street, Paddington, Sydney  
21 Apr – 21 May 1988

*The University of Sydney exhibition:  
pictures from the collections*  
MacLaurin Hall  
University of Sydney  
18 May – 12 June 1988

*Twentieth century Australian art*  
Robyn Brady Gallery  
29 Rush Street, Woollahra, Sydney  
Oct 1988

*Mixed show*  
Australian Galleries  
35 Derby Street, Collingwood, Melbourne  
Nov 1988

*Twentieth century Australian art*  
Robyn Brady Gallery  
29 Rush Street, Woollahra, Sydney  
Apr 1989

*Winter exhibition 1989*  
Artmet Gallery  
124 Jersey Road, Woollahra, Sydney  
6 June – 22 July 1989

*A private collection in Brisbane*  
Brisbane City Hall Art Gallery and Museum,  
Brisbane  
1–30 June 1990

*Mixed collection*  
Australian Galleries  
35 Derby Street, Collingwood, Melbourne  
30 Apr – 18 May 1991

*The Newman College Art Collection  
and the designs of college architect  
Walter Burley Griffin*  
Newman College  
University of Melbourne  
14 July – 24 Sept 1993

*Sydney style: Marion Hall Best,  
interior designer*  
Greenaway Gallery  
Hyde Park Barracks, Sydney  
31 July – 17 Oct 1993

*Modern Australian paintings*  
Bridget McDonnell Gallery  
139 Faraday Street, Carlton, Melbourne  
17 Aug – 5 Sept 1993

*Fine paintings, sculpture and works on paper*  
Australian Galleries  
15 Royston Street, Paddington, Sydney  
22 July – 17 Aug 1996

*Fine paintings, sculpture and works on paper*  
Australian Galleries  
15 Royston Street, Paddington, Sydney  
17 Feb – 20 Mar 1997

*Fine paintings and sculpture*  
Australian Galleries  
15 Royston Street, Paddington, Sydney  
2–20 Feb 1999

*Merioola and beyond: painters of the  
Sydney Charm School*  
Philip Bacon Galleries  
2 Arthur Street, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane  
May 1999

*Fine paintings, sculpture and tapestry*  
Australian Galleries  
15 Royston Street, Paddington, Sydney  
1–26 Feb 2000

*Modern Australian paintings*  
Bridget McDonnell Gallery  
130 Faraday Street, Carlton  
5–28 Apr 2000

*Australian painting: Federation edition*  
Savill Galleries  
262 Toorak Road, South Yarra, Melbourne  
13 May – 10 June 2001

*You beaut country: a selection of  
Australian paintings 1940–2000*  
Agnews  
43 Old Bond Street, London  
3–26 Oct 2001

*O Soul O Spirit O Fire*  
Queensland University of Technology Art  
Museum, Brisbane,  
23 Nov 2001 – 24 Feb 2002  
Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney,  
18 Apr – 25 May 2002

*Favourites: Margaret Olley and Jeffrey Smart*  
S H Ervin Museum and Art Gallery  
The National Trust of Australia,  
Observatory Hill, Sydney  
12 Jan – 24 Feb 2002

*Ken Hood Collection*  
McClelland Gallery + Sculpture Park  
390 McClelland Drive, Langwarrin  
8 Feb – 11 Apr 2004

*Donald Friend and friends – Justin O'Brien  
and Jeffrey Smart*  
University of Sydney Art Gallery  
University of Sydney  
17 Feb – 25 Mar 2005

*A partial view: Australian art in the  
UWA art collection. Part one*  
University of Western Australia, Perth  
17 June – 20 July 2005

*Spring exhibition 2008*  
Eva Breuer Art Dealer  
83 Moncur Street, Woollahra, Sydney  
Apr–May 2008

*Summer exhibition*  
Philip Bacon Galleries  
2 Arthur Street, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane  
3–28 Feb 2009

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