

Moonambel Artist at Raillery Hub Inc St Arnaud Queens Ave

“IMAGES FROM MOONAMBEL” Russell Drever

Dates 2 February to March 31 2024

A collection of the work of Russell Drever will be exhibited in St Arnaud on Fridays through to Sundays between 11am and 4pm

Russell has lived in Moonambel since 2000 and his abstract work reflects his love of the harsh natural beauty of this valley

Russell was born in Melbourne in 1944 and attended the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology from 1963 to 1965 where he worked and was influenced by the ideas and the professional approach to art of George Baldessin. After exhibiting at the Museum of Modern Art Melbourne in the group show ‘Young Minds’ in 1963 and ‘New Generation’ in 1965 Russell left for London where he worked until 1968.

The major influences on him during this period were the paintings of the New York School especially the work of Pollock and Andy Warhol Russell’s time in London and the Continent broadened his love of working with rich colour and at his exhibition in Galerie Cannibal Pierce in Paris in 1989 his work was described as being from a master colourist.

Russell’s work has been shown in many group exhibitions. Between 1971 and 2023 he has had 12 solo exhibitions He has works in permanent collections in the John and Sunday Reed collections , National Bank collection and private collections.

Russell says that he is sometimes asked ‘why abstractions’ He says.. I intend no message, but would prefer the colour and form to act directly upon the viewer’s emotions. My artwork is a spiritual journey, a continual journey of exploration of “distant interiors”

