



BLACK SWAN PRIZE FOR PORTRAITURE

MEDIA RELEASE

5 August 2016

FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR BLACK SWAN PRIZE FOR PORTRAITURE

40 finalists have been chosen from the record number of 484 artists who entered the 2016 Black Swan Prize for Portraiture – WA's only portrait prize.

The 40 artists will now be vying for \$70,000 worth of prizes -including the main \$50,000 Lester Group Prize, \$10,000 Toni Fini Foundation Artist Prize, the \$7,500 Amana Living People's Choice Prize and two Highly Commended \$500 gift vouchers from HU Kendall & Co.

The Black Swan Prize for Portraiture is the third richest prize in Australia behind the Archibald and Moran competitions. Artists were invited to submit portraits of an Australian, or Australians that they respect or admire.

Amongst the finalists were 13 West Australian artists, including award winning artist Brendon Darby whose self portrait cleverly portrays his face as part of the Australian landscape.

13 of the 40 finalists chose to enter self-portraits, such as previous winner Dawn Stubbs' light hearted and cheeky look at herself and her pug Rocky. Other portraits include first time finalist Kendal Gear with her exquisitely painted portrait of fellow artist Claudine Gueho and Tom Macbeth's portrayal of Syd Kirkby, a highly regarded Australian surveyor and Antarctic explorer.

Portraits of well-known Australian identities include Les Murray, Thomas Keneally, Ben Elton and the late Judy Cassab AO CBE. Local spud king Tony Galati is also captured on canvas.

From the hyper real to the surreal, this year's exhibition will be a must see for the public, particularly given its tenth year anniversary and the new partnership with the Art Gallery of Western Australia (AGWA).

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The finalists' works will be open to the public as part of AGWA's Portraiture Month from 8 October-31 October, 2016, with the Lester Group Prize, and the Artist Prize being announced on 14 October, 2016. The Amana Living People's Choice Prize will be announced towards the close of the exhibition.

44 youth entries were also chosen from 39 schools, and these works will be on display both at Brookfield Place and Perth Cultural Centre in October 2016.

The Black Swan Prize for Portraiture is brought to the WA public by ARTrinsic Inc – a not-for-profit organisation made up of dedicated people who are passionate about promoting and supporting visual arts in WA.

For a full list of this year's finalists, please visit : www.blackswanprize.com.au

The proud sponsors and partners of the Black Swan Prize for Portraiture are:

The Art Gallery of WA (Exhibition Partner), The City of Perth (Presentation Partner), The Lester Group (Founding Partner), Amana Living (People's Choice Prize), Tony Fini Foundation (Artist Prize), Lotterywest, The Ian Potter Foundation, Brookfield, St John of God Health Care, Deloitte, Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority, Westpac Community Foundation, Spinifex Trust, Forbes Partners, HU Kendall & Co, Squire Patton Boggs Youth Arts Foundation, Artsedge Photo and Frame, Mondoluce, WASP, Jaz Design, International Art Services, The Lions Club City of Perth, Alex Hotel, Singapore Airways, Abbott & Co Printers, Heyder & Shears.

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EXHIBITION DETAILS

Main Exhibition

Dates: 8 - 31 October, 2016

Times: 10:00am - 5:00pm daily (except for Tuesdays which is closed)

Location: Art Gallery of WA, Perth Cultural Centre, WA.

Cost: Free to attend

An electronic display of the exhibitions will also be displayed at the new City of Perth library as well as the big screen at the Perth Cultural Centre, the cultural heart of the City.

Youth Exhibition

Dates: 3 - 21 October, 2016 (original artworks)

Times: 8:00am - 6:00pm weekdays only

Location: Tower 1, Brookfield Place, 125 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA

Cost: Free to attend

Original artworks will be on display at Brookfield Place, whilst a printed exhibition of youth artworks will be showcased at the Perth Cultural Centre from 18 - 31 October, 2016.

Salon des Refusés

Dates: 3 - 21 October, 2016

Times: 8:00am - 6:00pm weekdays only

Location: Tower 2, Brookfield Place, 125 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA

Cost: Free to attend

Touring Exhibition

Dates: 7 November – 7 December, 2016 (TBC)

Times: Open hospital hours

Location: St John of God Hospitals: Murdoch, Midland and Subiaco campuses.

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