

## The artists behind the brush strokes



Laura Jones  
*SELF PORTRAIT IN  
SPOTTED COAT*



Guy Maestri  
*FADED SELF  
PORTRAIT*



Jasper Knight  
*FIFTY SHADES  
OF GREY*



Wendy Sharpe  
*MAGIC SELF  
PORTRAIT*



Ben Quilty  
*WHITE MAN  
SELF PORTRAIT*

Since opening in November 2010, Gallery Ecosse in Exeter has exhibited some of the best artists working in Australia today – and now the public has the chance to meet them face to face. The contemporary gallery is staging its first self-portrait exhibition from July 6 to August 22, with many well-known artists taking part.

“A number of artists we show are regulars in the Archibald (portrait prize) – or have won it – so it made me think self-portraits would be an interesting idea

for an exhibition,” says gallery director Andre de Borde.

“People are interested in seeing artists’ self-portraits – it gives you a small window into the psyche of the artist. We also had an Adam Cullen self-portrait which struck a chord.” As a tribute to Cullen, who passed away in July last year, the exhibition title is taken from this self-portrait, *Autoportrait*.

The 27 artists include six Archibald Prize winners (Ben Quilty, Cherry Hood, Euan Macleod, Guy Maestri, Wendy Sharpe and Adam Cullen) and Leslie Rice, who

has twice won the Doug Moran Portrait Prize, Australia’s most lucrative portrait prize. Many of the artists live in the Highlands or have strong local ties, including Quilty, Hood, Carlos Barrios, David Ryrie, Tim Summerton, Jasper Knight and Julian Wolkenstein.

*Autoportrait* will be opened on Saturday, July 6, at 4pm. Gallery Ecosse is in the historic *Halcyon Cottage* (circa 1869), opposite the Exeter General Store.

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