

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

ELIZABETH REES

b.1959

Rees has been exhibiting in New Zealand since 1991 and holds Diplomas in Fine Arts from Queen Elizabeth College and the University of Canterbury.

Beginning with social satire, connected to television and celebrity, her well-known figurative works explored the relationship between the body, the mind, and the environment in which we exist.

Elizabeth Rees currently works from her studio in Russell, Bay of Islands, New Zealand.

“My recent acquisition of a boatshed in a small tidal bay has now become my full-time studio. Being surrounded by water, this change has offered me yet another perspective – being able so closely connected to the natural environment.” Rees 2024

Rees’ recent paintings owe much to the style of the Impressionists, with a sense of the artist painting in the open air, surrounded by her subject. Her works respond to an environment she feels a strong connection with - these paintings are a record of the various times of day, moods and qualities of light, she has observed.

Rees has always been captivated by the New Zealand landscape and its moods, and her paintings catch something distinctly of this country; they are often bleak, lonely, introspective and mysterious.

Rees joined ARTIS Gallery in 2012 after an absence of several years in Auckland.

ACADEMIC:

1976 Diploma Fine Arts, Queen Elizabeth College, Palmerston North, New Zealand

1982 Diploma of Fine Arts, University of Canterbury, New Zealand.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS:

2024 The Bay, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland (with sculptor – Matthew Williams)

2022 *The Backroad*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland

2019 *Sealight*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland

2017 *Light*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland

2016 *Juncture*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland

2014 *Centre Stage*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown

2014 *Silent Stage*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland

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SELECTED EXHIBITIONS:

- 2013 *Small Worlds*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2012 *Another Stage*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2011 *A Short Walk from My Brothers Bach*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2010 *In Motion*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2008 *Rapture*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2007 *Second Sequence*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2004 *Figure & Landscape*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2003 *Traffic*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2002 *Intersection*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2001 *Painted*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 2000 *Journey*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 1999 *Momentum*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 1998 *Low Light*, Peters Muir Petford Gallery, Auckland
- 1997 *Here Now*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 1996 *The Subject of Object* Milford Galleries, Queenstown
- 1995 *Special Effects*, Chiaroscuro Gallery, Auckland
- 1994 *Second Stage*, Chiaroscuro Gallery, Auckland
- 1992 *Small Stage*, Chiaroscuro Gallery, Auckland
- 1991 Auckland Society of Arts, Auckland

PUBLICATION:

ELIZABETH REES – I Paint, by Don Abbott, 2017

A survey of the artist's career, from her first exhibition in 1991, through her sellout shows of the late 1990s, to her show, 'LIGHT', at ARTIS Gallery, Parnell, in 2017. The book is a unique mix of biography and art history, and features full page reproductions of more than 190 works, from all aspects of Rees' oeuvre.

Don Abbott 2019