



STEPHEN HART

PERTINACITY



PERTINACITY

If there is an animating principle at work on our planet, it is embodied in the capacity of all living things to briefly overcome gravity to stand upright.

That dogged perseverance to prevail is writ large in the term “pertinacity” — a tenacious perseverance that living invariably draws upon.

Pertinacity is used here as a title for this defiantly vertical forest of eccentric upright forms — inspired by observations drawn walking amongst myriad living things.

STEPHEN HART, OCTOBER 2021



PERTINACITY (MAQUETTE) 2021

Elm and polychromed wood

47 × 8 × 8 cm

\$2,200



TOWER (MAQUETTES) 2021

Polychromed timber
54 × 4 × 4 cm (largest)
\$4,400 (set of six)

SAINT JEROME IN HIS STUDY

The National Gallery in London is a repository of some of the world's great paintings, all of which reward serious scrutiny.

One particular work, of such a modest scale that it can be easily missed, is Antonella da Messina's *Saint Jerome in his Study* of 1475. The visitor's gaze is rewarded by da Messina's masterly acuity, rendering the Saint inside a chambered vault, backgrounded by the surrounding landscape, all conveying an enchantment that today might be lost in a digital scan.

Using same-sized wooden panels and handmade frames as the original, my paintings *Self portrait in the Museum of Spent Time* 2021 and *Cogitation* 2021 were painted in homage to da Messina's masterpiece.



ANTONELLO DA MESSINA, SAINT JEROME IN HIS STUDY C.1474

Oil on limewood

45 × 36 cm

Photo courtesy National Gallery, London



SELF PORTRAIT IN THE MUSEUM OF SPENT TIME 2021

Oil on board in handmade frame
75 × 65 cm (frame) / 44 × 34 cm (painting)
\$8,800



SELF PORTRAIT IN THE MUSEUM OF SPENT TIME 2021 (DETAIL)



COGITATION 2021

Oil on board in handmade frame
75 × 65 cm (frame) / 44 × 34 cm (painting)
\$8,800



COGITATION 2021 (DETAIL)



PERTINACITY 2021

Plywood
220 × 55 × 55 cm
\$9,900



STRETCH 2021

Polychromed plywood

124 × 25 × 25 cm

\$6,600



YOU ME AND EVERYONE ELSE 2021

Polychromed timber and mixed media

248 × 35 × 35 cm

\$13,200



YOU ME AND EVERYONE ELSE 2021 (DETAIL)



PERPENDICULAR 2021

Polychromed timber
100 × 12 × 12 cm
\$2,750



QUIVER 2021

Polychromed timber

134 × 12 × 12 cm

\$2,750



ODYSSEY 2021

Chromed timber and mixed media

46 × 17 × 17 cm

\$6,600

ODYSSEY

The word “odyssey” implies a journey far exceeding its known or expected parameters. It entails change, adventure and significant challenge to both body and mind — each dimension will be deeply examined within such experience. For example, Homeric hero Ulysses was so transformed by his quest that upon return his wife Penelope was unable to recognise him.

In the carved and sprung work entitled *Odyssey*, the word attaches itself idiosyncratically to an enlargement of a toy sailor originally cast in lead. This child’s plaything was manufactured in Australia during the previous century and the inscription on the sailor’s cap reads “HMAS” — with the letter “A” signifying that Her Majesty’s Ship was, of course, “Australian”. My sculpture is constructed from chromed, hollowed timber and contains a penny from 1953 — the year of my birth.



I have wondered whether the toy itself might have first made its appearance in memory of the young Tasmanian sailor Edward “Teddy” Sheahan, who was recently posthumously awarded a Victoria Cross. Sheahan died heroically in 1941, defending his shipmates from strafing Japanese aircraft as their stricken ship sank in the Timor Sea.

Sailors are certainly no strangers to the experience of odyssey. Nor perhaps will be any returning traveller who, for a time, might be discombobulated while absorbing their recent adventure.



Porous 2021

Polychromed ironbark

44 × 79 × 17 cm

\$13,200



SHAKE 2021

Polychromed timber

141 × 13 × 13 cm

\$3,300

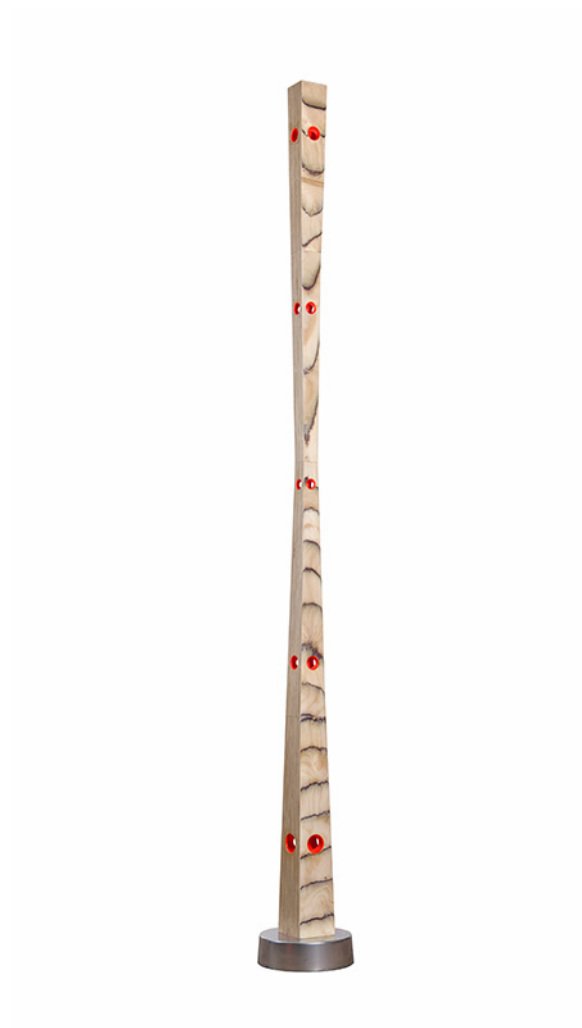


OUT THERE 2021

Plywood and mixed media

267 × 35 × 35 cm

\$8,800



SIGHT LINES 2021

Polychromed plywood

245 × 27 × 27 cm

\$8,800



OUTLIER 2021

Plywood and mixed media

260 × 35 × 35 cm

\$8,800



HERE 2021

Polychromed timber and mixed media

220 × 32 × 32 cm

\$8,800



CONTINUUM 2021

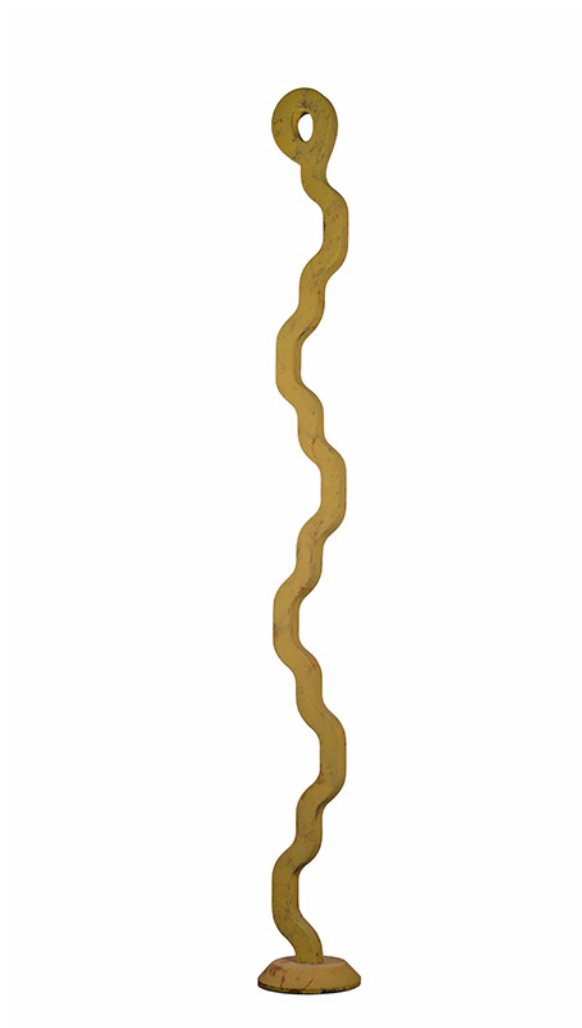
Polychromed plywood and mixed media

260 × 35 × 35 cm

\$11,000



CONTINUUM 2021 (DETAIL)



TWISTS AND TURNS 2021

Polychromed plywood

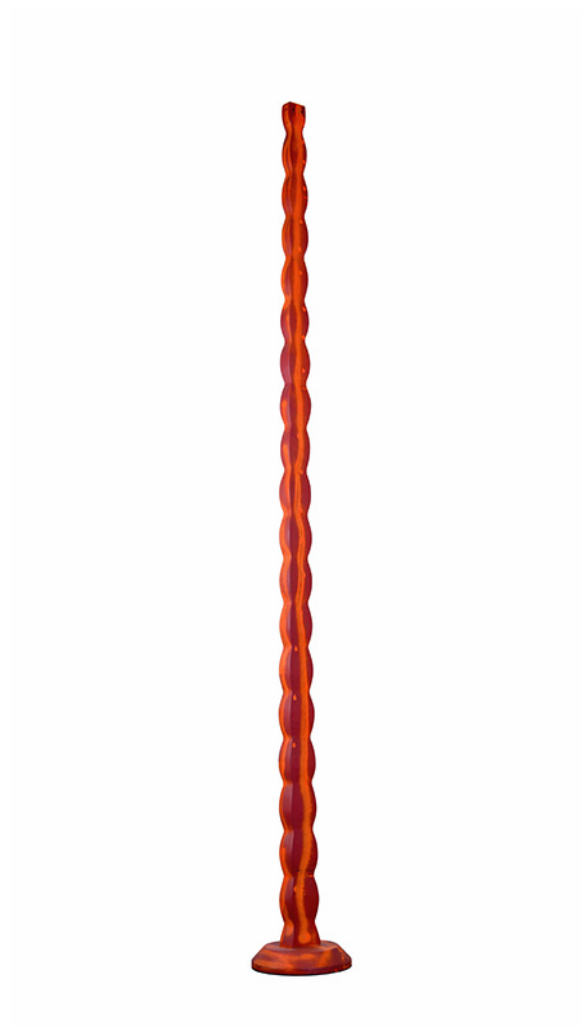
280 × 35 × 35 cm

\$8,800



THREE ZERO THREE 2021

Polychromed plywood
303 × 35 × 35 cm
\$8,800



WABI SABI 2021

Polychromed plywood

295 × 35 × 35 cm

\$8,800

ARTWORK AND PORTRAIT PHOTOS: MICK RICHARDS

STEPHEN HART

Born 1953

EDUCATION

1994 Master of Fine Arts, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
1984 Post Graduate Diploma of Fine Arts, Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney, New South Wales
1982 Bachelor Visual Arts, Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney, New South Wales
1980-84 National Art School, Sydney
1980-84 Tom Bass Sculpture School, Sydney

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2002 Lecturer, Griffith University, Brisbane
1997 Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
1992-94 Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
1989 Lecturer, Sydney College of the Arts, New South Wales
1987-89 Tutor, Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, New South Wales
1985 Tutor, Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, New South Wales
1981-84 Lecturer, Sydney College of the Arts, New South Wales

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 *Pertinacity*, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
2019 *Still Moving: 21ST Century*, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
2018 *Agency—Rare Offerings from the Museum of Spent Time*, Jan Manton Art, Brisbane
2013 *Fellow Humans*, Museum of Brisbane, Brisbane
2011 *Spent Time*, Michael Reid, Sydney
2010 *Something Like This*, Jan Manton Art, Brisbane
2009 *Oddfellows*, Michael Reid, Sydney
2008 *Frank*, Jan Manton Art, Brisbane
2007 *But that might change*, Michael Reid, Sydney
2006 *Wild blue yonder*, Jan Manton Art, Brisbane
2005 *A Silent Walk: The Sculpture of Stephen Hart*, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane
2004 *Light Reading*, Gallery 482, Brisbane
2003 *Leave your gloves at the door*, Gallery 482, Brisbane
2001 *Whatmore New Sculptures*, Gallery 482, Brisbane
1997 *Still Moving*, Eva Breuer Art Dealer, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Sculptors Exposed*, Caboolture Regional Gallery, Queensland
- 2015 *Con/struct*, Caboolture Regional Gallery, Queensland
- 2014 *Platform*, Jan Manton Art Offsite at Metro Arts, Brisbane
- 2013 *The imperceptible something*, Caboolture Regional Gallery, Queensland
- 2008 *Works on paper*, Michael Reid, Sydney
- 2006 *Doubletake*, Museum of Brisbane, Queensland
Animals in Allegory, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane
- 2004 *Temperature—A Survey of Queensland Sculptors*, Museum of Brisbane, Queensland
- 2002 *Woollahra Sculpture Prize*, Sydney
The colour and the shape, Thornquest Gallery, Southport, Queensland
- 2001 *Conrad Jupiters Art Prize*, Gold Coast, Queensland
Real World Art, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane
Thursday Plantation East Coast Sculpture Show, Ballina, New South Wales
Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Exhibition, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2000 *Gravitas*, Gallery 482, Brisbane
- 1998 *Celebrating Conversation 1988–1998*, Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
This Thing, Gallery 482, Brisbane
Conrad Jupiters Art Prize, Gold Coast, Queensland
- 1996 *Queensland Designer Makers*, Metro Arts, Brisbane
- 1995 *Living with the master*, Palace Gallery, Brisbane
- 1994 *Everything must go*, Loading Bay, Museum of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1993 *Happenstance*, Royal Institute of Architects, Brisbane
- 1992 *Sculpture*, Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
- 1991 *The Bathurst 4*, Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
- 1990 *Sculpture*, Charles Sturt University, Bathurst
- 1989 *Under the Greenhouse*, Tin Sheds Gallery, University of Sydney, New South Wales
- 1985 *Sculpture*, Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, New South Wales
- 1984 *Graduate Diploma of Visual Arts Exhibition of 1983*, Sydney College of the Arts, New South Wales
Sculpture, The Performance Space, Sydney

AWARDS AND PRIZES

- 2014 Churchill Fellowship—to study in situ medieval and contemporary figurative sculpture
- 2008 Finalist, *Wynne Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2002 Australia Council *New Work Grant*

- 2002 Finalist, *Woollahra Sculpture Prize*, Sydney
- 2001 Winner, *Conrad Jupiters Art Prize*, Queensland
- 2001 Jury Prize for Artistic Excellence, *Thursday Plantation East Coast Sculpture Show*, Ballina, New South Wales
- 2001 Finalist, *Wynne Prize*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1998 Finalist, *Conrad Jupiters Art Prize*, Queensland

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

- 2017 *Rapture*, Market & Alice Streets, Brisbane City Council, Queensland
- 2003 *Leaning Toward Heaven*, Ruthven Street, Toowoomba City Council, Queensland
- 2000 *Darra Surban Centre Improvement Project*, Brisbane City Council, Queensland
- 2000 *Bald Hills Suburban Centre Improvement Project*, Brisbane City Council, Queensland
- 1999 *Relief sculpture*, Sebel Hotel, Brisbane
- 1997 *Relief sculpture*, Mariner Reach, Newstead, Brisbane
- 1997 *Features furniture*, Beaches Apartment, Gold Coast, Queensland
- 1988 *Conversation*, Bathurst Regional Council, New South Wales

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Brown, Phil. 'Homegrown', *Brisbane News*, 14 June 2000
- Chomicz, Alex. *Spent Time: The Work of Stephen Hart* (DVD), 2011
- Donnelly, Fiona. 'Style revolution', *The Courier Mail*, 16 December 1995
- Durham, Alison. 'Man made', *Australian Country Looks*, August 1996, 86 – 87
- Griffiths, Bruce. 'Lasting gifts for future', *Western Advocate*, 21 November 1988
- Hedger, Michael. *Public Sculpture in Australia*, Craftsman House, Sydney, 1995
- Helmrich, Michele. 'Gone Troppo', *Australian Art Review*, July 2004
- Kolenberg, Hendrik. 'Stephen Hart and Everyman' in Were, Ian (ed.). *Spent Time: Stephen Hart Sculpture*, Arthouse, Brisbane, 2011
- Maccheroni Collins, Kate. 'Hart is a dab hand when it comes to artwork', *The Courier Mail*, 4 July 1998
- Maloon, Terence. 'Pure prodigy—no preservatives added', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 December 1983
- Martin-Chew, Louise. 'Something Like This: Stephen Hart 's Artistic Journey' in Were, Ian (ed.). *Spent Time: Stephen Hart Sculpture*, Arthouse, Brisbane, 2011
- Morrell, Tim. 'Preview', *Art Collector*, April 2008

COLLECTIONS

- Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
- Bathurst Regional Council, New South Wales

Brisbane City Council, Queensland
Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Bundall, Queensland
Quintrex Australia, Queensland
QUT Art Museum, Brisbane
Sydney Children's Hospital, Westmead, New South Wales