



Media Release

35TH TELSTRA NATIONAL ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ART AWARDS

DIVERSE SUBJECTS AND IDEAS INSPIRE THE 35TH TELSTRA NATSIAA FINALISTS

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) is delighted to announce 66 works have been selected from 308 entries to be part of the country's most prestigious national Indigenous art awards, the **Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA)**.

Significantly this year Telstra NATSIAA has attracted residential entries from every state and territory in Australia: 2 entries from the Australian Capital Territory; 21 entries from New South Wales; 117 entries from the Northern Territory; 32 entries from Queensland; 70 entries from South Australia; 3 entries from Tasmania; 9 entries from Victoria; and 54 entries from Western Australia.

In 2017 Telstra NATSIAA welcomed a new generation of artists with the creation of two new categories – the Telstra Multimedia Award and the Telstra Emerging Artist Award. This year, the number of entrants in these categories has grown, reflecting new talent and opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists with 17 multimedia entries and 107 emerging artist entries; of these 7 are multimedia finalists and 12 are emerging artist finalists.

Other categories comprise: 18 entries for Telstra Bark Painting with 5 finalists; 191 entries for Telstra General Painting with 30 finalists; 33 entries for Telstra Works on Paper with 9 finalists; and 48 entries for the Wandjuk Marika Memorial Three-Dimensional Award with 16 finalists.

Luke Scholes, MAGNT Curator of Aboriginal Art, said: "This year's Awards have attracted entries of an extraordinary artistic calibre, from diverse geographic regions, highlighting the continuing growth of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts sector."

Presiding over this year's Awards, as the Telstra NATSIAA judging panel will be art consultant Glenn Iseger-Pilkington; Director of the Ian Potter Museum of Art at the University of Melbourne, Kelly Gellatly; and artist Judith Inkamala, senior member of the Hermannsburg Potters.

Glenn Iseger-Pilkington trained as an artist and currently runs a private arts consultancy where he works closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and arts workers of major projects and exhibitions; Kelly Gellatly has over 20 years curatorial experience working in leading public art institutions; and Judith Inkamala has been crafting her unique ceramics and passing her knowledge on to the next generation for 25 years as a Hermannsburg Potter.

Marcus Schutenko, MAGNT Director said "Telstra NATSIAA provides a platform for Indigenous artists to voice the views of the broader Indigenous community and contribute to the political, social and cultural dialogue in Australia. MAGNT is grateful for Telstra's ongoing passion and support for the Awards."

Telstra has supported NATSIAA for 27 years, providing Australia's Indigenous artists with a meaningful platform to be creative and innovative on a national stage.

Telstra CEO Andrew Penn said: "Telstra's connection to NATSIAA stretches back over nearly three decades and we are incredibly proud to be involved. Each year the Awards have grown in status and significance and they now provide a showcase for the unique creativity and diverse talents of Indigenous artists. The quality and scope of the work this year is again superb and underlines the importance of this globally significant artistic celebration."

Collectively the winners this year will receive \$80,000 to assist in their career development.



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The seven winners will be announced at an awards ceremony and exhibition opening at MAGNT on Friday evening, 10 August 2018.

EXHIBITION DETAILS

35th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Awards

Saturday 11 August – Sunday 11 November

Curator: Luke Scholes

Judges: Glenn Iseger-Pilkington, Kelly Gellatly, Judith Inkamala

Selected artists; Judges; Luke Scholes, Curator of Aboriginal Art, MAGNT; and Nick Wilson, Telstra GM Indigenous Directorate are available for interview upon request.

List of finalists by state

Northern Territory

Adrian Jangala
Robertson
Baluka Maymuru
Barayuwa Mununggurr
Barrmula Yunupingu
Bernadette Watt and
Annabell Amagula
Charlotte Phillipus
Napurrula
Dhambit Mununggurr
Elisa Jane Carmichael
Gunybi Ganambarr
Guykuḍa Mununggurr
Helen Ganalmirriwuy
Joe Guymala
Kathy Inkamala
Kaye Brown
Matthew Dhamuliya
Gurruwiwi
Mervyn Rubuntja
Napuwarri Marawili
Patrina Liyadurritj
Mununggurr
Sally M Mulda
Wukun Wanambi
Yalanba Wanambi

Queensland

Janet Fieldhouse
Jenna Lee
Mavis Ngallametta
Tamika Grant-Iramu

South Australia
Betty Kuntiwa Pumani
Betty Muffler
Carlene Thompson
Charlie Jacob, Clyde
Shaw, Junior Mitakiki,
Kamarin Mitakiki, Steven
Mitakiki, and Sydney
Waye
David Frank
Elizabeth Dunn
Freda Brady, Maringka
Tunkin, Sandra Ken and
Tjungkara Ken and Yaritji
Young
Kaylene Whiskey
Kunmanara Brumby
Kunmanara Pompey
Mumu Mike Williams
Niningka Lewis
Nyurpaya Kaika and
Mary Pan
Pepai Jangala Carroll
Peter Mungkuri
Ray Ken
Robert Fielding

Sylvia Ken
Tiger Yaltangki
Tuppy Ngintja Goodwin
Vincent Namatjira
Wawiriya Burton
Yaritji Young

Tasmania

Nannette Shaw

Victoria

Kent Morris
Lisa Waup

Western Australia

Bobby West Tjupurrula
Bugai Whyoulter and
Cyril Whyoulter
Daisy Japulija
Jan Goongaja Griffiths
John Prince Siddon
Johnson Ooldigi Lane
Lawrence Pennington
Mabel Juli
Mantua Nangala
Mervyn Street
Ngarralja Tommy May
Nyaparu (William)
Gardiner
Sebastian Arrow
Sonia Kurarra
Yukultji Napangati



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About the judges

The judges bring their diverse experiences to the nation's first, most prestigious and longest-running awards dedicated to Indigenous art and artists.

Glenn Iseger-Pilkington is from the Nhanda, Wadjarli and Nyoongar peoples of mid-west and south-west of Western Australia and is also a member of a Dutch and Scottish migrant family. Glenn trained as an artist and currently runs a private arts consultancy where he works closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and arts workers of major projects and exhibitions. Prior to this Iseger-Pilkington was the inaugural Curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Material Culture and Art at the South Australian Museum, where he curated 'NGURRA: Home in the Nga anyatjarra Lands', a significant exhibition of art and culture from the Western Desert and also held the roles of Curator of Content Development, New Museum Project, Western Australian Museum (2014-2016) and Associate Curator of Indigenous Objects and Photographs at the Art Gallery of Western Australia (2007-2014).

Kelly Gellatly is the Director of the Ian Potter Museum of Art at the University of Melbourne. Prior to taking up the role in April 2013 she was Curator of Contemporary Art (Australian and International) at the National Gallery of Victoria. Gellatly has held curator positions at Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne and the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, and has curated numerous exhibitions, including *Rosalie Gascoigne* (2008), *Gordon Bennett* (2007) and *RALLY: Contemporary Indonesian Art and Jompet Kuswidananto and Eko Nugroho* (2013). Gellatly brings to the judging panel an extraordinary knowledge of contemporary Australian art and a sharp eye for new and emerging talent.

Judith Inkamala is a West Aranda woman, a senior member of the Hermannsburg Potters and an inspiring and respected cultural leader in her community. Inkamala takes inspiration from her Western Arrernte country to create stunningly detailed underglazes on handcrafted terracotta pots. As a child, Inkamala often spent time in the Namatjira household watching Albert Namatjira paint. Inkamala's exquisite works are exhibited and collected worldwide. She brings to the judging panel a wealth of knowledge and passion for passing that knowledge on to future generations.

About the Awards

Telstra NATSIAA is Australia's longest running and most prestigious Indigenous art competition. The Awards are now firmly established as a key event on Australia's cultural calendar. The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory with Telstra deliver this unique annual event to showcase the best in Indigenous art from across the country.

The Telstra Art Award of \$50,000 is awarded to the work considered by judges to be the most outstanding work across all categories.

The Telstra Emerging Artist Award of \$5,000 is awarded from any category to an artist working within their first five years of practice.

Prizes of \$5,000 are awarded in each of the following categories:

- Telstra Bark Painting Award
- Telstra General Painting Award
- Telstra Works on Paper Award (includes photography, print making, drawing)
- Wandjuk Marika Memorial Three-Dimensional Award (sponsored by Telstra)
- Telstra Multimedia Award (for multidisciplinary and digital works)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists can submit one original work that has not been previously exhibited or made available for sale. All awards are non-acquisitive and entrants are eligible to win one award.



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magnt.net.au

Museum Opening Hours
Monday-Sunday 10am-5pm