40 YEARS KALDOR PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

1961–2009 WORLD EVENTS TIMELINE

ART GALLERY NSW
The 1960s was an era of political upheaval and cultural experiment. Visual artists struggled to make an impact on a world preoccupied with social crisis – the civil rights movement, the Vietnam War and the counterculture – and sought a variety of responses to this public turmoil.

As the 1960s progressed, artists internalised the issues raised by the politics of protest, and devised visual languages of provocation and dissent to attack the institutions of cultural power. In happenings, in the Situationist International and in the Fluxus group, artists worked together in novel ways, inventing new forms of collaboration and erasing the distinction between performance and visual art. The role of the artist in society was rethought, while established notions of content, style, medium and audience were challenged.

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<th>1961</th>
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<tr>
<td>Berlin Wall built</td>
<td>Marilyn Monroe dies</td>
<td>US President John F Kennedy assassinated</td>
<td>Beatlemania reaches its height</td>
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<td>John F Kennedy becomes US President</td>
<td>Bob Dylan records the song ‘Blowin’ in the wind’</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr makes his ‘I have a dream’ speech for civil rights at the March on Washington</td>
<td>Japan’s bullet train launched</td>
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<td>Henry Flynt coins the term ‘concept art’</td>
<td>Cuban Missile Crisis brings the US and USSR to the brink of nuclear conflict</td>
<td>Marcel Duchamp retrospective held at Pasadena Art Museum, California</td>
<td>Cassius Clay (later known as Muhammad Ali) wins heavyweight boxing title</td>
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<td>Fluxus formed</td>
<td>Australia’s involvement in Vietnam War begins</td>
<td>Fluxus festival held in Wiesbaden, Germany</td>
<td>Marshall McLuhan publishes the book <em>Understanding media</em></td>
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<td>Harald Szeemann appointed curator of Kunsthalle, Bern</td>
<td>Algerian war protests in Paris</td>
<td>Joseph Beuys performs his first two public actions with Fluxus</td>
<td>Robert Rauschenberg wins the grand prize for painting at Venice Biennale, signalling American ascendancy over European art</td>
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<td>Christo and Jeanne-Claude first conceive plans for wrapping a public building</td>
<td>Andy Warhol opens his New York studio, The Factory</td>
<td>Robert Morris’ <em>Cardfile</em> anticipates conceptual art</td>
<td>Art &amp; Australia quarterly magazine established</td>
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<td>Transfield Art Prize established in Australia by Franco Belgioioso-Nettis, running until 1970</td>
<td>Fluxus festival held in Wiesbaden, Germany</td>
<td>Art &amp; Australia quarterly magazine established</td>
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<td>1965</td>
<td>African-American leader Malcolm X assassinated</td>
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<td>Richard Wollheim coins the term ‘minimalism’ in his essay ‘Minimal art’</td>
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<td>Donald Judd publishes the essay ‘Specific objects’</td>
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<td>Carl Andre’s first solo exhibition opens at the Tibor de Nagy Gallery</td>
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<td>Joseph Kosuth creates the conceptual work <em>One and three chairs</em></td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>Mao’s Cultural Revolution begins in China</td>
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<td>Release of film <em>Blow up</em>, directed by Michelangelo Antonioni</td>
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<td>Truman Capote publishes the true-crime book <em>In cold blood</em></td>
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<td>Star Trek series debuts on US TV</td>
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<td>Primary structures exhibition, Jewish Museum, New York</td>
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<td>‘Arte povera’ prefigured in an exhibition in Turin, Italy</td>
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<td>Dan Graham publishes his new artwork <em>Homes for America</em> in <em>Arts Magazine</em></td>
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<td>Central Street Gallery established in Sydney</td>
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<td>Alcorso-Sekers Travelling Scholarship established for young Australian sculptors</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>Israel and Egypt fight the Six Day War</td>
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<td>Christiaan Barnard performs the first human heart transplant</td>
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<td>Aretha Franklin records the song ‘Respect’</td>
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<td>Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt disappears</td>
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<td>First portable video recording device, Sony Portapak, introduced</td>
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<td>Sol LeWitt publishes the essay ‘Paragraphs on conceptual art’</td>
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<td>Michael Fried publishes the essay ‘Art and objecthood’</td>
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<td>Germano Celant coins the term ‘arte povera’</td>
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<td>Power Department of Fine Arts set up at the University of Sydney</td>
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<td>Cite International des Arts residency in Paris available for Australian artists</td>
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<td>1968</td>
<td>Students riot in Paris</td>
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<td>Martin Luther King Jr assassinated</td>
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<td>Release of film <em>2001: a space odyssey</em>, directed by Stanley Kubrick</td>
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<td>Christo and Jeanne-Claude wrap the Kunsthalle, Bern</td>
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<td>Sol LeWitt creates his first wall drawing</td>
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<td>Richard Long exhibition held at Galerie Konrad Fischer, Dusseldorf</td>
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<td>Donald Judd exhibition held at Whitney Museum of American Art</td>
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<td>Clement Greenberg gives the John Power Lecture in Contemporary Art, University of Sydney, ‘Avant-garde attitudes’</td>
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<td>National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, exhibits <em>The field</em></td>
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<td>Elwyn Lynn appointed curator of the Power Gallery of Contemporary Art, University of Sydney</td>
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<td>Australia Council established, introducing government funding for the arts in Australia</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>Woodstock three-day music festival held in the US</td>
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<td>Neil Armstrong becomes first man to walk on the moon</td>
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<td>Millions march in Vietnam moratorium protests in the US</td>
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<td>Monty Python’s <em>Flying Circus</em> series debuts on UK TV</td>
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<td><em>Sesame Street</em> series debuts on US TV</td>
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<td>Gilbert &amp; George first present <em>The Singing Sculpture</em>, in London</td>
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<td>First issue of <em>Art-Language: The Journal of Conceptual Art</em> published</td>
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<td>Sol LeWitt publishes the essay ‘Sentences on conceptual art’</td>
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<td>Joseph Kosuth publishes the essay ‘Art after philosophy’</td>
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<td>Harald Szeemann’s first exhibition of conceptual art in Europe, <em>Live in your head: when attitudes become form</em>, opens at the Kunsthalle, Bern</td>
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<td>1st Kaldor project: Christo and Jeanne-Claude create <em>Wrapped Coast</em> at Little Bay in Sydney and <em>Wool Works</em> at the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, while an exhibition of Christo’s drawings and collages is held at Central Street Gallery</td>
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1970s

The 1970s saw, in addition to the war protests and civil rights struggle, the rise of feminism and environmental activism, the growth in popularity of Eastern religions in the West, and further widespread sexual experimentation. Born of recessionary, disenchanted times, in the art world, open rebellion seemed to be the name of the game in many quarters. Some artists stopped making art altogether as they became more and more enthralled by art theory. Other artists founded alternate practices apart from commercial galleries and art museums. Some presented ephemeral installations and performances, often documented by photography. A few turned to newly available video technologies as a way of breaking away from traditional media, while many others chose to make artworks that could be reproduced as cheaply as possible, so that art would no longer be a commodity for the privileged few.

Interactive art developed, and public art, community projects and artists collectives proliferated. In Australia, figurative artists Jeffrey Smart, Charles Blackman, Robert Dickerson and Donald Friend were in ascendance, and a new generation of performance artists was emerging, including Ken Unsworth, Mike Parr, Tim Johnson, Philippa Cullen and Jill Orr.

1970

Four student protesters shot dead by the National Guard at Kent State University, US
Germaine Greer publishes the book The female eunuch
The Beatles break up
Mike Parr and Peter Kennedy co-founded Inhibodress Gallery, Sydney
Donald Brook gives the John Power Lecture in Contemporary Art, University of Sydney, ‘Flight from the object’
Robert Morris interactive exhibition opens at Tate Gallery but closes early due to over-enthusiasm of visitors
Conceptual art, arte povera, land art exhibition held at Galleria Civica d’Arte Moderna, Turin, Italy
John Kaldor launches his textiles company John Kaldor Fabricmaker

1971

The microprocessor – the foundation for today’s computers – is introduced
Greenpeace founded
Jerzy Kosinski publishes Being there, his satirical novel on TV viewing
Hans Haacke’s exhibition about real-estate ownership cancelled by New York’s Guggenheim Museum
Artist Chris Burden has himself shot in the arm with a 22-calibre rifle five times for Shoot piece
Geoffrey Bardon encourages the Aboriginal people of Papunya to paint a mural and then on canvas, leading to the Papunya Tula art movement

2nd Kaldor project: Harald Szeemann curates the exhibition I want to leave a nice well-done child here at Sydney’s Bonython Gallery and Melbourne’s National Gallery of Victoria

1972

Release of film The godfather, directed by Francis Ford Coppola
First watch produced with digital display
Alex Comfort publishes the illustrated sex manual The joy of sex
Harald Szeemann directs documenta 5, seen as the most pioneering of his Kassel extravaganzas
A Labor government, led by Gough Whitlam, elected in Australia after 23 years of Liberal power
Earthworks Poster Collective established in Sydney
1973

US troops pull out of Vietnam
Patrick White wins Nobel Prize for Literature
Sydney Opera House opens
Mobile phone invented
Lucy Lippard publishes the book *Six years: the dematerialization of the art object 1966 to 1972*

Walter Benjamin’s influential 1936 essay ‘The work of art in the age of mechanical reproduction’ published in English

National Gallery of Australia controversially buys Jackson Pollock’s *Blue poles*
First Biennale of Sydney held at the Sydney Opera House Gallery

3rd Kaldor project: Gilbert & George present *The Singing Sculpture* and exhibit *The Shrubberies* at the Art Gallery of NSW and Melbourne’s National Gallery of Victoria

4th Kaldor project: Mira Calda creates *Coloured feast* at the John Kaldor Fabricmaker showrooms in Sydney and *Coloured bread* at the Art Gallery of NSW

1974

Heiress Patty Hearst kidnapped by Symbionese Liberation Army
Punk rock emerges in UK
US President Richard Nixon resigns following the Watergate scandal
Cheap pocket calculators introduced
Beverly Johnson becomes the first black model on the cover of *Vogue* or any other major fashion magazine
International conference on video art held at the Museum of Modern Art, New York

EAF: Experimental Art Foundation established by Dubliner Noel Sheridan

1975

North Vietnamese enter Saigon, ending the war in Vietnam
Civil war in Lebanon
Release of US film *Jaws*, directed by Steven Spielberg, often seen as the mother of summer blockbusters
Tom Wolfe publishes his book on the American space program, *The right stuff*
Bill Gates and Paul Allen found Microsoft
The Altair becomes the first widely available personal computer, running Microsoft’s BASIC software
First exhibition of graffiti art held at Artist’s Space, New York

Australia’s Governor-General dismisses Gough Whitlam as prime minister
Liberal Party, led by Malcolm Fraser, wins Australian election
Alexander Mackie College of Advanced Education established in Paddington, Sydney

1976

Apple Computers founded by Steve Jobs and Stephen Wozniak
Dolby Stereo systems introduced into cinemas
Queen Elizabeth II sends an email message
Release of US film *Taxi driver*, directed by Martin Scorsese
ABC radio serial *Blue Hills* ends after 32 years

Brett Whiteley wins the Archibald Prize with *Self portrait in the studio*

Christo and Jeanne-Claude’s *Running Fence* installed in California

Biennale of Sydney, *Recent international forms in art*, artistic director Thomas G McCullough

5th Kaldor project: Charlotte Moorman and Nam June Paik present *Moorman + Paik* in various venues in Adelaide and Sydney, including the Art Gallery of NSW

1977

Elvis Presley found dead
Release of *Star Wars*, directed by George Lucas, launching the epic film franchise
Disco music becomes the rage
Train derailment in the Sydney suburb of Granville kills 83 people
Walter de Maria installs *The New York earth room* in New York and *The lightning field* in New Mexico

Exhibition of earth art opens at the Hirshhorn Museum, Washington DC

The work of Australian landscape painter Fred Williams exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art, New York

6th Kaldor project: Sol LeWitt’s *Wall drawings* installed at the Art Gallery of NSW and Melbourne’s National Gallery of Victoria

7th Kaldor project: Richard Long creates *A straight hundred mile walk in Australia* and *A line in Australia near Broken Hill* as well as *Bushwood circle* at Melbourne’s National Gallery of Victoria and *Stone line* at the Art Gallery of NSW
1978

World’s first test-tube baby born
Reverend Jim Jones leads his cult’s mass suicide at Jonestown
SBS Radio formally established in Australia to provide multilingual and multicultural broadcasting
First point-and-shoot auto-focus cameras available
Rosalind Krauss publishes her essay ‘Sculpture in the expanded field’
Two New York exhibitions, New image painting and Bad painting, signal renewed interest in easel painting
First Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras march
Sol LeWitt retrospective exhibition held at the Museum of Modern Art, New York

1979

Margaret Thatcher becomes the first woman prime minister of Britain
First gay and lesbian civil rights march held in Washington DC
Major nuclear accident occurs at Three Mile Island, New York
Rap music goes beyond the streets of New York City
Release of film Apocalypse now, directed by Francis Ford Coppola
David Ireland’s novel A woman of the future wins the Miles Franklin Award
Judy Chicago’s The dinner party first displayed at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Vivienne Binns begins her community participation project Mothers’ memories, others’ memories
Redback Graphix established, responsible for some of Australia’s most striking poster art of the 1980s and ’90s
Biennale of Sydney, European dialogue, artistic director Nick Waterlow

1980s

The 1980s saw an international art-market boom and contemporary artists, such as Julian Schnabel, Robert Longo and David Salle, seemed to break into gallery stardom direct from art school. Painting made a comeback after the conceptual and minimalist eras. Emerging styles included neo-geo, neo-expressionism and graffiti, while movements with roots in the ’60s and ’70s, such as public art, feminist art and artist-run spaces, continued to grow in importance. The period’s vastly influential signature method was appropriation: the imitation of existing images to sabotage and/or revel in their rhetorical contrivance. Art shared DIY attitudes inspired by punk rock, in night-life venues, and, in academia, with deconstruction. Soap stars became pop stars, pop stars became politicians, comics became graphic novels, and a Soviet leader became a hero.

1980

Actor Ronald Reagan elected US President
John Lennon assassinated in New York City
CNN 24-hour news channel begins reporting
SBS Television begins broadcasting in Australia
Green Party formed in Germany to politicise ecological issues
First close-up photographs of the rings around Saturn
Sony Walkman portable cassette-player starts a fad
Anselm Kiefer represents Germany at the Venice Biennale
Whitney Museum buys Jasper Johns’ Three flags for US$1 million, the most paid to that time for work by a living artist

1981

Prince Charles marries Lady Diana Spencer
Xerox first markets a mouse as an integrated part of a personal computer
MTV 24/7 music-video channel launched
Men at Work release their worldwide hit single Down under
Population of Australia reaches 15 million
Peter Carey’s novel Bliss wins Miles Franklin Award
Paul Taylor founds the Australian journal Art & Text
Richard Serra installs his controversial sculpture, Tilted arc, in a New York public plaza
Jeff Koons exhibits unused vacuum cleaners under plexiglas at the Museum of Modern Art, New York

A new spirit in painting exhibition at the Royal Academy, London, reviews the state of painting
First Australian Perspecta, a biennial event showcasing local contemporary art (until 2000)
1982

- Release of US film *ET*, directed by Steven Spielberg
- Michael Jackson releases *Thriller*, the biggest-selling album in history
- AIDS named
- Gabriel García Márquez wins Nobel Prize for Literature
- Italian neorealist movement known as the Transavanguardia kicks off
- Maya Lin's initially controversial, now admired Vietnam War Memorial opens in Washington
- First Australian Sculpture Triennial (held until 1999)
- Popism exhibition held at National Gallery of Victoria
- New National Gallery of Australia building opens in Canberra
- Biennale of Sydney, *Vision in disbelief*, artistic director Bill Wright

1983

- *TIME* magazine names the computer as ‘Man of the Year’
- US announces a missile defence plan called Star Wars
- Jean Baudrillard and Hal Foster publish seminal treatises on postmodern theory
- Richard Serra exhibition held at Centre Pompidou, Paris
- Serge Guilbaut publishes the book *How New York Stole the Idea of Modern Art*
- Former union leader Bob Hawke becomes Prime Minister of Australia
- Australia becomes the first country to win yachting’s America’s Cup from the US

1984

- Apple Mac introduced with the Macintosh 128k
- World’s worst industrial disaster: a poison gas leak from the Union Carbide factory in Bhopal, India
- William Gibson coins the term ‘cyberspace’ in his novel *Neuromancer*
- Joseph Beuys creates the work *I like America and America likes me*
- Surfwear company Mambo established, with strong graphics and self-deprecating Australian humour
- Historic Futur*Fall: Excursions into Postmodernity* conference held at the University of Sydney
- Australia’s National Association for the Visual Arts established
- Biennale of Sydney, *Private Symbol: Social Metaphor*, artistic director Leon Paroissien
- *8th Kaldor project*: The work of three mid-career Australian artists – Mike Parr, Imants Tillers and Ken Unsworth – is exhibited in *An Australian Accent* at New York’s P.S.1 gallery, followed by Washington DC’s Corcoran Gallery of Art, Perth’s Art Gallery of Western Australia and the Art Gallery of NSW

1985

- USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev calls for reforms in the Soviet Union
- Scientists announce discovery of hole in the ozone layer over the Antarctic
- Worldwide mass communication helps Live Aid concert raise famine aid for Ethiopia
- Desktop publishing emerges as a force
- Rupert Murdoch sets up Fox TV network in the US
- Soapie Neighbours makes its Australian TV debut
- Austrade established to help export Australian business to the world
- Guerrilla Girls stage actions against sexism and racism in the art world
- Gregor Schneider begins *Totes Haus Ur* (Dead house ur) in Germany
- Gregor Schneider begins *5/5: Fünf vom Fünften* exhibition, featuring Australian artists including Mike Parr and Ken Unsworth, held at daadgalerie, Berlin
- *The British show* exhibition, curated by Anthony Bond, tours Australia and New Zealand

1986

- Challenger space shuttle explodes
- Chernobyl nuclear accident leads to the evacuation of 350,000 people in the USSR
- Nintendo introduce hand-held Game Boy
- Australian film *Crocodile Dundee*, starring Paul Hogan, becomes a smash hit worldwide
- Art Spiegelman publishes the first volume of his *Maus* comic book about the Holocaust
- Basquiat, Haring, Schnabel and Warhol install artwork at New York nightclub Area
- Guerrilla Girls stage actions against sexism and racism in the art world
- Gregor Schneider begins *Absolutely Mardi Gras: Costume and Design of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras* exhibition at the Powerhouse Museum
- Biennale of Sydney, *Origins*, originality + beyond, artistic director Nick Waterlow
1987
- World population hits 5 billion
- Black Monday stockmarket crash
- Margaret Thatcher re-elected for third term as British Prime Minister
- First forensic use of DNA in a criminal case
- First mobile-phone call in Australia
- Release of film *Wall Street*, directed by Oliver Stone, featuring Gordon Gecko’s ‘Greed is good’ speech
- *The Simpsons* introduced on *The Tracey Ullman Show* on US TV
- *Irises* by Vincent van Gogh sells at auction for US$53.9 million
- New Australian cross-media ownership laws force the sale of Seven Network

1988
- George Bush elected US President
- First computer-virus crime reported
- Salman Rushdie’s novel *The Satanic Verses* causes outrage among Muslims
- Imparja Television starts broadcasting to remote Central Australia via satellite
- Australia celebrates its bicentenary and New Parliament House opens in Canberra
- Darling Harbour and Powerhouse Museum open in Sydney
- Art Gallery of NSW’s new Captain Cook wing opens
- Panza collection of minimal art shown in Paris and Geneva
- ‘Unofficial’ Soviet art begins to appear in US exhibitions
- Jeff Koons makes his *Banality* series of ceramic figures including *Michael Jackson and Bubbles*
- Biennale of Sydney, *From the Southern Cross*, artistic director Nick Waterlow

1989
- Berlin Wall falls – a symbolic end to the Cold War
- Tiananmen Square massacre in China
- Exxon Valdez tanker causes the world’s largest oil spill
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) formed with key nations from the region
- *Seinfeld*, a show about nothing, starts its ten-year run on US TV
- Australian Design Summit held in Canberra
- Disposable cameras introduced
- Andres Serrano creates his photograph *Piss Christ*, featuring a crucifix immersed in urine
- Jeff Koons begins his *Made in Heaven* series of sexually explicit images of himself and his wife
- Tracey Moffatt makes her film work *Night cries*
- Maria Kozic creates her schlock billboard *Maria Kozic is BITCH*
- Aboriginal art: the continuing tradition exhibition held at the Australian National Gallery, Canberra

1990s
- The 1990s were defined by globalisation. For the first time, people all over the world were able to watch a war – the Gulf War – live on television. After the Cold War, world trade increased and the rise of the internet promoted the sharing of different cultures. The European Union was set up and NATO expanded. Some fear this will ultimately lead to one world government, assimilation or the dumping of cultures altogether. But globalisation challenged the hegemony of the Euro-American avant-garde, with artists from Asia, Africa and Latin America (such as Takashi Murakami, William Kentridge and Ernesto Neto) placing their indelible stamp on the contemporary art scene. Ron Mueck and Leigh Bowery were among Australia’s better known contemporary art exports, along with Indigenous Australian artists Emily Kame Kngwarreye, Rover Thomas and Freddie Timms.
1990

Hubble Space Telescope launched
Gulf War begins following Iraqi invasion of Kuwait
East and West Germany reunify
Nelson Mandela freed after 27 years as a political prisoner in South Africa
Michael Crichton publishes the novel *Jurassic Park*
Tim Berners-Lee submits his proposal for the World Wide Web
Smoking on US domestic flights banned
The Three Tenors perform during World Cup soccer finals
Andreas Gursky starts taking his stockmarket-themed photographs
*High and low: modern art and popular culture* exhibition held at the Museum of Modern Art, New York
*Art et publicité* 1890–1990 exhibition held at Centre Pompidou, Paris

1991

USSR dissolves into 15 separate republics
US and its allies begin Operation Desert Storm against Iraq in the Gulf War
Paul Keating becomes Australian Prime Minister after challenging Hawke for Labor leadership
Release of film *Terminator 2: Judgement Day*, directed by James Cameron, which advances computer morphing technology
Sony Playstation released
Douglas Coupland publishes the novel *Generation-X*, launching a naming style for the generations ‘Grunge’ style, originating in Seattle, US, influences popular music and fashion
Yothu Yindi releases the highly political and hugely successful single *Treaty*

1992

Riots in Los Angeles after the videotaped bashing of a black man, Rodney King, by police
Prince Charles and Diana separate, divorcing four years later
Australia issues the first in its complete series of plastic currency notes
TV’s *X-Files* series lands in the US
First Big Day Out music festival at the Sydney Showground
Tim Winton’s novel *Cloudstreet* wins the Miles Franklin Award
Australian painter Brett Whiteley dies, aged 53
Third Australian Contemporary Art Fair held in Melbourne
*Pop art 1955–70* exhibition held at the Art Gallery of NSW

1993

European Union (EU) ratified
US military introduces combat roles for women
Car bomb detonates in the World Trade Centre, New York
Rwandan genocide begins
Nokia sends text messages between mobile phones
Deconstructivist architect Bernard Tschumi completes the Parc de la Villette in Paris, which includes sculpture by Claes Oldenburg
First Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art held at the Queensland Art Gallery
Jeff Gibson identifies an Australian ‘grunge art movement’, particularly in Sydney, in his essay ‘Avant-grunge’
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<td>1994</td>
<td>Existence of black holes proved by NASA scientists using Hubble Telescope</td>
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<td>Channel Tunnel (or Chunnel) opens, connecting Britain and France by undersea rail</td>
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<td>700 paintings in St Petersburg’s Hermitage revealed as looted from Germany in 1945 by Russian soldiers</td>
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<td>Kurt Cobain, lead singer of Nirvana, commits suicide</td>
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<td>Michael Jackson weds Elvis’s daughter, Lisa Marie Presley</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Friends series debuts on US TV</td>
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<td>Australian films Muriel’s wedding and The adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert provide defining moments in the nation’s visual culture</td>
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<td>Yiribana Gallery opens at the Art Gallery of NSW, housing the world’s largest permanent exhibition of Indigenous Australian art</td>
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<td>Gordon Bennett produces the video Performance with object for the expiation of guilt</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>NASA Rover mission successfully lands and sends back photographs of the surface of Mars</td>
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<td>American football legend OJ Simpson found not guilty of murdering his wife</td>
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<td>Rapper Tupac Shakur gunned down</td>
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<td>Ebola virus kills 244 Africans in Kikwit, Zaire in Central Africa</td>
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<td>Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin assassinated at a Tel-Aviv peace rally</td>
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<td>Fifteen cybercafés now operating in Paris</td>
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<td>Release of Australian film Shine, featuring Geoffrey Rush, who wins Best Actor Oscar for the role</td>
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<td>Liberal Party leader John Howard becomes Australian Prime Minister</td>
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<td>Martin Bryant kills 35 people and injures 21 in the Port Arthur massacre, Tasmania</td>
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<td>Sculpture by the Sea begins, a major outdoor public exhibition on Sydney’s coast</td>
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<td>Biennale of Sydney, Jurassic technologies revenant, artistic director Dr Lynne Cooke</td>
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<td>11th Kaldor project: Sol LeWitt’s Wall pieces exhibition held at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Scottish scientists clone a sheep named Dolly</td>
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<td>British colony of Hong Kong returned to China</td>
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<td>The head of Indigenous man Yagan repatriated to Australia 164 years after being taken to the UK</td>
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<td>Diana, Princess of Wales, dies as the result of a car crash in Paris after being pursued by paparazzi</td>
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<td>Stuart Diver is the sole survivor of a landslide in Thredbo, Australia</td>
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<td>Nicolas Bourriaud develops the idea of relational art, where the audience is envisaged as a community</td>
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<td>Biennale of Sydney, Every day, artistic director Jonathan Watkins</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>US President Bill Clinton impeached on grounds of perjury</td>
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<td>Anti-impotence drug Viagra on the market</td>
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<td>Colourful Apple iMac computer launched</td>
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<td>Release of The Truman Show and Pleasantville, films that blur the boundary between the real and hyper-real</td>
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<td>Fox Studios Australia opens in Sydney</td>
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<td>Patrick Corporation sacks 2000 workers in Australia to try to improve efficiency on the waterfront</td>
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<td>JK Rowling publishes the first Harry Potter book</td>
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<td>Guggenheim Bilbao Museum, designed by Frank Gehry, opens in Spain</td>
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<td>Sensation: young British artists from the Saatchi collection exhibition causes a sensation in London</td>
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<td>Body exhibition held at the Art Gallery of NSW</td>
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1999

Y2K scare of computer failure when the clocks roll over to 2000
Ikons satellite can identify things on earth as small as a card table
Euro becomes official European currency
NATO begins bombing Yugoslavia in response to ‘ethnic cleansing’ of Kosovar Albanians
Two US students go on killing spree at Columbine High School
Massive hailstorm hits Sydney, the costliest natural disaster in insurance history
First large peer-to-peer music filesharing network, Napster, launched
Low-cost US horror movie The Blair Witch Project spawns a new style of film making and marketing
The Matrix, made in Australia, sets new standards for movie special effects
Big Brother TV reality series debuts
Archibald Prize winning painter Wendy Sharpe sent to East Timor as Australia’s first woman war artist
12th Kaldor project: Vanessa Beecroft’s performance work VB40 presented at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney

2000s

The 2000 decade has been dominated, in part, by ecological crisis, natural disasters, a growing concern over energy and the debate over how to address climate change. China has become a world power and India’s economy has become technologically integrated with those of the world’s more developed nations. International politics has revolved around the War on Terrorism, while the recent global financial crisis (GFC) has led to increased interest in freeganism and frugality. There has been an explosion in telecommunications, with mobile phones, digital cameras and digital audio players now commonplace. On the cultural front, gangsta rap was replaced by electro-hop, crunk, urban pop and dance pop, and emo, a genre of punk music as well as a fashion aesthetic, was born. Tattoos and body piercings are now completely mainstream. Reality TV is standard.

The number of public art projects directed at improving the quality of public environments has increased significantly. Like their overseas counterparts, Australian artists (often unrepresented) have taken up artist-blogging, photo-sharing sites, and street art, shared over the web. Indeed, many artists are now creating works that – as theorist Nicolas Bourriaud described it – take their point of departure in the changing mental space that has been opened by the internet.

2000

Human genome deciphered, identifying all the genes in human DNA
Dot-com bubble bursts, dampening a speculative frenzy of investment in internet-related stocks
Crash of a supersonic Concorde plane kills 113 people
George W Bush elected US President
Millennium Dome, the largest dome in the world, opens at Greenwich, UK
Sydney Olympic Games a massive success
World Economic Forum held in Melbourne
Death of an Aboriginal teen in prison sparks controversy about mandatory sentencing laws
Papunya Tula: genesis and genius major retrospective shown at the Art Gallery of NSW
Harald Szeemann on international selection committee for the Biennale of Sydney
2001

Terrorists attack World Trade Centre in New York on September 11
50% of Americans now use the internet
Albert Einstein named TIME magazine’s ‘Person of the Century’
Apple iPod becomes the bestselling MP3 player and an icon of the decade
Release of the first film in The Lord of the Rings trilogy, directed by Peter Jackson
Idol TV franchise kicks off internationally
Australia celebrates a centenary of federation
MV Tampa, carrying refugees rescued from a sinking boat, refused entry to Australian waters
SIEV-X sinks en-route to Australia, killing 353 asylum seekers
Digital TV arrives in Australia’s major state capitals
Adam Cullen’s Portrait of David Wenham wins Archibald Prize
Space odysseys, an exhibition of immersive installations, shown at the Art Gallery of NSW

2002

Web logs become ‘blogs’
Apple iMovies bundled with all new Macs for editing home movies
PC sales pass one billion mark
Euthanasia legalised in the Netherlands
East Timor becomes a new nation
Terrorist bomb in Bali kills 202 people, including 88 Australians
Kath & Kim, a satirical series on suburban life, premieres on Australian TV
Tim Winton’s novel Dirt music wins the Miles Franklin Award
Gallery of Modern Art built in Brisbane, the second site of the Queensland Art Gallery
World without end exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW examines the role of photography in shaping our consciousness
Biennale of Sydney, (The world may be) fantastic, artistic director Richard Grayson

2003

Space shuttle Columbia explodes during take-off
Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein captured by US troops
Second Life offers a parallel 3D virtual world on the internet
Social networking website MySpace.com launched
Dan Brown releases his best-selling novel The Da Vinci Code
US President George W Bush and Chinese President Hu Jintao visit Australia simultaneously
Bushfires around Canberra kill four people and destroy more than 500 homes
National Gallery of Victoria opens The Ian Potter Centre in Federation Square, Melbourne
Art Gallery Society of NSW celebrates its 50th anniversary
Art Gallery of NSW opens new Asian galleries
13th Kaldor project: Udo Rondinone exhibition One magic hour held at Sydney’s Museum of Contemporary Art followed by Clockwork for oracle at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art in Melbourne

2004

Athens hosts the Olympic Games
Boxing Day tsunami devastates Asia
Tasmanian-born Mary Donaldson weds Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark
Term ‘podcasting’ coined for downloading a program as a digital file
Social networking website Facebook takes off
Wi-fi cellphones, or internet phones, introduced
Bomb outside the Australian embassy in Indonesia kills 11 people and injures up to 100
Riots break out in the Sydney suburb of Redfern over the death of an Aboriginal teenager
Fire in the Momart storage warehouse in London destroys works by Tracey Emin, Damien Hirst and others
Art Gallery of NSW establishes the biennial Anne Landa Award for video and new media arts
Biennale of Sydney, On reason and emotion, curator Isabel Carlos

2001

Kaldor Public Art Projects listed on Australia’s Register of Cultural Institutions
14th Kaldor project: Barry McGee’s The stars were aligned... is installed in Melbourne’s Metropolitan Meat Market along with Water wall mural at the National Gallery of Victoria
### 2005

- US President George W Bush inaugurated for a second term
- Internet site YouTube posts its first video
- Kyoto Protocol, on reducing carbon emissions, takes effect without US and Australia
- Cameraphones create instant citizen-photojournalists
- Hurricane Katrina leaves millions homeless in New Orleans, US
- Australian Schapelle Corby sentenced to 20 years prison in Indonesia for drug smuggling
- Race riots on Sydney’s Cronulla Beach between young Anglo and Middle Eastern Australians
- Directors in Australia granted a share of copyright in their films
- Christo and Jeanne-Claude installation *The Gates, Central Park, New York City, 1979–2005*
- National Gallery of Australia exhibits *Bill Viola: The Passions*
- John Kaldor closes the Australian office of his textiles business to devote his time to art

### 2006

- Release of Al Gore’s documentary on global warming, *An inconvenient truth*
- Chinese government builds the ‘Great Firewall’ to censor the internet
- Iraqi civilian casualties exceed 55,000
- Skype internet phone system introduced
- TIME ‘Person of the Year’ is you, for taking control of your media
- 400th anniversary of Rembrandt’s birth
- Two miners rescued after two weeks trapped underground at Beaconsfield, Tasmania
- Steve Irwin, ‘The Crocodile Hunter’, killed by a stingray barb while diving
- Australian race driver Peter Brock killed when his rally car hits a tree
- Microsoft releases the Xbox 360 games console in Australia
- Ten canoes, the first full-length feature film entirely in an Aboriginal language, wins special jury prize at Cannes

### 2007

- *Imants Tillers: one world many visions*, a major retrospective, opens at National Gallery of Australia
- Biennale of Sydney, *Zones of contact*, artistic director and curator Dr Charles Merewether

### 2008

- Labor leader Kevin Rudd becomes Australian Prime Minister
- Apple launches the iPhone
- Activists in Egypt use Facebook to rally for democracy
- Rising food and fuel prices trigger riots in the Third World
- Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd delivers a formal apology to the Stolen Generations
- MySpace Australia holds its first art competition
- Artists resale royalty right scheme introduced in Australia
- Police in Sydney confiscate artist Bill Henson’s photographs, sparking debate on censorship
- Biennale of Sydney, *Revolutions – forms that turn*, artistic director Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev
- Gift of the John Kaldor Family Collection to the Art Gallery of NSW announced

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**Note:** Timeline events are arranged chronologically from 2005 to 2008.
2009

Barack Obama inaugurated as the 44th, and first African-American, US President

Icelandic banking system collapses, toppling the government

Russian and US satellites collide over Siberia

UNESCO launches the World Digital Library

Pop icon Michael Jackson dies

Bushfires in Victoria kill 173 people and leave 7500 homeless

Swine flu becomes the world’s first influenza pandemic in 40 years

Tim Winton wins his fourth Miles Franklin Award for the novel *Breath*

Guy Maestri wins the Archibald Prize for his portrait of Indigenous musician Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu

19th Kaldor project: Tatzu Nishi transforms equestrian sculptures on Art Gallery Road, outside the Art Gallery of NSW, for his work *War and peace and in between*