

BRETT

ASHBY



CONTEMPORARY, PUBLIC
AND PERFORMANCE ARTIST

MEDIA KIT

ART HAS BEEN MY VOICE SINCE I CAN REMEMBER.

MY ART PROMOTES SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION THROUGH SYNCHRONICITY BOTH FROM THE INDIVIDUAL, AND EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT.

WORKING TOWARDS A GOAL, I DRAW ON EXPERIENCES NOT ONLY AS AN ARTIST, BUT ALSO AS A PATIENT.

I want my art to represent truth, self and an evolution of humanity.

My contemporary mixed media artworks explore frequency, energy and geometry - I aim to capture the vibrations and energy of the time and space that I'm creating in.

My public murals capture and communicate the internal voice of my pupils, shared through community workshops.

My performance action painting is a spiritual process of striking the brush when encountering that moment of metamorphosis - like a pendulum while skateboarding.

These works harmonise the mind, body and soul to activate the inner creative in all.



BRETT ASHBY IS A MELBOURNE BORN INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY, PUBLIC AND PERFORMANCE ARTIST.

HE IS AN ARTIST, DIRECTOR, MENTOR, AND SPIRIT AND VISION COACH WHO CANNOT BE DEFINED BY ONE, OR EVEN A HANDFUL OF ARTISTIC STYLES, MEDIUMS OR TECHNIQUES.



His CV includes artist, muralist, animator, TV producer, filmmaker and app developer.

Growing up in Melbourne's outer south-eastern suburbs, Ashby quickly set his sights further than Melbourne and Australia, undertaking an overseas exchange program while completing his Animation and Interactive New Media Studies at Melbourne's RMIT University.

In 2005 he studied at the Queens College of Arts, Westminster University, London, UK - a period of time surrounded by creative and inspiring people and places, that would prove pivotal to inform his next creative direction and style, and set him on a path of traveling, working and creating art internationally from 2009-14.



He defined his first signature style on his return home, while residing in regional NSW. He reconnected with nature, and explored a technique that he used to produce a self-portrait during University in London in 2006.

He produced iconic landscapes and portraits in the form of mixed media photographic collages. Ashby's portrait of 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama, was a symbolic piece of this style, and was exhibited in the Art Basel in Miami, Florida.

These pieces are still widely collected around the world today and defined as his signature energy style of photographic collage.

ASHBY'S ART TRANSCENDS THIS WORLD AND OFFERS A HEALING AND GUIDING LIGHT FOR THE SOUL.

Art collectors have commented that Ashby's art transcends this world and offers a healing and guiding light for the soul.

He draws inspiration from Salvador Dali, Kelly Slater, Tony Hawk, Andy Warhol, Damien Hirst, James Turrell, the ocean, space, and self.

In 2016, Ashby was diagnosed with testicular cancer, and was told he had just one week to live, as the state and aggression of his cancer was widespread. With the writing on the wall, Ashby shifted his energy to the path of healing.

Five years on, he speaks from the heart as a survivor. The experiences he encountered continue to inform his art and approach to life.



IN 2014 ASHBY INNOVATED A NEW IDEA TITLED *BOVEMENT*, (BRETT'S MOVEMENT) - TO DOCUMENT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ENERGY AND A SKATEBOARD'S MOVEMENT.



Ashby skates on half-pipes while painting a panel van as his canvas, in the centre of the half-pipes. He evolved this performance art from his Plein Air series to create it live at Sculpture by the Sea, Australia's largest sculpture event at Bondi in Sydney, fetching over 200,000 visitors, with live video links of Ashby's performance in over 50 NSW schools.

In 2019 Ashby innovated this style again, creating a skateboard performance art series.

While skating on the half-pipes, he paints a portrait of a sitting musician on a canvas mounted on an easel in the centre.

He creates the art in front of a live audience, inspired by the vibrations and energy of the sitting musician. His first live performances were at Gasworks Theatre during the 2019 Melbourne Fringe Festival.

In 2021, Ashby will take an inaugural artist residency at Pentridge, Melbourne's former historic prison, which has been transformed into a community development space.

He will continue his public art, which he has pursued for nearly a decade, commissioned through local governments, in collaboration with students who often have lived experiences with mental ill-health, trauma or hardship.

Ashby thrives on these projects through vibrant energy, passion, empathy through his personal experience and a drive to support people's healing and transformation.

He writes and reads music, plays drums, guitar and sings.

From the age of seven until early adolescence he was a semi professional soccer player for Australia. He is also a black belt in martial arts, instructor, and butterfly sword fighter.

He practices yoga, breath work, meditation, surfs and skates.

ASHBY'S GLOBAL TRAVELS AND PROJECTS HAVE LED HIM TO MEET AND WORK WITH INTERESTING AND INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS, SPORTS PEOPLE, POP CULTURE FIGURES AND POLITICIANS.

From 2007-09 he met and interviewed then Prime Minister of Australia, Kevin Rudd. He filmed pop star Pink in concert, visited the White House in Washington to deliver his portrait of serving President of the United States, Barack Obama to his staff, and had his portrait of Ellen DeGeneres delivered to her set in Los Angeles.

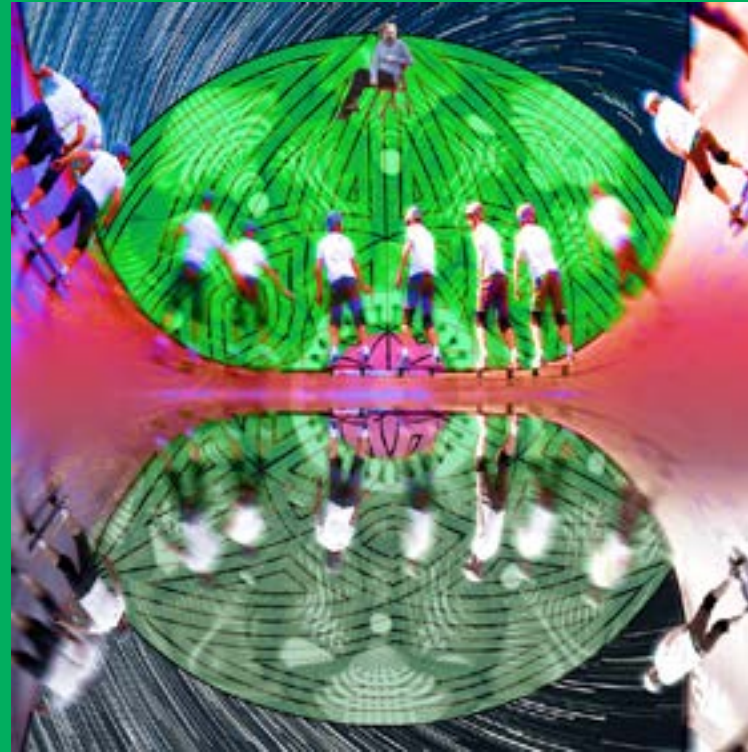
Touring across outback Australia in 2010, Ashby met Swiss Motocross champion, fitness coach and singing bowl practitioner, Valentine Nascher. The chance meeting led to a 12 year friendship, with Ashby spending four months living in Liechtenstein in 2012 to paint and hang art in Valentine's world class gym, N.Gym.

Ashby and artist Christine Perera were involved in the curator talk at the Tate London in 2011 when they were introduced to renowned English artist, entrepreneur, and art collector, Damien Hirst. At the time Hirst was installing his Crematorium (1996) artwork. It's Hirst's For the Love of God (2007) artwork - costing £14 million to produce that Ashby really connected with.

In 2017, Ashby celebrated his 30th birthday at the Bondi Skateboarders Art Show, grateful for his improved health after surviving cancer. He was in great company with skateboarding stars from his childhood - Steve Caballero, Steve Alba, Tony Hawk and Bucky Lasek also exhibiting their art.

It was at this show that Ashby spoke with Tony Hawk about fear. The show and conversations helped Ashby to reconnect with skateboarding - an activity he loved in his youth before a serious injury made him give it away.





KEY AWARDS

2012

London Olympics Art Show, JL Galleries, Bow, London (Curator)

2012

European Driving Escapade, Wicked Campers, UK (Curator)

2011

Milan Art Prize - Blindonkey, New Atlantic Gallery, New York (Winner)

2011

Tastes of Chapel - ART-Town Chapel off Chapel, Melbourne, Australia (Winner)

2010

Artist Wanted - Photographic prize, New York, (Winner)

2009

Tastes of Chapel - ART-Town Olsen Hotel, Melbourne, Australia (Winner)

2009

Art Basel - Artoconecto Bomb 2, The American Dream, Miami, Florida (Winner)



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMS

2021

Pentridge Arts,
Coburg - Victoria,
Australia

2019

Box Hill Community
Arts Centre -
Victoria, Australia

2015

Mornington Shire
Council, Rye -
Victoria, Australia

2014

Wireless Art,
City Of Yarra -
Victoria, Australia

2013

Heritage Hill,
Dandenong -
Victoria, Australia

2012

London Olympics
Art Show, Curator -
Bow, London, UK

2012

Bow Arts -
Bow, London, UK

MAR Tao Door, ANZ Bank, Bentleigh mural

APR Liberty Hobart, 2021, Tasmanian Art Centre

MAY Acceleration Artist in Residence, Pentridge, Coburg

'Million Dollar Run', video art by Brett Ashby

Creation of The Brett Ashby Arts Institute

WasPs public art mural, with Lakeisha Clayton, Bunurong Artist

12 week challenge, Mind Clarity in partnership with Owen Hallam, Life Coach

JUN Glen Eira, Elsternwick Train Station mural

Flow Wollongong performance paintings

Live from Pentridge, Podcast series with Brett Ashby, talking with the dead, visual artist stories from industry leaders

JUL E-commerce retail outlet for Ashby's signature collection of retail items

Ashby's private collection available, via International Art Auction House

Abbottsford Artist in Residence, exciting shadowland publication of three books

Geometry light art with Shanaaz Peake, warehouse activations by Brett Ashby

Portraits at Pentridge series commences

AUG Casula Powerhouse Art Centre, NSW performance art, 'Frequency' series

Pivot, 2021, Abbotsford Convent

Arts Tasmania, St Marys District School commission public art mural

MIFF short film 'For The One I Love', starring Brett Ashby and Felix Ezrael

DEC The Voice, original songs by Brett Ashby with Emanuele Mamo Vocal Art Studios and VAS Entertainment

2005 Baa You Decide, ACMI - Melbourne, Australia

2008 Barack Obama, Art Basel - Miami, Florida

2009 Barack Obama, Artoconecto, B(o)MB 2, The American Dream - Miami, Florida

2011 Ldn Bus, The Other Art Fair, Bargehouse - Southbank, London

2012 Energy, N.gym exhibition - Liechtenstein, Europe

2019 Energy, Gasworks Theatre - Melbourne, Australia

Mirroring, Synchronous Behaviour, Reflexes & Movement - Federation Square, Melbourne, Australia

Blue Light, Box Hill Community Arts Centre, Australia

Only a drummer knows the feeling, short film, YOFIFEST, Yonkers, New York

2020 Only a drummer knows the feeling, short film, Lift-Off Film Festival - Tokyo, Japan

Only a drummer knows the feeling, short film, White Nights Film Festival - St. Petersburg, Russia

2021 Abundance, Decade, No Vacancy Gallery - Melbourne, Australia

Daoism, UooUoo sculpture program, Royal Childrens Hospital - Melbourne, Australia

Richie, short film, Liberty, Loop Screen - Hobart, Tasmania

[>>> View timeline of Ashby's projects.](#)

John McKenna's News and Views

Brett Ashby – a Rolling & Flowing Contemporary Artist

By John McKenna on 13 May 2021

Melbourne based public, performance and contemporary artist, Brett Ashby talks to John McKenna on 'So...' podcast about flowing, 'rolling', and growth through art, creation, and connection.

In his 15-year journey as both a local and international artist, Ashby opens up about how his artistic practice and connections helped him to discover his own story and healing.

Using his childhood love of surfing and skating in a flow-state artistic process he calls 'rolling', Ashby explores how art can be created through interpreting energy and vibrations.

Maybe that sounds a bit different - but that's his story, and Ashby's art has become an energetic therapy and avenue to connect with others.

In a conversation with John that rolls and flows like Ashby's art, they discuss his unique skateboard-riding-portrait-painting-process, and how connecting with young people through public art helped him to learn and rediscover his own journey, as well as produce public artworks that made a positive contribution to community.

>>> johnmekenna.com

Brett Ashby brings Energy to Melbourne Fringe Festival



Energy is contemporary, experimental and performance art from international artist Brett Ashby, where he takes his painting studio to the theatre. Four prominent Australians will be painted on canvas, while the artist mixes and matches with a focus on the exchange of energy art and power through physical and body movement. The on-stage happenings and music resonance will vibrate your skin, as Brett creates spontaneous energy representations, from April to June through the universe. He'll do this with Brett ahead of the performance.


Can you tell us a bit about how you came up with this concept? Did something in particular inspire an influence you?

I first performed this type of public art in Melbourne in the sculpture by the sea, Brett told us.

>>> fortemag.com.au

Brett Ashby

Posted by Acclaim



Brett Ashby wears many hats – artist, illustrator.

>>> acclaimmag.com

Rich tribute to historic lane

15/01/2019

Like 1




Artist Brett Ashby with his eye-catching tribute to hardware proprietor Reg Boyd. 289041_02 Picture: ROB CAREW

>>> dandenong-starcommunity.com.au

Entertainment | 01/04/2019 5:00:06 AM Brett Ashby

Ashby's art created whilst living with cancer, now goes on show through the dangers of blue light technology.



Ashby's art created whilst living with cancer, now goes on show through the dangers of blue light technology.

Artist, cancer survivor Brett Ashby depicts viewers to blue light mobile technology in his latest art exhibition at the Box Hill Community Art Centre, where artworks and videos are viewed by scanning a series of QR codes.

In a world full of digital technology and mobile devices, the artist exposes his audience to blue light, digital technology and mobile device engagement. Through his interactive exhibition, Ashby has removed the physical artwork and replaced it with a digital QR code to represent the cause and effect of being a cancer survivor. The question is - what leads to all our illness?

>>> medianet.com.au




Brett Ashby, VIC

Brett Ashby studied Contemporary Media Practice at the University of Westminster, London, UK. Prior to his studies overseas, Ashby explored animation and art theory as an extension of his life long love of art, both traditional and contemporary, through a BA in Animation and Interactive New Media at MAF, Melbourne. As a young boy, Ashby explored the art of sketching and drawing books alongside his father. He developed his skills, exploring painting and the art on objects such as doors, walls, musical instruments and framed works, then moving on to commissions to paint even larger surfaces such as cars, bridges, walls and furniture. Ashby grew up playing soccer, which developed into a semi-professional career which he would only give up for his art practice. Today he integrates the ideas of human physical movement through his love of travel, adventure, sports and culture within his artistic philosophy for both sculptural and 2D works. Ashby's artistic exploration of places and spaces focuses on documenting and gathering the natural and potential energy within his reality.

>>> artsandculture.google.com

Meet the artist painting Cash Savage and Mick Harvey while on a skateboard




Tell us a bit about Energy. What is the premise behind the performance?

The four points are all spontaneous visual representations from April to June. I work extensively as a public artist and a contemporary artist. For this event, I have combined these works to deliver a one of a kind experience.

When and how did the idea of combining skateboarding and painting in such a way come to you?

>>> beat.com.au



BRETT ASHBY AND LOCAL YOUTH

DESCRIPTION

The mural was a collaboration of creativity from Elizabeth Murdoch College as a part of the Resonance Street Art Program, South Coles and Preston City Council. The artwork was designed and painted by Ashby, based on the culture, ideas, time and words narrated by students during structured workshops. Lines are used for weaving, growth, wealth and risk. It focuses the students' work about public art, while exploring the negative impacts of illegal graffiti compared with commissioned street art.

The work is about self-acceptance that leads to authenticity. Ashby's vision was to showcase the voice of the youth and link the creative solution to the space and time, making it relevant for the community of Frankston.

Artist Bio

>>> discoverfrankston.com

>>> [Read more news here](#)

BRETT ASHBY



BRETTASHBY.COM

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

MEDIA@BRETTASHBY.COM

0439 396 059

**PENTRIDGE RESIDENCY
AND OPEN STUDIOS**

**STUDIO 8, 1 CHAMP ST,
COBURG, VIC, 3058**

