





**Tuckson's first – and second last – solo exhibition appears to have propelled him to work in a kind of fury... as if he knew he had a lot to say and little time in which to say it.**

and more specialised aspects of his paintings and drawings.

All serious public collections of Australian art in the national, state and regional galleries include works by Tony Tuckson. The National Gallery of Australia and the Art Gallery of New South Wales's collections are the most comprehensive.



Tony Tuckson, *Untitled*, 1965-70. Gouache on paper, 76.6 x 142 cm. COURTESY: WATTERS GALLERY

## Prices and where to start collecting

Works by Tuckson occasionally come up for resale, either through Watters Gallery or the few commercial galleries, such as Martin Brown Fine Art, Sydney, or Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, which specialise in historical contemporary art. In recent years the auction market's interest in contemporary Australian art has meant that a few works have come up for sale at auction. However, the majority of works are still brought back by their owners for re-sale through Watters Gallery because it represents the artist's estate.

Over the past 20 years prices for paintings by Tuckson have risen as the market has gained a better understanding of his importance. In the early 1980s a major painting could be bought from Watters Gallery for about \$2,500. Similar paintings now sell for between \$85,000 and \$200,000. Works on paper which sold for hundreds of dollars in the 1980s today sell for about \$5,000.

Tony Tuckson's paintings are appreciated and collected by an increasingly large number of people. Their recognition of his achievement is the measure of the success he might not have sought in his lifetime, but which is undeniably due. ■