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**FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR ACCLAIMED WA NATIONAL PORTRAIT COMPETITION**

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A record number of entries were received for the prestigious Black Swan Prize for Portraiture, with 375 artists entering West Australia's version of the Archibald Prize. 40 finalists have now been selected to vie for the \$50,000 prize donated by The Lester Group, and the \$7,500 People's Choice Award.

Now in its ninth year, this event is WA's only portrait prize and is highly regarded by artists nationwide. 60% of the entries have come from interstate.

The 40 finalists portraiture works will be on display to the public from 24 September – 4 October 2015 at 137 St Georges Terrace Perth (Linton & Kay Gallery), proudly presented by City of Perth. The majority of the works will be for sale.

Amongst the finalists are portraits of WA AFL identities Nic Natanui and Paul Duffield, businesswoman Janet Holmes a'Court and ex WA politician Honourable Arthur Tonkin. Well-known performers immortalised in canvas include Noah Taylor, Tom Gleisner, Kerry Armstrong, Luke Carroll and Christine Shaw.

Familiar artists in the finalist group include comedian Anh Do who was a finalist last year, Marcus Callum who has depicted WA artist Abdul Abdullah, and Paul Ryan. Thirteen WA artists were chosen as finalists in this year's event.

The winner of the main prize and People's Choice will be announced in the evening of 1 October 2015 at an exclusive awards night attended by the finalists, sponsors and members of the ARTrinsic Inc. Board.

Run in conjunction with the main competition is the Black Swan Youth Portraiture competition, providing young artists in years 7 – 12 with an opportunity to showcase their creative talents by painting a portrait of a well known Australian; an Australian they respect/admire; or self portrait. Finalists of the Youth competition will be announced on 14 August 2015 with the winner announced on 23 September 2015, and they will be vying for \$2,500 worth of prizes.

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

The Black Swan Prize for Portraiture is made possible through the generosity of key sponsors: Lester Group, St John of God Health Care, Hawaiian Group, Deloitte, Qatar Airways, Arts Brookfield, Squire Patton Boggs, InfraTech, Linton & Kay, HU Kendall & Co, Qatar Airways, Parmelia Hilton, Thompson Estate, International Art Services, Mondoluce, Tiffany & Co, Perth City Lions Club.

For the full list of this year's finalists, visit [www.blackswanprize.com.au](http://www.blackswanprize.com.au)

**MEDIA RELEASE**

31 July, 2015



**BLACK SWAN PRIZE**

**EXHIBITION/EVENT DETAILS**

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**Venue:** Portraiture Prize: 137 St Georges Terrace, Perth (Venue: Linton & Kay Galleries)  
24 September – 4 October (M-F 10-5, Sat – Sun 11-4)

Salon des Refusés: 125 St Georges Terrace, Brookfield Place  
14 September – 2 October (weekdays only)

**Entry:** Free

**Voting:** Voting for the \$7,500 People’s Choice Prize, awarded to one artist in person at the exhibition. Voters are in the running to win a weekend overnight stay in a King Deluxe guestroom with buffet breakfast in the Adelphi Grill, proudly sponsored by Parmelia Hilton.

Voting for the \$1,000 SJOGHC Online People’s Choice Prize, awarded to one artist is on-line via [www.blackswanprize.com.au](http://www.blackswanprize.com.au). All voting closes at 5:00pm on the 1 October, 2015.

**Exhibition Dates:** Thursday 24 September – Sunday 4 October. Winner Announced 1 October.



**2015 Finalist**

Title: Sensei Ronnie

Artist : Anh Doh

Medium : Oil on Linen



**2015 Finalist**

Title : Mr Big

Artist : Joshua Miels

Medium : Oil on Canvas



**2015 Finalist**

Title : Nic

Artist : Jerome Davenport

Medium : Aerosol, Acrylic on Wood

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