



Art Gallery
of Western Australia

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mediaRelease

Frank Hinder a study in dynamic symmetry

Artist in focus

'One tries for order and hopes for beauty,' Frank Hinder. While seeking the vigour of the twentieth century, Hinder replaced the Futurist's brutality with harmony, creating a modern style for twentieth-century Australian life expressed through colour, light and movement.

This exhibition presents a selection of works on paper by Frank Hinder. It's drawn exclusively from the State Art Collection, which includes works from two recent donations. The exhibition sets out to explore the key interests of Hinder who, with contemporaries including Grace Crowley, Ralph Balson and Rah Fizelle, contributed significantly to the development of modernist theories in Australian art. Hinder had been exposed to the theory of dynamic symmetry - the geometric and organic ordering of space - during a formative period in the US, and upon his return to Australia set out to explore this in his artistic practice.

Hinder learned to reduce his images to a series of geometrical forms, by creating order from chaos. Through this process, he revealed the essential nature of the subjects, which was a turning point to his new oeuvre; reductive abstract style. "I'm trying to order paint into shapes, spaces, colour, light so that it signifies something."

The display concentrates on working sketches and watercolours made by Hinder just prior to his return to Sydney in 1934 and the immediate years that follow. The preparatory sketches reveal his interest in abstraction, form, construction and colour harmony and is organised according to themes that preoccupied Hinder, including his admiration of the worker and the commuter.

On display at the Art Gallery of Western Australia from 14 June – 21 September 2008.



Frank Hinder
Canberra cyclists
c1942
watercolour and pencil
51.8 x 70.8 cm
State Art Collection,
Art Gallery of Western Australia
Purchased 1970

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The West Australian

