

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0991

Hanrahan, Barbara Janice

(1939 - 1991)

Born 6 September, 1939, Adelaide South Australia

Died 1 December, 1991, Adelaide South Australia

Occupation Artist, Printmaker, Writer

Summary

Barbara Hanrahan was an artist, printmaker and writer. She was born in Adelaide in 1939 and lived there until her death in December 1991. Hanrahan spent three years at the South Australian School of Art before leaving for London in 1966 to continue her art studies. In England she taught at the Falmouth College of Art, Cornwall, (1966-67) and Portsmouth College of Art (1967-70). From 1964 Hanrahan held a number of exhibitions principally in Adelaide and Sydney, but also in Brisbane, Canberra, Perth, London and Florence. Hanrahan's novels include *The Scent of Eucalyptus* (1973), *The Peach Groves* (1980), *The Frangipani Gardens* (1988) and *Flawless Jade* (1989).

Details

Barbara Hanrahan was educated at Thebarton Girls' Technical College before commencing a three year Art Teaching course at Adelaide Teachers' College. At the same time she completed art classes at the South Australian School of Art. Following the completion of her Diploma of Art Teaching, Hanrahan began teaching art in schools as well as enrolling for evening classes with the newly established Printmaking Department at the South Australian School of Art. In 1961 she was appointed assistant lecturer in Art at Western Teachers' College, Adelaide. In the same year she participated in a four-artist exhibition at the Hahndorf Gallery, and was awarded the Cornell Prize for Painting. She taught at the South Australian School of Art from 1963-66.

Hanrahan left for London in 1966 to continue her art studies. She taught at the Falmouth College of Art, Cornwall, (1966-67) and Portsmouth College of Art (1967-70). In the early 1980s Hanrahan, with her partner Jo Steele, returned to live in Adelaide, where she established her own studio. Hanrahan's writing career began in 1973 with the publication of her first, largely autobiographical, novel *The Scent of Eucalyptus*. Other titles soon followed and her last novel, *Good night, Mr Moon*, was published posthumously in 1992.

During her life Hanrahan held a number of exhibitions nationally and internationally. Her works are held by the Australian National Gallery, Canberra, and many regional galleries.

Published resources

Resource

Guide to the Papers of Barbara Hanrahan, National Library of Australia, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-327774322/findingaid>

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

State Library of South Australia

[Launch of the Barbara Hanrahan Memorial Exhibition \[sound recording\]](#)

[\[Barbara Hanrahan tributes\] \[videorecording\] : Barbara Hanrahan Memorial Exhibition](#)

[Introducing Barbara Hanrahan: Artist and Writer 1939-1991 \[videorecording\] : Barbara Hanrahan Memorial Exhibition](#)

[Interviews with Barbara Hanrahan, Mem Fox, Colin Thiele, Christobel Mattingley and Max Fatchen \[videorecording\]](#)

[Interview with Barbara Hanrahan \[sound recording\] Interviewer: Beate Ursula Josephi](#)

[Radio program 'Profiles in South Australian Writing' \[sound recording\] Producer: Beate Ursula Josephi](#)

[Compilation of recordings relating to Barbara Hanrahan \[sound recording\]](#)

[Interview with Barbara Hanrahan \[sound recording\] Interviewer: Suzanne Hayes](#)

[Radio interview with Barbara Hanrahan \[sound recording\] Interviewer: Elaine Lindsay](#)

[Radio tribute to Barbara Hanrahan by Susan Mitchell \[sound recording\]](#)

[Radio tribute to Barbara Hanrahan by Tony Baker \[sound recording\]](#)

[Recording of a Women Writers Forum \[sound recording\]](#)

[Addresses by Barbara Hanrahan and Max Fatchen \[sound recording\]](#)

[Barbara Hanrahan : SUMMARY RECORD](#)

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

[Papers of Barbara Hanrahan, 1958-1992 \[manuscript\]](#)

[Papers of Carmel Bird, 1987-2000 \[manuscript\]](#)

National Library of Australia

[\[Biographical cuttings on Barbara Hanrahan, containing one or more cuttings from newspapers or journals\]](#)

State Library of New South Wales

[Dale Spender - papers, 1972-1995](#)

Author Details

Anne Heywood

Created 7 June 2004

Last modified 16 September 2013