



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

**THE
J G CRAWFORD PRIZE
2013**

CITATION FOR THE J G CRAWFORD PRIZE

DR JULIE HELEN BROOKE

2013

Dr Julie Helen Brooke

Thinking Spaces: a practice-led inquiry into representations of memory and thought

The JG Crawford Prizes for academic excellence in graduate work were established in 1973 to recognise Sir John Crawford's outstanding contribution to the University.

There are up to three prizes awarded annually for doctoral students, one for the natural sciences, one for social sciences and humanities and, from time to time, one for "*a graduate who has demonstrated outstanding ability in integrating and applying different fields, approaches and knowledge*".

Dr Julie Brooke's practice-led doctorate in Painting, composed of an exhibited body of artwork and an accompanying exegesis, represents an exemplary integration of a contemporary art practice with critical reflection and enquiry of an exceptionally high order.

In her studio research, Dr Brooke explores the possibility of constructing visual models of thought. This she develops via multiple series of works driven by geometric principles, generating works driven by systems of internal logic, and by the formation of structures which track progressions from simplicity to complexity, mutation and variety. The resulting works are visually compelling, inventive, intellectually intriguing, and are delivered with a highly refined approach to the technical craft of painting.

Dr Brooke's approach to art practice as speculative research performed in the studio is underpinned by a remarkable command of a range of fields of enquiry. This includes probing modernist engagements with geometric abstraction, specifically the Concrete and Op Art Movements, and interdisciplinary research drawn from biological science, mathematics, logic and memory systems. It is in the visual, formal and material integration of these various territories of exploration via painting that Dr Brooke makes an exceptional contribution.

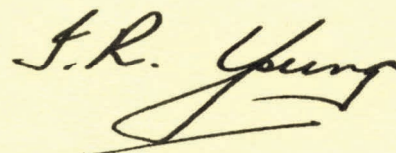
This body of research achieves a striking clarity, aesthetic resolution and economy of means.

As a doctorate in creative arts, *Thinking Spaces: a practice-led inquiry into representations of memory and thought* constitutes a major contribution to a relatively new form of scholarship. Dr Brooke's work is striking in its implications and applications beyond her own immediate area of enquiry, contributing fresh and original insights to the ongoing exploration of the nature of the creative process itself.

Dr Julie Brooke has been appointed as a Research Fellow at the ANU School of Art.

Chancellor, I present a graduate of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy who has been awarded the 2013 J G Crawford Prize:

Dr Julie Helen Brooke

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. R. Young', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Ian Young
Vice-Chancellor and President
The Australian National University
19 December 2014

THE J G CRAWFORD PRIZE

The J.G. Crawford Prizes were established in 1973 to recognise Sir John Crawford's outstanding contribution to the University. Sir John held the posts of Director of the Research School of Pacific Studies for seven years (1960-1967), Vice-Chancellor for five years (1968—1973) and Chancellor from 1976 to 1984.

The Crawford Prizes are awarded to those graduate students most deserving of recognition for the quality of their graduate work. The main criterion for selection is academic excellence and contributions to the life of the University may also be taken into account. Two prizes are available for award to doctoral students who have submitted theses during the preceding calendar year, normally one for the natural sciences and one for social sciences and humanities. One prize is also available for excellence in the Master degree where the program of study has been composed of or included research and preparation of a thesis. The prize takes the form of a medal and, where possible, the Crawford Prizes are presented at the University's Graduation Ceremonies.