

## Bettina Willner

Born in 1969, based in Melbourne, Australia.

Bachelor of Fine Art, Monash University, Melbourne Australia (1988-1991)

T.O.P Art Wangaratta TAFE 1987

### **2024**

Solo, Mirror, Caves, Melbourne

Art Award Finalist, Fondazione Officine Saffi, Milan Italy

Art Award finalist, Darebin Art Prize, Bundoora Homestead, Melbourne

**2023** Group show, Lennox St Summer, Melbourne

Art Award finalist, Deakin University Contemporary Small Sculpture Award

Art Fair, Spring 1883, Lennox St. Gallery presentation, Melbourne

Solo, Past Lives, Lennox St. Gallery, Melbourne

Group show, Endless In Both Directions, Divisions Gallery, Melbourne

**2022** Group show, Cosmos, Gippsland Art Gallery

Acquisition's exhibition, Gippsland Art Gallery

Art Fair, Sydney Contemporary, Saint Cloche Gallery presentation

Solo, Neo Serpentine, Metro Gallery, Melbourne

NGV Melbourne Design Week

Melbourne Design Fair

Group show, Metro Summer, Melbourne

**2021** Collection, Acquired by Gippsland Art Gallery, Victoria

Art Award finalist, Darebin Art Prize, Bundoora Homestead, Melbourne To

Solo, Moon Tide, Saint Cloche. Sydney

NGV Melbourne Design Week, Modern Times

**2020** Group show, Smalls, Otomys Contemporary, Melbourne

Duo, Eterne, Saint Cloche, Sydney

Art Fair, Sydney Contemporary Presents

Art Fair, Melbourne Art Fair

Group show, Art Aid Gippsland Gallery

Duo, Rock, Tinning Street Presents,

Group show, Holiday Dreaming, Saint Cloche Gallery, Sydney

NGV Melbourne Design Week, Modern Times, Melbourne

**2019** Artist Residency, ICS International Ceramic Studio, Hungary

Solo 'Soft Eyes' Modern Times, Melbourne

Art Award finalist, Noel Counihan Commemorative Award, Counihan Gallery,

Melbourne Group show, The Wandering Room, Melbourne

Group show, Daine Singer, Melbourne

Workshop, 'An Idea Needing to be Made' Heidi MOMA

**2018** Art Fair, Spring 1883, Sonia Dutton Gallery (New York) presentation, Melbourne

Solo, Sometimes Strong, Sarah Scout Presents, Melbourne

Bettina Willner is an artist working between Melbourne (Naarm) and Gippsland (Gunaikurnai). Practicing over two decades, Willner draws inspiration from the natural world, helping shape her ceramic sculptures and drawings. Walks in nature along the Gippsland coast bring forth layers of curls, twists, and coils into her hand-built sculptures. Time and the helical nature of ideas and experience also underpin her work. Memory and her subjective relationship to ancient cities, architecture, both organic and of human design are also present in the development of her ideas and forms. Glistening bronze, deep ocean blues, stipples of black and red, pastel pink and sand like glazes coat clay drawings, reflecting the deep thought and connection Willner has to the aura of time and nature. Ornamentation is present in Willner's work drawing on Baroque aesthetics and art history. Like the snakes of Caravaggio's Medusa, Willner celebrates an ornamentation that desires complexity, randomness, and multiplicity.