Union with Reality
First major solo exhibition of the art of Leonard Brown, 25 October – 23 December 2011

Union with reality: The art of Leonard Brown presents over thirty years of painting from this highly respected, contemporary South-East Queensland artist.

A major solo exhibition, Union with reality celebrates the painter’s parallel practice as a contemporary abstract artist and painter of traditional Byzantine icons.

According to exhibition co-curator Emma Cain, this is the first time that Leonard Brown’s contemporary works will be shown in conjunction with his Orthodox icon painting.

“Visitors to the exhibition will have a wonderful chance to experience the underlying spiritual sensibility that connects his vibrant abstracts with the traditional icons”, Ms Cain said.

Brown’s vivid abstract works, painted in luminous colours, have been described as deeply contemplative, even hypnotic. In 2010 he was awarded the prestigious $20,000 Blake Prize for Religious Art.

Brown was baptised into the Russian Orthodox church at the age of 27 and since has painted the Byzantine-style icons.

Brown’s work is held in the National Gallery of Australia and many state public galleries, as well as in numerous institutional and private collections.

A publication will be launched in conjunction with the exhibition and will be available for purchase at QUT Art Museum, rrp $15.00.

Union with reality: The art of Leonard Brown will be officially opened by Professor Sasha Grishin AM FAHA, The Sir William Dobell Professor of Art History, Australian National University, on Thursday 27 October.

Union with reality: The art of Leonard Brown
25 October – 23 December 2011
QUT Art Museum
Gardens Point campus, 2 George Street, Brisbane
www.artmuseum.qut.edu.au | Ph 07 3138 5370 | artmuseum@qut.edu.au
Open: Tue-Fri 10am – 5pm, Sat & Sun 12pm – 4pm

Opening Night
Thursday 27 October, 6.00pm for 6.30pm
- Social photographers, members of the media welcome to attend
- Parking available by prior arrangement

For more information, interview requests, or high resolution images, please contact Senior Marketing Officer Alison Clifford on (07) 3138 3248 or a.clifford@qut.edu.au

ENDS
LEONARD BROWN

CHRONOLOGY
1949 Born Brisbane
1963–64 Studied with Betty Churcher, Central Technical College Art School, Brisbane
1965–68 Full-time studies, Central Technical College Art School, Brisbane
1966 Received into the Anglican Church
1969–73 Novice of the Society of St. Francis Anglican Franciscan Community, Brookfield
1975 Began the study and practice of Byzantine painting under the direction of Bishop Constantine, Russian Orthodox Bishop of Brisbane
1976 Baptised Russian Orthodox in Sydney
1978–91 Part-time lecturer in painting, Kelvin Grove College (QUT), Brisbane
1992–99 Lived an idiorhythmic monastic life
1996 Survey exhibition, Brisbane City Council Art Gallery and Museum
2010 Icon study tour, Russia

SOLO EXHIBITIONS
2011 Union with Reality: The Art of Leonard Brown, Queensland University of Technology Art Museum, Brisbane
The Familiar Perpendicular, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
2010 I Promised a Rainbow, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
Extraordinary Measures, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne
2009 In the Eternal Now, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
2008 Three Four Sixteen Eighty and a Hundred, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
Time, Time, Time Again, Paintings, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne
2007 Petrified Time: Paintings and Monoprints, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
Recent Works, Michael Reid Art Merchant, Sydney
2006 All a Swan Needs Is Another Swan, Michael Reid Art Merchant, Sydney
2005 In the Steppes of Central Asia, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
Sedimentary Painting, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne
Painting by Numbers, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
2004 Brisbane or the Bush, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
Sydney or the Bush, Michael Reid Art Merchant, Sydney
2003 Paintings: Old and New, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
Up & Down, Backwards & Forwards Paintings, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne
New Paintings, Michael Reid Art Merchant, Sydney
2002 Songs of Ascent and Descent: Paintings and Collages, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
2001 Love Life Paintings, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
1996 Cave Painting, Bellas Gallery, Brisbane
1995 Brisbane Painting—Leonard Brown, Brisbane City Gallery, Brisbane
1993 Milky Way, Mori Gallery, Sydney
Drawing in the ’90s, Cafe Tempo, Brisbane
1991 Paintings for the Evening, Deutscher Gallery, Melbourne
Selected Drawings and Paintings, 11 Enoggera Terrace, Brisbane
1990 Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
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Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
1987 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
1986 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1985 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
The Painters Gallery, Sydney
1984 The Painters Gallery, Sydney
1968 Design Arts Centre, Brisbane

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS
2011 Painted in Gold: An Exhibition of Ancient and Contemporary Icons, Macquarie University Art Gallery, Sydney
2010 59th Blake Prize, National Art School, Sydney
2009 The Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
The Tallis Foundation 2008 National Works on Paper, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Mornington, Victoria
Sacred Art: Icons in Australia, Riddoch Art Gallery, Mount Gambier, South Australia
Doubletake, Museum of Brisbane, Brisbane
2004–05 Avalon: Artists in Residence, Museum of Brisbane, Brisbane
2004 The Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Significant Tilt: Art and the Horizon of Meaning, Macquarie University, Sydney
2003–04 Home Sweet Home: Works from the Peter Fay Collection, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
2002 Far From Home, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
2001 Paperworks: Australian artists Exploring Drawing and the Printed Image, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
2000 Conrad Jupiters Art Prize, Gold Coast Arts Centre, Surfer’s Paradise
Flash: A Lucky Dip Fundraiser, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
Journey of Light: art, Creativity and the Sacred, Global Arts Link, Ipswich
1999 The Drawing Room: Contemporary Queensland Drawing, Brisbane City Gallery, Brisbane
1998 ex. cat., Smith and Stonely, Brisbane
1996 Recent Acquisitions, Brisbane City Gallery, Brisbane
1995 Contemporary Australian and International Art, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Salon x 3, Leonhard Brown, Eugene Carchesio, Anne Wallace, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
The Baillieu Meyer Collection of the 1980s, Museum of Modern Art, Heide, Melbourne
1993 Contemporary Australian Painting: Works from the Allen, Allen and Hemsley Collection, Westpac Gallery, Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne
Art Right: In the Public Eye, School of Arts, Brisbane
Sshh…, Mori Gallery, Sydney
Approaches to the Sublime: Aspects of the Esoteric in Contemporary Painting, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
Thought Painting: Leonard Brown, Elizabeth Coates, Clint Doyle, Susan Nome, Stig Pearson, Scott Redford, Carole Roberts, Michael Milburn Gallery, Brisbane
Selected Works from the Margaret Stewart Endowment, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
1992 The Real Category (You Are Here), Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
1991 Microcosm, Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
1990 L’eté Australian Montpelier, Musee Fabre, Galerie Saint Ravy, Montpelier, France
‘4 i’ Leonard Brown, Nicholas Nedekopoulou, Gwen Hanssen Pigott, Patsy Healy, Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
Homage to Morandi, Garry Anderson Gallery, Sydney
1988 A New Generation: Philip Morris Arts Grant, Australian National Gallery, Canberra
9 x 5 mail, Gold Coast City Gallery, Surfer’s Paradise
1987 Cool, Quiet, Art: Recent Work by Leonard Brown, Helen Lillcrap-Fuller, Madonna Staunton and June Topicoff, City of Ipswich Gallery, Ipswich
1986 Aberdare Prize for Still Life, Ipswich City Gallery (acquired), Ipswich
1973 Blake Prize for Religious Art, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
1968 Winter Exhibition, Contemporary Art Society, Brisbane

PRIZE
2010 Winner, 59th Blake Prize for Religious Art, The Blake Society, Sydney

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS
Allen, Allen and Hemsley Collection, Sydney
Artbank, Sydney
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
The Baillieu Myer Collection, Melbourne
Gold Coast City Gallery, Surfer’s Paradise
Griffith University, Brisbane
Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
Ipswich Art Gallery, Ipswich
Chartwell Collection, Centre for Contemporary Art, Hamilton, New Zealand
LaTrobe University, Melbourne
Macquarie University, Sydney
Museum of Brisbane, Brisbane
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Newcastle Region Art Gallery, Newcastle
Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra
Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane
Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston
Toowoomba City Art Collection, Queensland
The University of Melbourne, Melbourne
The University of Queensland, Brisbane