



## George Raftopoulos

Raftopoulos' canvases investigate memory and travel. Exotic Greek Island beaches, sweeping Australian bush vistas, frenetic New York streetscapes all appear through a visual language that relies heavily on a textured composition of colour, space and line. Raftopoulos' paintings have developed into sophisticated expressions that command your attention and draw you in for a closer inspection, repeatedly revealing something new with every fresh glance.

Paint is squeezed from tube to canvas, raw colour is scraped onto foundations of layered paint that has been permitted to dry momentarily. Increasingly with every layer a history of each painting is developed and is negated by frantic scraping as a reminder of times and memories gone by. On and off

again the materials are worked onto the canvas. The vivid colours, encapsulate memory and experiences. Referenced by numbers and abstract letters they act as a map of personal history, a personal landscape...a moment in time that has been transformed into a language that has come to be a signature of Raftopoulos' work.

The paintings act as a map of memory. Random numbers signify a metaphysical, geographic reference. The numbers are points of longitude and latitude guiding us to the place from which the painting arose. "The numbers and Greek lettering are my stamp on the historical tableau. Greek mythology collides with my personal mythology" says Raftopoulos.

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2006

- The Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong

2005

- Axia Modern Art, Melbourne

2004

- Axia Modern Art, Melbourne  
- Axia Modern Art, Sydney  
- Gallery Phillip Neville, Darwin

2003

- Bark Modern Art Gallery, Hong Kong  
- Axia Modern Art, Melbourne  
- Australian Art Resources, Melbourne

2001

- Axia Modern Art, Melbourne  
- 'Liquid', Michael Carr Art Dealer, Sydney  
- Paris Print Biennial, Australian High Commission, Paris, France

2000

- 'Bilbao', Michael Carr Art Dealer, Sydney

1999

- Volvo Gallery, Sydney



## COLLECTIONS

- 1998
  - Olsen Carr Art Dealers, Sydney
- 1997
  - Varga Gallery, Bourdeaux, France
- 1996
  - Olsen Carr Art Dealers, Sydney
  
- Gold Coast Art Gallery, Queensland
- University of Western Sydney, Sydney
- The Art Trust, Sydney and Melbourne
- ABN AMRO, Sydney
- Impulse Airlines, Wagga Wagga
- Multiplex and Walker Corporation, Wharf Nine, Sydney
- Babcock and Browne, Sydney
- Westpoint Corporation, Sydney
- The Royal Flying Doctors Service
- The Chocolate Factory, Sydney
- Novell, Sydney
- Westpac Property Fund, Sydney
- Maddens Solicitors, Sydney
- NDC Global, Sydney
- Hugo's Lounge, Sydney
- Landmine Survivors Network, Washington DC, USA
- Prebon Yemone Brokers, New York, USA
- Pitcher Partners, Melbourne
- Credit Suisse, Melbourne