

EXHIBITION OPENING JULY 19TH

ROBERT (BOB) FINLAYSON

Born 1940 in Annandale, Bob learnt his craft from eminent artist Graeme Inson in the teacher's studio on top of the old Theatre Royal. While living in King's Cross, Bob absorbed the influence of El Rocco and enjoyed the early days avoiding "The Push". This set a pattern of reclusiveness re the established Art World. Reading The Classics in between art lessons, cricket and football, Bob also completed an apprenticeship in signwriting, being awarded "apprentice of the year" in 1961.

Moving from The Cross to Balmain, Bob became involved in the literary, artistic and social life there in the mid to late '60s. This led to his involvement with the Poetry Society of Australia as Artistic Director, doing the art work for covers of the Poetry Magazine. Bob continued to avoid Formal Contact with the established Art World.

His first attempt in the late '60s at a public exhibition was met with the response "Nobody'll be interested in Abstract Art after Christmas". Bob's reply: "You will never hear surf music again!"

Prior to this, Bob had had paintings in the Sulman and the Archibald, and even though he was a Tiger supporter, he had \$10 on Souths in the '69 Grand Final.

Drawn by The Influence of the dramatic coastline around Coalcliff, Bob moved to the then mining village, where his elder daughter was born in 1971.

After moving back to Balmain, Bob continued to work as a signwriter. His second daughter was born in the mid '70s.

Bob now lives in Leichhardt and paints fulltime. He can sometimes be seen walking the dog (a bull terrier) at night with his dark glasses and black akubra on, still avoiding the Art Establishment. This will be his first exhibition for 28 years, and will be a retrospective, entitled "A Mirror For Poets".



A MIRROR FOR POETS

PAINTINGS by ROBERT FINLAYSON

T.A.P. GALLERY, 1st Floor, 361 Palmer St., Darlinghurst 2010

Exhibition opening: Tuesday 19th July, 6 p.m.

Gallery hours: 12-6 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday

Phones: 361 0440 (gallery); 564 1436 (artist)