

RIA & PETER

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Exhibition Opening  
Sunday 22/02/15

1:30 pm.

@ Leo Baeck Centre  
31–37 Harp Road Kew East  
Tel: 9819 7160

Meet the artists  
Ria & Peter Eisler

The exhibition will be  
opened by the LBAC  
Curator: Martin Toone

Duration of exhibition:  
22/02/15 — 26/04/15

Viewing times: Week days  
between 10:00 am and 1:30 pm

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Expression



LEO BAECK CENTRE  
FOR PROGRESSIVE  
JUDAISM

קהלה קדושה שמע ישראל



Ria and Peter Eisler are two artists who have spent their lives together in the creative pursuit of painting. Their paintings, although different, are known for the ways that colour and line are used to heighten emotional expression. On arriving in Australia in 1948 from Czechoslovakia, as a young girl, Ria soon began to develop her creativity using line and colour as her artistic language. As early as age eight, Peter was reproducing illustrations in his story books and embellishing them with colour. Secondary school was to focus Ria's love of painting, where, in her matriculation year, she produced a portfolio of work which revealed the influences of expressionism and abstraction. Art was always very much an integral part of Peter's life. Although his studies led him into mathematics and science, he maintained his fervour for art and attended classes at RMIT where, while studying oil painting under the influence of his teacher, he became receptive to the 19th and 20th century art that was in public European galleries. French impressionists like Monet and later painters like Cezanne, Matisse, Picasso and Klee inspired Peter, allowing him to explore these movements, expressing his responses in oils and other mediums. Already in Ria's earlier years, her art demonstrated an unconscious spirit of experiment and creativity and an instinctive understanding of composition. Both Peter and Ria continue to follow their needs to express their creativity visually. There came a time when artistic practice and technique came into focus allowing both Ria and Peter to convey the essence of their work. It was John Ogburn, in the 1960s, who first provided them with this discipline at the Orber Studio, established in central Sydney for students interested in modern art. Later in the 1980s, in Melbourne, Margaret Dredge and the teachers who followed her at the Council of Adult Education had a similar enlightening influence. As with all painters, the pursuit of expression and learning has continued alongside the passion to create for Ria and Peter. They have followed this path, increasing their love of colour and the use of line in their individual works.

This exhibition of works by Ria and Peter Eisler provides a unique glimpse into the creative lives of two artists who have lived and breathed their creative journey together.



**RIA AND PETER  
WISH TO SHARE  
THEIR LIFETIME  
EXPERIENCE OF  
PAINTING WITH YOU  
AT THE LEO BAECK  
CENTRE ART SPACE**