

Wendy Sharpe

Paris Windows



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14 August – 8 September 2018

King Street Gallery
on William

10am – 6pm Tuesday – Saturday
177 William St Darlinghurst NSW 2010 Australia
T: 61 2 9360 9727 E: art@kingstreetgallery.com
www.kingstreetgallery.com.au

Front Cover: *He Finally Told Me* 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm (detail)
Opposite: Wendy Sharpe, Montmartre, Paris, 2017



Two People 2018 oil on canvas 40 x 50 cm

Paris Windows – Imagined Lives

I first visited Paris in 1987 on a traveling art Scholarship and artist studio residency at Cite Internationale des Arts. I have stayed there several times since, also in many hotels and apartments. In 2010 my partner Bernard Ollis and I bought an apartment in northern Montmartre, where we now live part of every year. We are lucky to have a long 9 metre balcony, wide enough for narrow tables and chairs. We are on the 6th floor/top (with a tiny lift) and have a stunning view of apartments, roofs and chimneys leading up the hill towards Sacre Coeur.

When we first moved in to the apartment I realised how close we were to those around us and wondered what the etiquette was – do you acknowledge the people you see around you every day? I then discovered unspoken 'pretend privacy' of the 6th floor. You act as though you see *nothing*. An odd situation, where you can see glimpses of the intimate world of people you don't know. Some of the images in this exhibition are based on our neighbours and people I have actually seen though not literally depicted, and some are entirely imagined. The rooms are mysterious, like fragments of unknown plays, sometimes a set waiting for the action to start. The viewer imagines their own narratives all of which are valid. I loved making up characters, décor and scenarios. Like most of us, I am intrigued by other lives, other alternatives. I was a bit worried all this might seem a bit too voyeuristic or creepy, but then really it is fiction.

The paintings relate to Hitchcock's classic film Rear Window (in french Fenetre sur Cour) although an American film set in New York, it has a particular resonance in Paris. Central Paris is said to be the most densely populated city in Europe. I looked again at American artist Edwards Hopper's New York window paintings, and also many German Expressionist artists between the wars - including the wood cuts of Frans Marsereel 'The City - a Vision', the paintings of Max Beckmann, Conrad Felixmüller, Marianne von Werefkin and others.

We see a couple who always used to come out on the balcony opposite to smoke, now she has quit and is pregnant. Who is that woman with her husband?

We have nicknames for many of our actual neighbours, as no doubt they do for us:

“The Writer” - a woman who sits on her balcony every morning in a green dressing gown drinks coffee and writes something non-stop in a thick exercise book. What is she writing?

“The Intellectuals” - a man who actually wears a cravat and is often seen reading in a leather chair next to an overflowing book case.

“The Don Quixote’s” - named after the poster of Picasso’s Don Quixote above the TV that is always on, while young women (students?) lie around on bean bags eating pizzas … the pizza motorbike delivery across the road is always for them.

I am fascinated by the way you can live so close to people and not know them. Across the road from us we see little bits of ‘drama’ in rooms next to each other. They may have no idea who is just a wall away. It is sometimes hard to know which rooms are part of the same apartment or if they are totally separate, e.g. our bedroom shares a wall with the next building, we can hear children running and laughing. They are in different buildings with a different entrance. The people opposite would see us and them together but we have no idea who they are.

Wendy Sharpe, 2018



Poster of the french version of Alfred Hitchcock‘s ‘Rear Window‘



City of Secrets 2018 oil on linen 40 x 40 cm



Hotel Mirror 2018 oil on canvas 84 x 84 cm



Have They Ever Met 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Summer Night 2018 oil on linen 91 x 184 cm (detail)

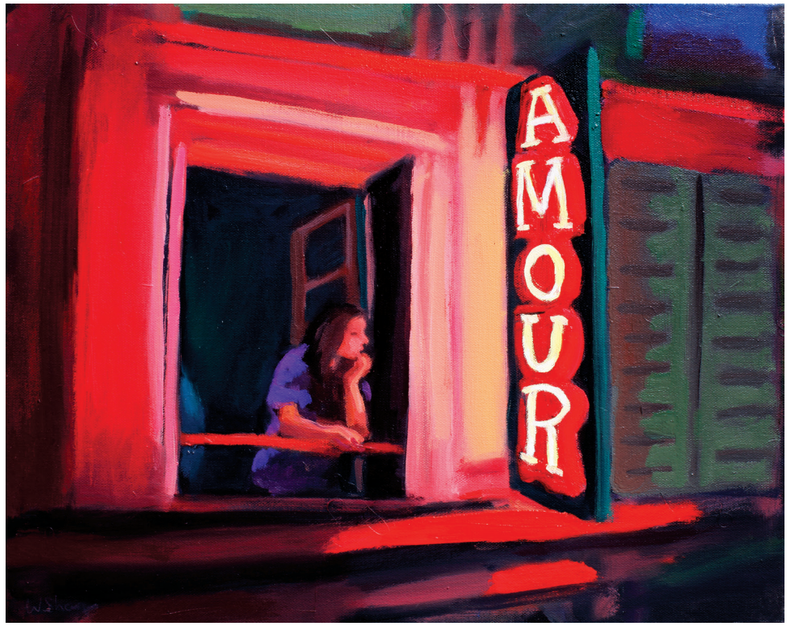


Private Lives 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Quiet Rooms 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm

View from the balcony, Montmartre, Paris



Amour 2018 oil on canvas 40 x 50 cm



More Than One Life 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Night Rituals 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Rear Window 2018 oil on canvas 100 x 125 cm



The Unknown 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



The End or the Beginning 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Apartment View 2018 gouache and watercolour on archival book 21 x 112 cm



Other Lives 2018 oil on linen 91 x 184 cm (detail)



Time without Clocks 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



The Room Next Door 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Paris Windows 2018 artists acrylic on wooden screen 160 x 240 cm (Side A)



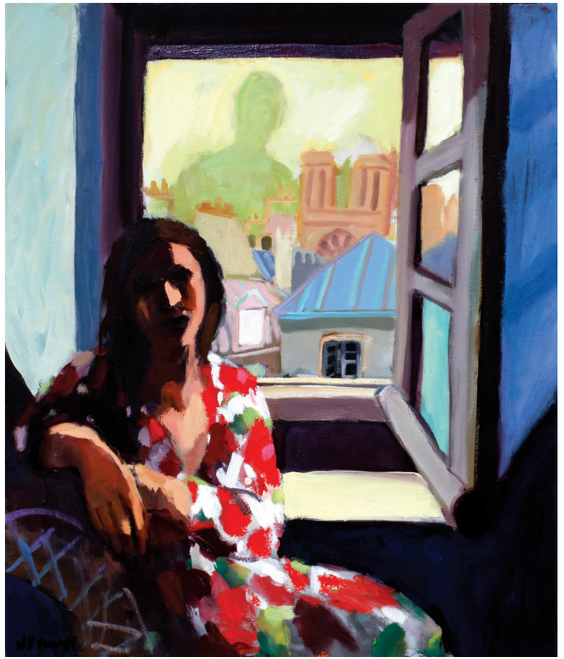
Paris Windows 2018 artists acrylic on wooden screen 160 x 240 cm (Side B)



Other Lives 2018 gouache on archival book 21 x 112 cm



Rear window view, Montmartre, Paris



Lise by the Window 2018 oil on canvas 90 x 76 cm



Private and Public 2018 oil on linen 40 x 40 cm



Poetry for Strangers 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Self Portrait with Neighbours 2018 oil on canvas 100 x 125 cm (detail)



Room with Books 2018 gouache on silk board 14 x 36 cm



Moroccan Dressing Gown 2018 gouache on silk board 14 x 36 cm



The Art Collector 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



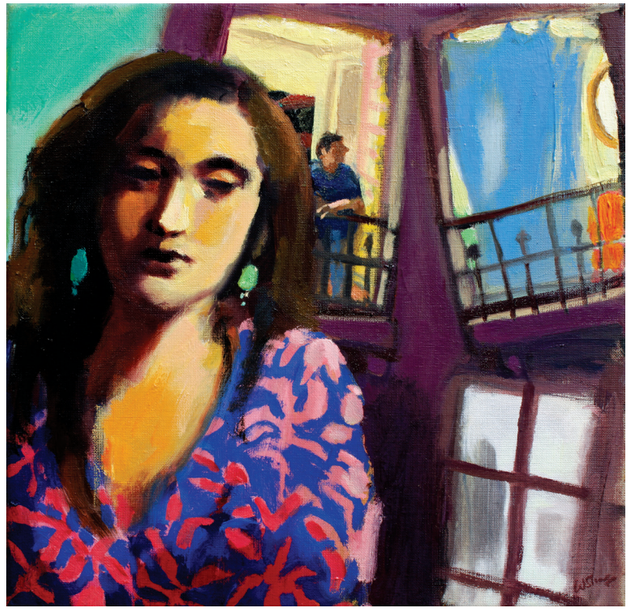
Sixth Floor 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



The Balcony with Sacre Coeur 2018 oil on canvas 100 x 125 cm



Everyone Else is Asleep 2018 gouache on silk board 14 x 36 cm



The Man Opposite 2018 oil on linen 40 x 40 cm



Shadow People 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Real and Imagined Lives 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



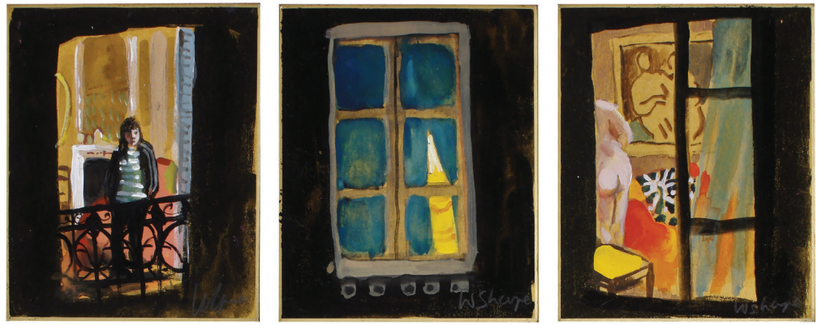
View from the balcony, Montmartre, Paris



Paris Windows Artist Book 2018 gouache on archival book 21 x 112 cm



Romance Writer 2018 gouache on silk board 14 x 36 cm



Two Women 2018 gouache on silk board 14 x 36 cm



The Day I Waited for Him 2018 oil on linen 40 x 40 cm



Tuesday Night 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



Waiting for Someone 2018 oil on canvas 30 x 60 cm



The Uncertainty Principle 2018 oil on linen 40 x 40 cm

Wendy Sharpe

Born 1960 Sydney, Australia

Lives Sydney and Paris

Solo exhibitions [selection from over 50]

2018 *Paris Windows* King Street Gallery on William, Sydney
Secrets Maitland Regional Gallery, NSW
Wanderlust Aarwun Gallery, Canberra
2017 - 2018 *Wendy Sharpe* Clayton Utz, Sydney
2017 *Wanderlust* Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria
Burlesque and Circus Linton and Kay, Perth
Burlesque and Circus Aarwun Gallery Canberra
House of Dreams and The Book of Constant Stars Juniper Hall, Sydney
2016 *Wendy Sharpe - China* Linyi Contemporary Art Centre, Linyi China
China Stories Shanghai Cultural Centre and Art Gallery Shanghai China
CIRCUS King Street Gallery on William
Butt Naked Salon with The Australian Art Quartet Yellow House, Sydney
Theatre of Dreams Drawing Projects UK, Trowbridge, UK
Wanderlust Tweed Regional Gallery, Murwillumbah, Qld
Beautiful Monsters Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
2015 *Theatre of Dreams* Michael Reid Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Seeking Humanity – Portraits of Asylum Seekers The Muse, Ultimo, Sydney; Belconnen Art Centre, Canberra; Penrith Regional Gallery, Sydney; Mary McKillop Place Museum Nth Sydney
2014 *Le Regard de Deux Australiens* Espace Beaujon, 75008 Paris, France
Night King Street Gallery on William
2013 *Wendy Sharpe's Antarctica* Long Gallery, Salamanca Art Centre, Hobart
Truth or Dare Muk Muk Fine Art, Darwin
2012 *Wendy Sharpe's Antarctica* Australian National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, Sydney
Artist & Model Buratti Fine Art, North Fremantle, WA
2011 *Wendy Sharpe - the Imagined Life* (retrospective), S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
2010 *Venice* King Street Gallery on William
2008 *Intimacy and Solitude* Adele Boag Gallery, Adelaide
2007 *Stories from the Studio* Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
2006 *Couples* Mars Gallery Melbourne
2005 *Artist & City* Chapman Gallery, Canberra
2004 *Travel paintings* Phillip Bacon Gallery, Brisbane
2000 *New Beginnings-East Timor* Australian War Memorial, Canberra
1999 *Drawings, Paintings and Mixed Media Works for The Annette Kellermann Mural* king street gallery on burton, Sydney
1991 *Ghosts* Pod Theatre, Sydney
1990 *Magic Paintings* DC Art Gallery, Sydney
1985 *Sex and Death* Nicholson Street Gallery, Sydney

Group exhibitions [selected]

2018 Finalist *Ravenswood Art Prize* Centenary Centre Gordon, Sydney
The Art of Friendship Gallery Lane Cove, Sydney
Finalist *Sulman Prize* Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Salon des Refuses S. H. Ervin Gallery
Salient – Contemporary Artists at the Western Front National Travelling Exhibition
Australian Women Artists Philip Bacon Galleries, Brisbane
2017 *Salon des Refuses* S. H. Ervin Gallery
Portia Geach Memorial Award S.H. Ervin Gallery
2016 Finalist *Sulman Prize* Art Gallery of New South Wales
Drawing Exhibition, Untitled Factory, Rue Gabrielle 18 eme. Paris, France
Self Portrait Exhibition Yellow House, Potts Point, Sydney
WAR – A Playground Perspective Newington Armory Gallery, NSW

2015	Doug Moran Portrait Prize, Juniper Hall, Paddington
	Escape to Antarctica Shackleton Sydney Maritime Museum
	The Art of Shakespeare with Bell Shakespeare, Sydney Opera House, Parliament House, Canberra
	Newtown Romantics Penny Contemporary Gallery, Hobart
	Australian Masterworks Handmark, Hobart
	Painting for Antarctica: Wendy Sharpe and Bernard Ollis Follow Shackleton Australian National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, Sydney
	Shackleton: Escape from Antarctica Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney
	The Australians 12Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

Performances & live drawing

2018	*Secrets* Maitland Regional Gallery, NSW
2017	*The Enraged Musicians* with the Australian Art Quartet, Unashamedly Original Festival, City Recital Hall, Sydney
2016	*Butt Naked Salon* with the Australian Art Quartet, Yellow House, Sydney

Awards, major commissions and prizes [selected]

2018	National Art School Fellowship, Sydney
2017-18	Clayton Utz Art Partnership
	Artist in Residency, The State Library of NSW, Sydney
2016	Ambassador, Asylum Seeker Centre, Sydney
2015-16	Artist in residence, Circus Oz, Melbourne and Sydney
2015	International Artists Residency, Zhouzhuang, China
2008-2014	Member of the Council of the Australian War Memorial, Canberra
2014	Obracadobra Residency, Oaxaca, Mexico
	Winner Adelaide Perry Drawing Prize awarded by Edmund Capon
2013	*Manning Art Prize* Manning Regional Gallery, Taree
2012	Antarctica Artist Residency Mawson Centenary – Mawson's Hut Foundation
2011	Taronga Zoo Artist Residency Sydney
2008-09	Commission: The Arts Centre Victoria - The Australian Ballet's Exhibition
2008	Artist Residency Australian Embassy Cairo, Egypt

2006	Awarded tenancy Cite Internationale des Arts Studio, Paris, Art Gallery of New South Wales
2003	*Portia Geach Memorial Prize Award* S.H Ervin Gallery, Sydney
1999	Official Australian War Artist - East Timor, Australian War Memorial (1st woman since WW2)
1998-99	Commissioned City of Sydney - Olympic pool murals Cook & Phillip Aquatic Centre
1998	*Bathurst Art Prize* Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, NSW
1996	*Archibald Prize* Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1995	*Kedumba Drawing Prize* NSW
	Portia Geach Memorial Prize Award SH Ervin Gallery
1992	*Robert Le Gay Bereton Drawing Prize* Art Gallery of New South Wales
1991-92	*Australian Post Graduate Research Award*
1989	Mercedes Benz Art Scholarship
1986	Awarded tenancy Cite Internationale Studio, Paris Art Gallery of New South Wales
	Marten Bequest, Travelling Art Scholarship (painting)
	The Sulman Prize Art Gallery of New South Wales, judged by Albert Tucker

Finalist *Sulman Prize* – Art Gallery of New South Wales – 15 times
Finalist *Archibald Prize* – Art Gallery of New South Wales – 6 times
Finalist *Dobell Drawing Prize* – Art Gallery of New South Wales – 12 times
Finalist *Doug Moran Portrait Prize* – Juniper Hall – 3 times

For a complete CV visit

www.wendysharpe.com
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View from inside Wendy's studio, Montmartre, Paris

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Published by King Street Studios P/L
Photography: Steven Cavanagh
Design: Ella Burrett
ISBN 978-0-6480863-8-3

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