

1975	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian National Gallery Act passed, James Mollison appointed Director • Mildura Sculpture Triennial. • Women's Film Group formed, Melbourne. • <i>Australian Women Artists: One Hundred Years (1840-1940)</i> - Ewing & George Paton Galleries, Melbourne. ¹ (Sept 2) • Women's Art Register formed (Melbourne) • Experimental Art Foundation opens in Adelaide ² • Praxis established in Perth³ • Community Art Workers form in Melbourne.⁴ (Jan) • Publication of Women in the Visual Arts issue of <i>Refractory Girl</i>(Autumn) (DOCUMENT: RefractoryGirl/75; IMAGE AU158) • <i>Modern Masters: From Manet to Matisse</i> (MoMA, US Information Service,⁵) opens at Art Gallery of New South Wales (April 11) • Robert Hughes reports opening of Modern Masters show.⁶ • <i>Modern Masters</i> show opens at National Gallery of Victoria (May 26) • <i>Art Language</i> show, held in Art School National Gallery of Victoria⁷ May 29-June 8) (IMAGE AU159) • Strike re banning of Domenico de Clario show, National Gallery of Victoria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Fall of Saigon' -> US Retreat from Vietnam (April) • Colour television introduced to Australia (March 1) • Commonwealth Racial Discrimination Act becomes law (June 11) • Medibank (later called Medicare), entitling Australians to free health care, comes into operation. • Juanita Nielsen disappears. • Opposition refuses to pass budget bills in the Senate unless an election is called in the House of Representatives (Oct 15) • Liberal-National Country party coalition led by Malcolm Fraser wins landslide victory in federal election. (Dec 13) • Five Australian journalists killed in East Timor. • Viet Cong victorious in Vietnam; Saigon falls, US forces evacuate. • Suez Canal reopens after 8 years. • International Womens Year. • Sacking of Whitlam Government by Governor General, Sir John Kerr Malcolm Fraser appointed as prime minister, forms caretaker government. (Nov 11)
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¹ curated by Janine Burke. Melbourne Sept 2-27, AGNSW, 9th Oct -2nd Nov; Newcastle Regional Gallery 4-29 Dec, AGSA, 17 Jan - 10 Feb 1976

² Directors, Noel Sheridan (1975-1980), David Kerr (1980 -83) Louise Dauth (1984-1987) Michael Snelling (1987-1989); Martin Munz (1990-1991); Richard Greyson (1991-1998); Christopher Chapman (1998-). The EAF was the first of the 'alternative' art spaces established in each state & was the model for subsequent developments, such as Praxis in Perth (1981), Artspace in Sydney (1982), Institute of Modern Art in Brisbane (19

³ after formation of WA Artworkers Union in 1981, Praxis became the main alternative space in WA, eventually evolving into PICA (Perth Institute of Contemporary Art. Directors of Praxis: Lindsay Parkhill (1975-82;Julian Goddard (1982-1985) John Barrett-Lennard (1985-1989); directors of PICA: Noel Sheridan (1989-1991) Sarah Miller (1991-). For a brief account of Praxis' activities in 1981, see Lindsay Parkhill: *Praxis Inc.* (Art Network, 3-4, 1981, p70)

⁴ Aim: 'to develop policies & ideas towards an art that would better serve the interests of the Australian people'. Issues discussed: 'the nature of art in capitalist society; the gallery system; the service of art to foreign & domestic capitalist control of Australian culture; the processes of mystification & the mechanics of elitist art.' (Source of quotes:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucy Lippard delivers Power Lecture (July) • Australian International Women's Film Festival, Sydney (August) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
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Bueglaar Michael & Clements Charlotte: Community Art Workers in Stephen, Merewether (eds) *The Great Divide* (Melbourne, 1977)

⁵ Exhibition initiated by Australian members of MoMA's International Council These were Penelope Seidler, Ann Lewis, James Fairfax, Lady Casey, Mrs Chester Guest, Sandra McGrath. AGNSW, NGV each put in \$10,000 for catalogue & \$20,000 each for expenses. VAB put up \$25,000 guarantee against loss on catalogue & set aside \$15,000 to bring students from State capitals which didn't receive show. Freight costs to & from US met by Aluminum Company of America's Alcoa Foundation [\$US150,000] Australian Govt indemnified insurance to value of \$A70m; 180,000 saw show in Sydney, 172,000 in Melbourne. Costs: 20¢ to enter Gallery, 50¢ to see show; \$4 for Catalogue. Total works in show: 114. & 58 artists represented. Source of works MoMA 23, other US museums 31, Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris 9, Tate Gallery London 1, NGV, AGNSW 4, Private collections New York, 33, elsewhere US 3, outside US, mostly Europe 10. Information source: Smith T. (ed) *Art & Language* 1975 (Art & Language Press, Banbury-New York-Sydney 1976; no rights reserved)

⁶ - in the same issue in which the US defeat in Vietnam is the cover story *"Only firsthand contact with European and American work can break up the provincialism that still encysts Australian opinions about Australian art...In terms of sheer quality, "Modern Masters" is the most important exhibition of paintings ever seen in Australia...But the paintings remain, testifying to the wholeness and sanity of the modernist enterprise-and reminding us what we were missing in the blank postwar years when a few Matisses, Picassos and Cézannes could have made so crucial a difference to the balance of Australian art"* Robert Hughes (Time, April 1975 p42, cited in Smith T. (ed) *Art & Language* 1975 (Art & Language Press, Banbury-New York-Sydney 1976; no rights reserved)

⁷ Participants: Art students, Dr Henry Krips, Humphrey McQueen, Garrie Hutchinson, Patrick McCaughey. Also shown at Art Gallery of South Australia .Show planned for Art Gallery of New South Wales cancelled following complaints & lobbying by Peter Coleman (May 29)