



IMANTS TILLERS

Class of 1968

Imants Tillers (1963-1968) graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Science in Architecture (Hons), and the University Medal in 1973. Tillers has exhibited widely since the late 1960s and has represented Australia at important international exhibitions such as the *Sao Paulo Bienal* in 1975, *Documenta 7* in 1982, and the *42nd Venice Biennale* in 1986. As one of Australia's most significant artists, Tillers has been at the forefront of contemporary art for over three decades. Since 1981 Tillers has used his signature canvas boards to explore themes relevant to contemporary culture, from the centre periphery debates of the 1980s, to the effects of migration, displacement, and diaspora. Most recently, his paintings have been concerned with place, locality, and evocations of the landscape.

Tillers has been the recipient of numerous awards and commissions, such as the Osaka Triennale Prize (Gold in 1993, Bronze in 1996, and Silver in 2001), and the inaugural Beijing International Art Biennale Prize for Excellence (2003). Major commissions include the Federation Pavilion, Centennial Park (1985 - 87); the Founding Donors Painting, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (1991), and two key sculptures for Sydney Olympic Park (2002). Tillers has been a trustee of the Art Gallery of New South Wales since 2001. In 2005 he was awarded a Doctor of Letters honoris causa for 'his long and distinguished contribution to the field of arts, by the University of New South Wales.