

Theo Kuijpers

New Australian work

28 January – 16 February 2020

King Street Gallery KS
on William Gw

10am – 6pm Tuesday – Saturday
177-185 William St Darlinghurst NSW 2010
Australia
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Theo

It was love at first sight. Or so it seemed ...

I first met Theo Kuijpers when I visited his studio in Paradyslaan, Eindhoven in 2007 with the inclusion of his work in mind for an exhibition of post-war Dutch art which I was organizing at the AGNSW. Fred Genis had often suggested I contact him, telling me that I would like Theo but I was reluctant until I had a good reason. Fred was of course right because I responded unreservedly to the man, just as I do to the bold gestural, form-seeking materiality of his paintings. Generous of girth, feet firm on the ground, with a watchful intelligence and dry humour, Theo is utterly engaging company. After a full glass of his fruity red wine my tongue was loosened, so I told him I "loved" him and his work. He grinned with delight and quickly rang his wife, fellow artist Ellen Jess, to tell her the visiting Australian curator had declared his love! I had of course intended saying I very much "liked" him and his work except for a momentary confusion with the Dutch language!

Since that first meeting and Theo's inclusion in *Intensely Dutch* at the AGNSW in 2009, a warm friendship developed between us. On all my visits to the Netherlands since, I have spent time with him in his studio, at his home with Ellen Jess, we've visited museums and exhibitions together, shared books, humour and friends.

In 2018 when he returned to Sydney to paint for 3 months, I found him a studio at Crows Nest (Daniel Pata's, who was in Europe while Theo was in Sydney) and helped him find his way around Sydney. I introduced him to artist friends and offered home-cooked meals, a bed and shower when needed. With such frequent contact I saw the evolution of individual paintings and thereby gained greater insight into his working methods and use of materials.

Theo's love of Australia, its landscape and its art (after four visits, the first in 1979) is unrestrained. Of all the visitor artists I know about, he most convincingly reflects Australia's particularity in his work, as if he lives here, as if Australia is *his* place. And his work fits surprisingly well within the visual language of 20th/21st century Australian art (think Ian Fairweather, Fred Williams, Ron Lambert, Elizabeth Cummings).

In his native Netherlands Theo's Australian work is much admired and collected by public galleries. Last September, a substantial book was published devoted to his Australian art: *Theo Kuijpers & Australia, memory and experience*. The brainchild of art historian and former public gallery director, Rick Vercauteren and designer Mark van den Eijnden, it was launched by Hendrik Driessens (recently retired as director of De Pont Museum of Contemporary Art in Tilburg) at an exhibition of Theo's Australian paintings at Gallery O-68 in Velp near Arnhem (Netherlands) and another with Galerie Clasing in Munster (Germany).

With this, his second exhibition at King Street Gallery on William, we can celebrate Theo Kuijpers' special relationship with Australia and his contribution to our lively and independent visual culture.

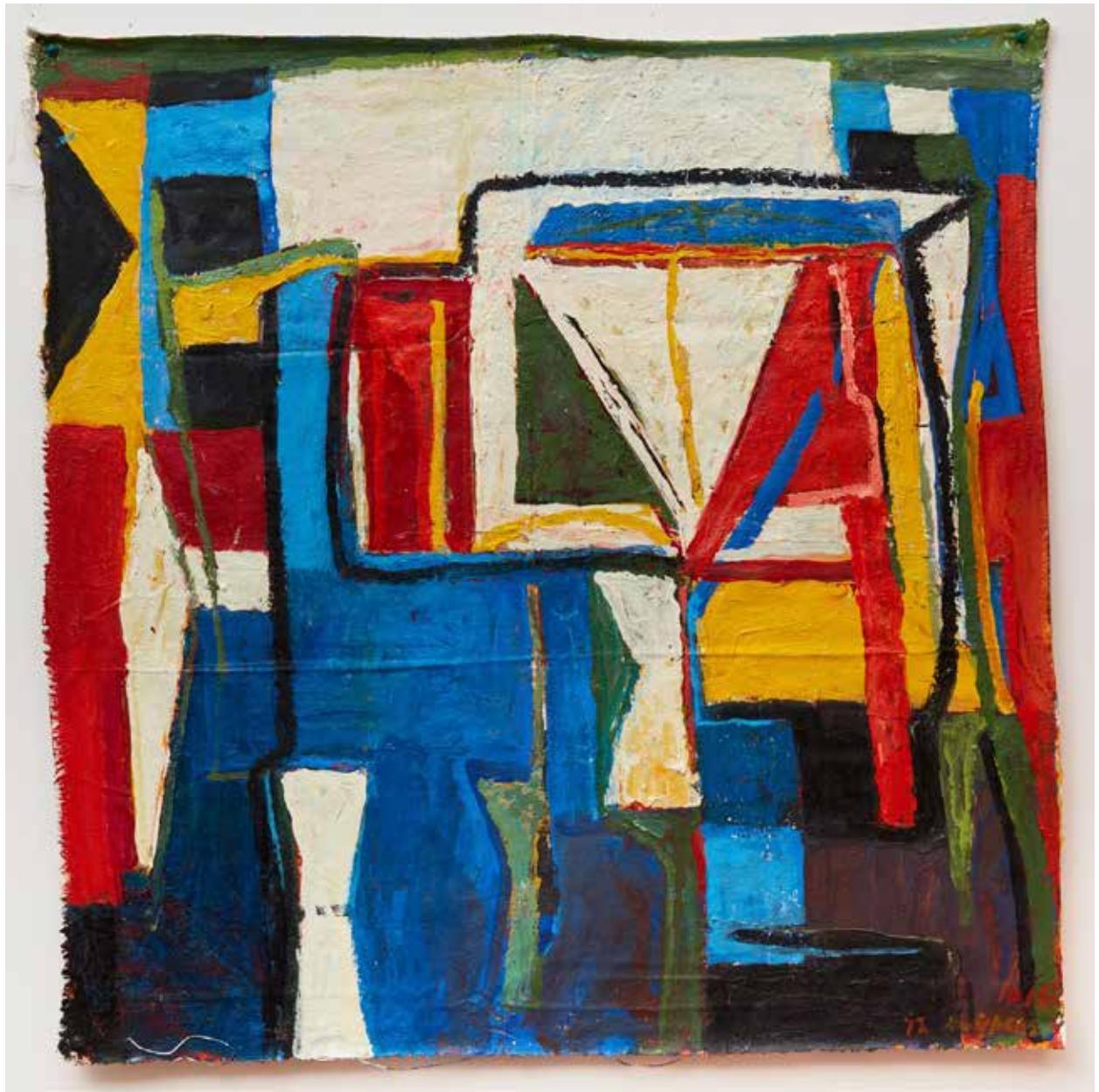
Hendrik Kolenberg



S1 (*Horizontal red*) 2018 oil on linen 58 x 80 cm



S2 (*Upright blue and yellow*) 2018 oil on linen 77 x 55.5 cm



S3 (*Crow's Nest*) 2018 oil on linen 77.5 x 76.5 cm



S4 (*Harbour City*) 2018 oil on linen 75.5 x 73 cm



S5 (*Bushland, vertical*) 2018 oil on linen 107 x 80 cm



S6 (*Ant hills*) 2018 oil on linen 170 x 80 cm



S7 (*Australian letter I*) 2018 oil on linen 148 x 103 cm



S8 (*Mangrove*) 2018 oil on linen 85 x 110 cm



S9 (*Outback in yellow, vertical*) 2018 oil on linen 105 x 73.5 cm



S10 (*Outback, yellow sky*) 2018 oil on linen 74.5 x 107 cm



S11 (*Outback, midday*) 2018 oil on linen 152 x 178 cm



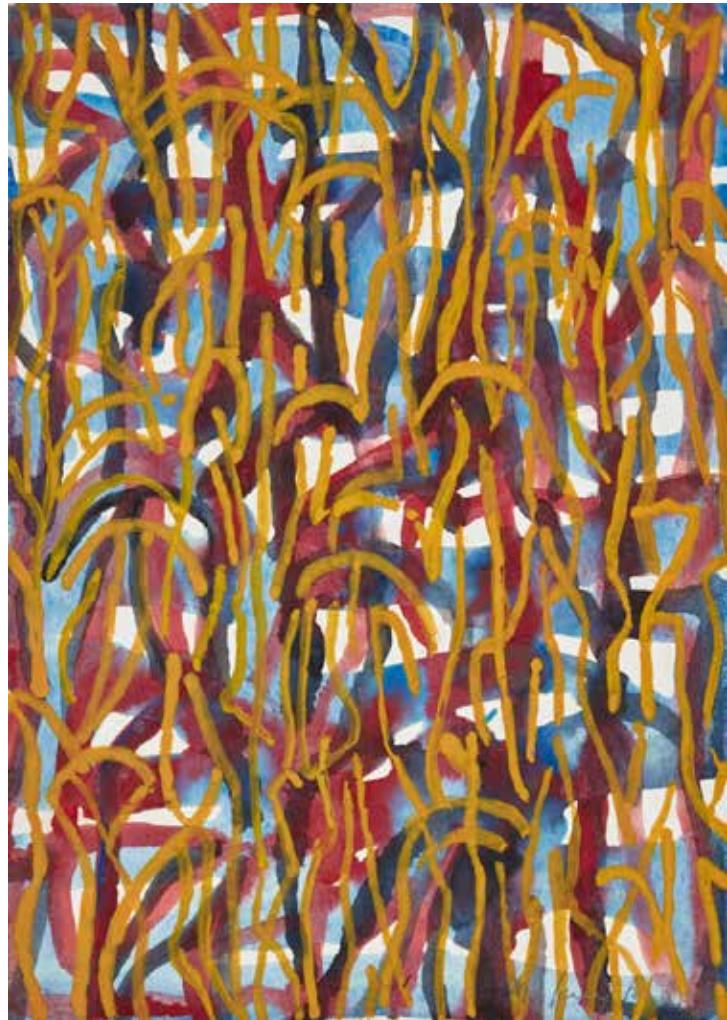
A11 (*Mangrove III*) 2018 watercolour on paper 41.8 x 29.5 cm



A12 (*Mangrove IV*) 2018 watercolour on paper 41.8 x 29.5 cm



A14 (*Topics I*) 2018 watercolour on paper 41.7 x 29.5 cm



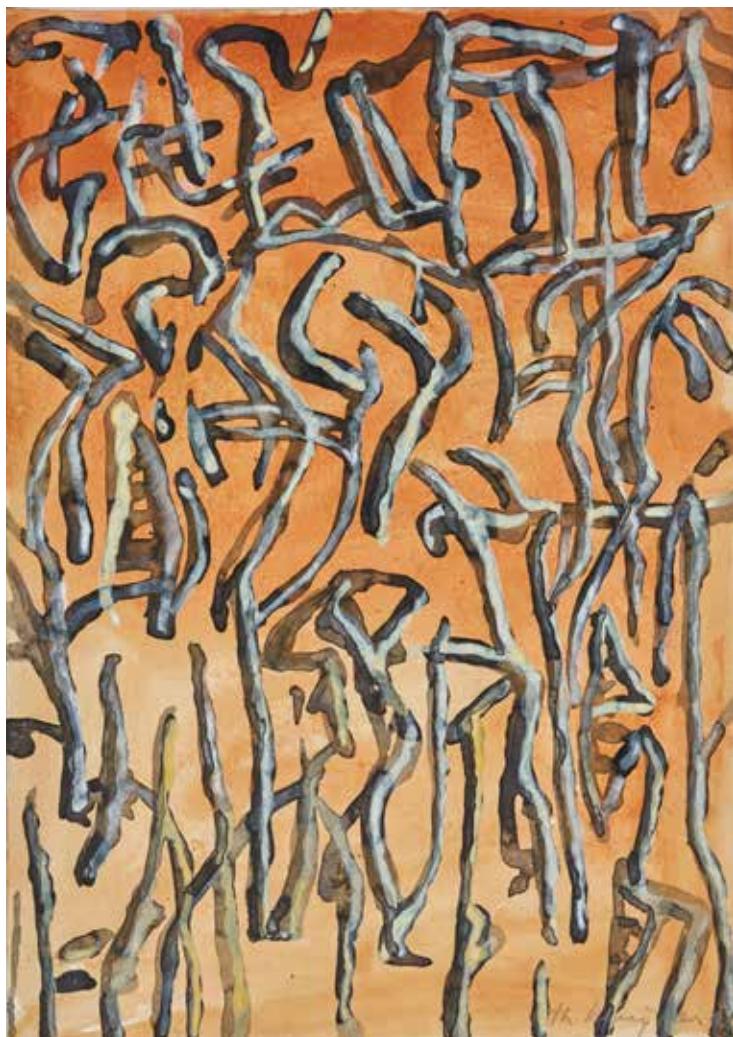
Magnetic Island V 2018 watercolour on paper 41.7 x 29.5 cm



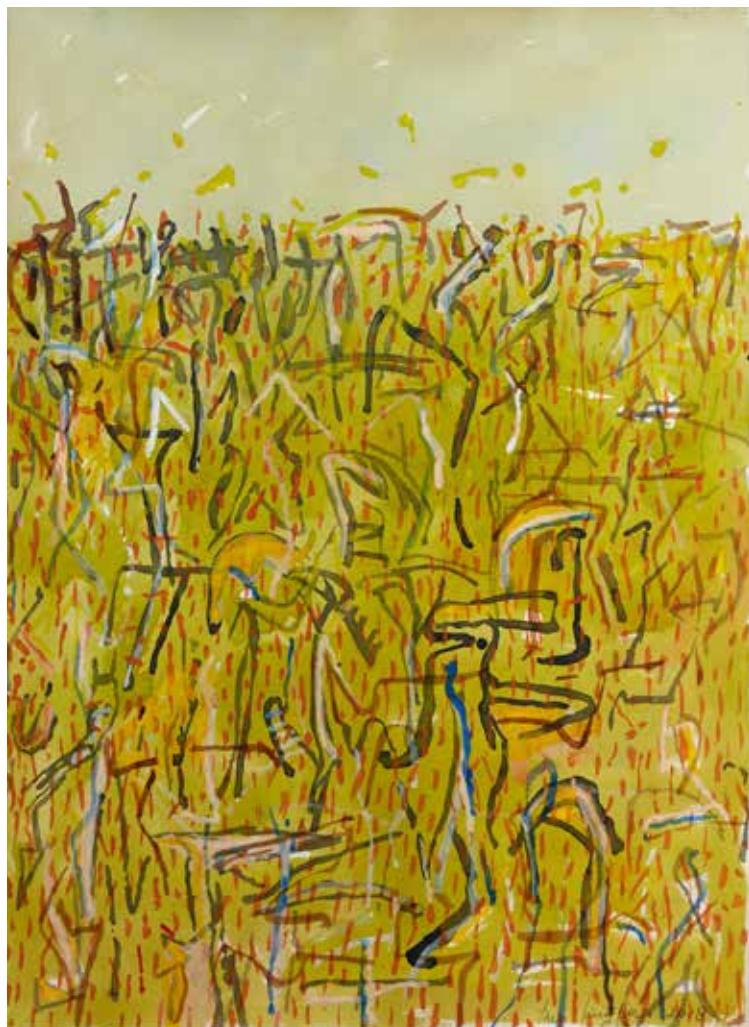
A15 (*Tropics II*) 2018 watercolour on paper 41.8 x 29.5 cm



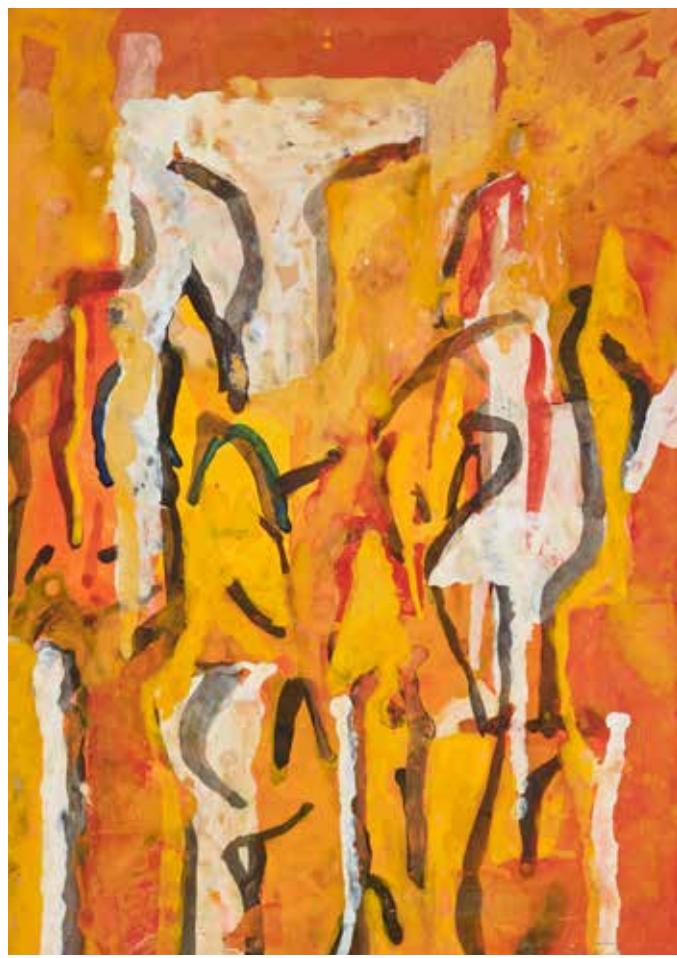
A21 (*Dead trees II*) 2018 watercolour on paper 41.8 x 29.5 cm



A22 (*Dead trees III*) 2018 watercolour on paper 41.8 x 29.5 cm



A25 (*Green landscape*) 2018 watercolour on paper 76 x 55.5 cm



A36 (*Landscape - trees and rock*) 2018 watercolour on paper 41.7 x 29.5cm



T1 (*Tree Forms*) 2018 charcoal and pastel on paper

Theo Kuijpers

Born

1939 Helmond, Netherlands

Education

1957-1961 School of Industrial Design, Eindhoven, Netherlands

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 1958 Galerie van Kemenade, Mierlo
1961 Gemeentehuis, Mierlo
1965 Galerie 't Wiel, Eindhoven
1967 Galerie Felix, Maastricht
1972-1977 Galerie De Ruimte, Eersel
1976-2005 Wetering Galerie, Amsterdam
1977-1983 Galerie De Biggelarij, Nuenen
1979-1983 Galerie S 65, Aalst (Belgium)
1979 Port Jackson Press, Sydney
1980 De Librij, Zwolle; Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem
1982-2004 Galerie Lambert Tegenbosch, Heusden, Amsterdam, Eindhoven
1983 Gemeentelijk Kunst Centrum, Hengelo; Atelier Hildebrandstrasse, Dusseldorf (Germany);
Museum voor Land en Volkenkunde, Rotterdam
1987 Museum Waterland, Purmerend
1988 Noordbrabantsmuseum, 's-Hertogenbosch
1988-2004 Galerie William Wauters, Oosteklo (Belgium)
1990 Mondriaanhuis, Winterswijk; Singer Museum, Laren
1990-2003 Galerie Clasing, Münster (Germany)
1992 Kunstenarscentrum, Bergen aan Zee
1994-1997 Galerie Wansink, Roermond
1997 Gasunie, Groningen; Europees Keramisch Werkcentrum, 's-Hertogenbosch;
Museum Dobermann, Altenberge Hohenhorst (Germany)
1999 Museum van Bommel van Dam, Venlo
2002 Galerie Wansink, Roermond; KunstRai, Amsterdam
2003 Arcades, De Krabbedans, Eindhoven
2005 Galerie Willy Schoots, Eindhoven
2006 Livingstone Gallery, Den Haag
2010/11 Galerie Willy Schoots, Eindhoven
2013 Schlessart, Bergen, Noord Holland
2014 De Pont, Tilburg; King Street Gallery on William, Sydney
2015, 2019 Art Gallery O-68, Velp
2017 'Across the earth' Museum Van Bommel van Dam, Venlo
2019 Galerie Clasing, Munster
2020 New work King Street Gallery on William

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1967 Jonge Nederlandse kunst Schiedam, Meppel, Maastricht
1968 De vijfjaarlijkse Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
1969 Tweede Zuidnederlandse Triënnale Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven;
Koninklijk Paleis voor Schone Kunsten, Antwerpen (Belgium); Noordbrabants
Museum, 's-Hertogenbosch
1972 Derde Zuidnederlandse Triënnale Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
1977 Paper for Space Reykjavik (Iceland); Duisburg (Germany); Antwerpen (Belgium); Amsterdam
1980 Het autonome tekenen; Brabant Biënnale Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
1982 The artist and the printer National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
1983 Een kunstwerk en wat er aan vooraf ging Nederlandse Kunststichting, Amsterdam;
Art Fair, Basel
1984 De IJmuiderkring De Beyerd, Breda; Stadhuis, Velsen
1986 Ooghoogte Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
1989 Zuidenwind Noordbrabantsmuseum, 's-Hertogenbosch; ABN/AMRO collectie
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
1994 Sphagnum et Lumen Bergkerk, Deventer; De Warande, Turnhout (Belgium)
1996 De muze als motor De Beyerd , Breda; Meesterlijk De Krabbedans, Eindhoven;
Beelding Belfort, Brugge (Belgium)
1997 Rencontres Nieuwe Brabantse Kunst Stichting, Breda; From the studio of master lithographer
Fred Genis, a retrospective exhibition 1965-1995 Westpac Gallery, Melbourne
1998 Avanti, een keuze uit de collectie van Delfauwes Stedelijk Museum, Roermond
2002 Beneden de rivieren Jan Cunen Centrum, Oss
2003 Bouwwerken Galerie Lambert, Valkenswaard
2009 Intensely Dutch Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
2010 Cacaofabriek, Helmond
2011 Fotocollages, Verbeke Foundation, Kemzeke(BE)
2012 30 jaar Grafisch Atelier Daglicht, Grafisch Atelier Daglicht, Eindhoven
2013 Nieuw, nieuwer, nieuwst [1] - Aanwinsten en schenkingen 2010-2013, Museum van Bommel
van Dam, Venlo
2014 Theo Kuijpers en Niko de Wit, Galerie Dom'Arte, Rucphen
2016 Tracks & Traces, Galerie Frank Welkenhuysen, Utrecht
2017 Verzameling en leven van Leon Mommers (1937-2015), Museum Land van
Valkenburg, Valkenburg
2018 Paul Dirks: GUM, De Cacaofabriek, Helmond

Public collections

Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
Noordbrabants Museum, 's-Hertogenbosch
Rijksmuseum Twente, Enschede
Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem
Museum Het Valkhof, Nijmegen
Stedelijk Museum, Schiedam
Koninklijk Paleis voor Schone Kunsten, Brussel (Belgium)
Museum Schloss Moyland, Bedburg-Hau (Germany)
Jan Cunen Centrum, Oss
De Rietgors, Museum voor Moderne Kunst, Papendrecht
Museum van Bommel van Dam, Venlo
Rijksdienst Cultureel Erfgoed, Amsterdam & Rijswijk
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney

Selected Bibliography

Meine Fernhout Zeven litho's door Theo Kuijpers in samenwerking met steendrukker Fred Genis Wetering Galerie, Amsterdam 1979
Karel Schampers Theo Kuijpers, Australië 1979 Wetering Galerie, Amsterdam 1980
Bert Schierbeek & Reyer Kras IJmuider kring Reflex, Utrecht 1984
Karel Schampers Theo Kuijpers, Tussen IJmuiden en Steenbokskeerkring Galerie Tegenbosch, Eindhoven 1986
Rick Vercauteren Theo Kuijpers, terugblik op twintig jaar kunstenaarschap Noordbrabants Museum, 's-Hertogenbosch 1988
Lambert Tegenbosch Theo Kuijpers, la Sicilia Nera Galerie Tegenbosch, Heusden aan de Maas 1991
Theo Kuijpers Theo Kuijpers, Herinnering Marokko Galerie Tegenbosch, Heusden aan de Maas 1995
Lambert Tegenbosch & Peter van Vlerken Theo Kuijpers schilderijen, Arie Berkulin beelden Museum van Bommel van Dam 1999
Theo Kuijpers, evenos, herinnering aan de Provence Galerie Waansink, Roermond 2002
Frank Eerhart Theo Kuijpers, arcades De Krabbedans, Eindhoven 2003
Rick Vercauteren Theo Kuijpers, een bezield constructivist / ein beseelter konstruktivist Galerie Willy Schoots, Eindhoven 2005
Hendrik Kolenberg Intensely Dutch Art Gallery of NSW Sydney 2009
Hendrik Kolenberg & Rick Vercauteren Theo Kuijpers & Australia, memory and experience Eindhoven, 2019