

CHARLES BLACKMAN

1928 - 2018 Sydney, Australia

Charles Blackman is a major figure in Australian art of the post-war years. His haunting and enchanting images of women and girls, absorbed in daydreams or games have an enduring appeal. Significant themes in his work include Schoolgirls, Alice in Wonderland and Women and Flowers. His artworks are imbued with emotional force, as well as a delicate sensitivity. These sculptures were made from maquette made in the 1960's and their original designs are held at the Heide Art Gallery, Melbourne.

Charles was largely self-taught, he attended night classes in drawing and design at the East Sydney Technical College. Blackman was a co-founder of the revival of the Contemporary Art Society in Melbourne in 1953 and was one of seven Antipodeans responsible for the Antipodean Manifesto – a reaction against what they saw as an intolerance of figurative painting in Australia art. His work is held in most Australian state and regional galleries, institutional and private collections.