

Homo Eclectic presents a new body of work by Hans Arkeveld, alongside ephemera and significant artworks from collections and the artist's archives. This survey exhibition will be presented from 8 February – 29 March 2020 at Mundaring Arts Centre, an organisation Arkeveld has had a close relationship with for over 30 years.



Hans Arkeveld, *Valkyre*, painted timber, 63 x 57 x 24 cm

Curated by Dr Robyn Taylor, *Homo Eclectic* is a result of years of conversations and documentation sessions to record Arkeveld's sustained and disciplined investigation of science and art, human morality and the nature of creation. Featuring both sculptures and works on paper, many of which have not been exhibited before, *Homo Eclectic* reveals Arkeveld's exceptional skills refined over a lifetime.

Over the last five and a half decades, a number of recurring themes, interests and stories have featured in Arkeveld's work; his early childhood in the coastal fishing town Scheveningen (Holland), the journey by sea to Australia with his family as post-war migrants, investigations into the detail of human anatomy, his travels in the Sepik River region of New Guinea and greater Asia, and his passion for human rights and the plight of refugees. These storylines are represented regularly by motifs of boats, the human body, architecture and machinery; often splicing multiple motifs and realities together.

Arkeveld's exceptional construction, drawing, and printmaking skills have been honed from his many decades working as a resident artist and technician in the Department of Anatomy at the University of Western Australia (since 1968). Full of curiosities, his studio was recognised as one of the one hundred treasures of the University as part of their 2011 centenary celebrations. An installation created by artist and Arkeveld's partner, Joan Johnson simulating the view to Arkeveld's university studio will also accompany the exhibition alongside documentary footage and facsimiles of Arkeveld's sketchbooks and journals.



Hans Arkeveld in his UWA studio. Photograph by Robyn Taylor.

Arkeveld has exhibited in Holland and widely across Australia, with previous solo exhibitions held at the Art Gallery of Western Australia in 1984, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery in 1992, Gallery Central in 2004, and the Darlington Arts Festival in 2016. His work is represented by numerous public and private collections including Holmes à Court and Edith Cowan University, from which loaned works will be on display.

Hans Arkeveld has been closely associated with Mundaring Arts Centre since he moved to Hovea in 1982, as an artist, member and patron, and was awarded an honorary Life Membership in 2016 for his contributions to the arts community. He has exhibited in numerous Mundaring Arts Centre group exhibitions, tutored participants in the public program, and was commissioned to create one of the first sculptural works for the Mundaring Sculpture Park in 1988. Four of Arkeveld's works are represented in the Shire of Mundaring Art Collection and he is treasured for his generosity and endless pursuit of knowledge.

Sprinkled with Arkeveld's trademark subversive humour, *Homo Eclectic* showcases Arkeveld's fascination with the development of the human body, and the impact of social and cultural forces on the human condition.

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Mundaring Arts Centre | Tuesday – Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday & Sunday 11am-3pm
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