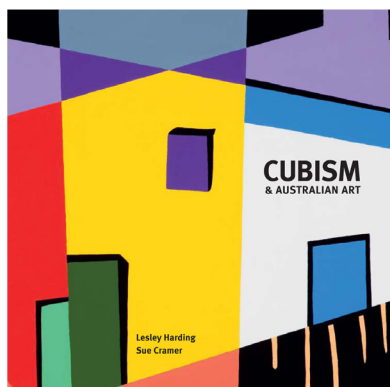


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**Heide Museum is presenting
the Cubism & Australian Art
exhibition from
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Visit www.heide.com.au for
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CUBISM AND AUSTRALIAN ART

By LESLEY HARDING AND SUE CRAMER

Cubism was a movement that changed fundamentally the course of twentieth-century art. It had far-reaching effects, both conceptual and stylistic, which are still being felt today. Described in 1912 by French poet and commentator Guillaume Apollinaire as ‘not an art of imitation, but an art of conception’, Cubism irreversibly altered art’s relationship to visual reality. ‘I paint things as I think them, not as I see them’, Picasso said.

Cubism & Australian Art examines for the first time the impact of this transformative art movement on the work of Australian artists, from the early 1920s to the present day. The authors argue that by its very nature, Cubism was characterised by variation and change, that the idea of a pure or original Cubism was short lived, and that its appearance in Australian art parallels its uptake and re-interpretation by artists internationally. In the words of French artist André Lhote, mentor to several Australians who studied at his Academy in Paris: ‘There are a thousand definitions of Cubism, because there are a thousand painters practising it’.

More than eighty international and Australian artists are showcased with over 300 works, featuring Sam Atyeo, Ralph Balson, Grace Crowley, Frank Hinder, Roger Kemp, Godfrey Miller, Stephen Bram and Daniel Crooks, as well as Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque and Fernand Léger.

Lesley Harding joined Heide Museum of Modern Art as Curator in 2005. She has curatorial experience spanning fifteen years and is an art historian specialising in Australian modernism. She has a BA (Hons) in Fine Arts and English Literature, Postgraduate diploma in Art Curatorial Studies, and MA in Art History from the University of Melbourne. She is completing a PhD in the University’s School of Culture & Communication which examines modernist mural painting in Australia for which she received an Australian Postgraduate Award.

Sue Cramer joined Heide Museum of Modern Art as Public Programs Co-ordinator in 2005 and in January 2009 took up the position of Curator. Following a BA (Hons) in Fine Arts and History at the University of Melbourne she has worked since the early 1980s as a curator and writer on contemporary art.