

NORA HEYSEN

A PORTRAIT

by **ANNE-LOUISE WILLOUGHBY**

ABOUT THE BOOK

Nora Heysen was Australia's first woman to win the Archibald Prize and Australia's first female official war artist.

With unprecedented access to the archives, family and friends of Nora Heysen, Anne-Louise Willoughby takes us into Nora's world – from the young portraitist and flower painter working alongside her famous father, Hans Heysen, to Nora's lifelong friendship with the painter Jeffrey Smart. And from a passionate love affair during WWII to the 'adopted son' Nora took into her heart and home.

This is the story of an artist driven by an all-consuming desire to draw or paint – one who re-emerged at the age of 78 when long-overdue attention restored her place as a significant Australian artist celebrated by the nation's major art institutions.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anne-Louise Willoughby is a journalist and freelance writer with a background in Italian and fine-art history. The Nora Heysen biography was written as the substantial component of her PhD in creative non-fiction, which she is currently completing at the University of Western Australia.

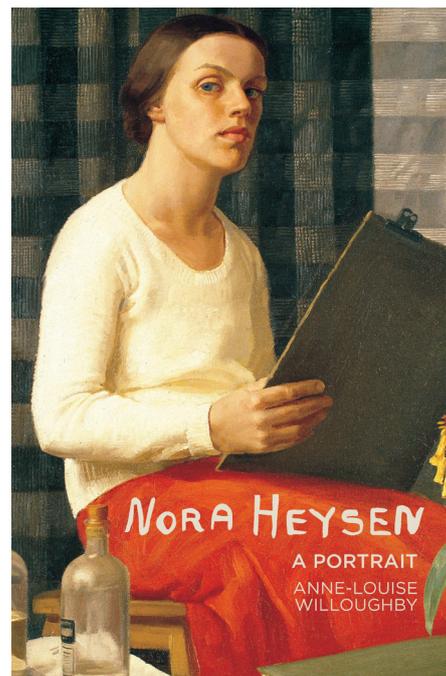


NOTES

- The National Gallery of Victoria will be hosting an exhibition of the works of Nora Heysen and her father, landscape artist Hans Heysen, from 10 March 2019.
- The childhood home of Nora Heysen, The Cedars, is also now open to the public as a museum.
- Author Anne-Louise Willoughby was granted unrestricted access to the family's materials when writing the book, and is the only author to have been given permission by the family to write about Nora's life and work.
- Free book club notes are available from fremantlepress.com.au.

PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

'In this exemplary biography, a tender and complex portrait emerges of a tough and vulnerable artist – as all women artists must be.'
Janine Burke



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