

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 12 June 2017

Finalists revealed in Australia's newest landscape art prize

Eleven Tasmanians have been selected among 41 national finalists in one of the world's richest landscape art awards, the *Hadley's Art Prize*, announced in Hobart today.

The inaugural prize, themed 'History and Place', attracted a remarkable 385 entries from across Australia, the vast majority of which are new works.

Prize Judge and Assistant Director of Artistic Programs at the Art Gallery of South Australia, Lisa Slade, said it was great to see so many entries by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists in what was a sensational line-up of finalists.

There were entries from indigenous artists across Australia, as far north as Thursday Island, 11 of which have made the shortlist for the \$100,000 Prize.

Prize Curator Dr Amy Jackett said it was also terrific to note that of the 41 finalists, 41 per cent were female artists.

"I'm really excited that the prize has brought such a diverse range of exceptional art to Hobart, sharing many different stories about Australia's past," Dr Jackett said.

"I really encourage people to come and experience the work of these incredible contemporary Australian landscape artists, both established and emerging, and especially to have their say in deciding the People's Choice Award," she said.

"The new gallery spaces have been fully fitted to accommodate contemporary art, while respecting the heritage of Hadley's Orient Hotel and its stunning features, including an ornate leadlight ceiling in one of the galleries.

"There are some great events on offer to enrich people's experience of the exhibition, including presentations about the Prize theme, guided tours and packages with Hadley's signature afternoon tea as well as an Education Kit for school groups."





The *Hadley's Art Prize* is an acquisitive award, with the winning entry added to a permanent art collection at Hadley's, to be open to the public.

It is set to become one of Australia's most significant and lucrative art awards, further cementing Tasmania's reputation as the 'Island of Art'.

The winner of the \$100,000 Prize, to be selected by a panel of three national art specialists – Dr Julie Gough, Roger Butler AM and Lisa Slade – will be announced on July 14.

**List of finalist names and works attached.*

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