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Award Winning Australian Landscapes Emerge for Auction

Important Australian Art | Auction in Sydney 23 November 2016



WILLIAM DOBELL 1899-1970, *Storm Approaching, Wangi* 1948. Estimate \$100,000-150,000

Significant award winning Australian landscape paintings have been brought together for sale by Sotheby's Australia on 23 November at the InterContinental Sydney. William Dobell's *Storm Approaching, Wangi* 1948 (estimate \$100,000-150,000, lot 3, pictured) and Sali Herman's *The Red House* 1965 (estimate \$50,000-70,000, lot 29, pictured following) were both awarded the Art Gallery of New South Wales' Wynne Prize for the best Australian landscape painting. Also consigned is John Coburn's *Sacred Site* 1989 (estimate \$60,000-80,000, lot 25) which was an entrant to the 1989 Wynne Prize.

Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia commented: 'It is unique that two of Australia's most significantly recognised and awarded landscape paintings of the twentieth century appear simultaneously for auction. William Dobell's *Storm Approaching, Wangi* is a work of exceptional quality and historical importance and appears for public sale for the first time. In 1948 Dobell was awarded both the Archibald Prize for portraiture for *Margaret Olley* (1948, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney) and the Wynne Prize for the present work. It was the first time an artist had been awarded both prizes in the same year and created a national sensation. This followed Dobell's

infamous and bitter court case regarding his *Portrait of Joshua Smith* (1943, Private Collection), which was challenged as a caricature after it won in 1943.'

Although Dobell won the court case, he became withdrawn and reclusive and fled Sydney for the protective isolation of the family weekenders at Wangi Wangi, on the foreshore of Lake Macquarie, where he gradually resumed painting. When Dobell was announced the winner of both the 1948 Archibald and Wynne Prizes, crowds flocked to view the exhibition. On the opening weekend approximately 14,000 visitors attended and in the first week almost 40,000 visitors made the pilgrimage.



SALI HERMAN 1898-1993, *The Red House* 1965.
Estimate \$50,000-70,000

Sali Herman is most known for his paintings that depict the urban rituals of the inner city streets of Sydney. A large and impressive composition, *The Red House* 1965 perfectly captures the physical and spiritual aspects of this distinct urban landscape and became Herman's third painting (from a total four) to be awarded the Wynne Prize.

AT A GLANCE

WYNNE PRIZE WINNER 1948
WILLIAM DOBELL 1899-1970
Storm Approaching, Wangi 1948
oil on cardboard on composition board
32.9 x 56 cm
Estimate \$100,000-150,000

WYNNE PRIZE WINNER 1965
SALI HERMAN 1898-1993
The Red House 1965
oil on canvas
101.5 x 127 cm
Estimate \$50,000-70,000

Important Australian Art
Auction in Sydney, 23 November 2016, 6.30 pm
InterContinental Sydney, 117 Macquarie Street, Sydney
Total auction estimate \$6,699,000-9,265,000 | 102 lots

Exhibition in Melbourne 10-13 November, 10 am to 5 pm, 41 Exhibition Street, Melbourne
Exhibition in Sydney 17-23 November, 10 am to 5 pm, 30 & 34 Queen Street, Woollahra

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