

Media information 5 July 2012



The MOSMAN ART PRIZE Turning 65 Years in July 2012! Prize Exhibition 21 July – 26 August

The 65th annual **Mosman Art Prize** opens on Saturday 21 July at Mosman Art Gallery, NSW.

The Mosman Art Prize is the longest running and most prestigious municipal art prize in Australia. Winning entries form the basis of the Mosman Art Collection, a valuable and historic collection that surveys Australian painting since 1947.

The Mosman Art Prize is an acquisitive award of \$30,000 sponsored by Mosman Council.

Previous winners form a roll call of Australian Art luminaries: Grace Cossington Smith, Weaver Hawkins, Francis Lyburner, Nancy Borlase, Lloyd Rees, Guy Warren, John Caldwell, Frank Hinder, Elwyn Lynn, Margo Lewers, Peter Laverty, Earle Backen, Ken Reinhard, Jenny Sages, Noel McKenna, Dong Wang Fan, Elisabeth Cummings, Tim Johnson, Guan Wei, Adam Cullen, Tom Carment, Nicholas Harding, Jasper Knight, Lucy Culliton and Craig Waddell. Margaret Olley was the inaugural winner in 1947. Kerrie Lester was awarded the Mosman Art Prize in 2011.

Each year close to 900 entries are received in one very long day at the Mosman Art Gallery. The artworks are then selected for a finalist exhibition that extends across the entire top two levels of the Gallery for five weeks.

The 2012 Mosman Art Prizes will be judged by Anne Flanagan, Assistant Director, Art Gallery of New South Wales.

Past adjudicators include notable Australian art figures such as Margaret Preston, John Olsen, Tim Storrier, Jenny Sages, Edmund Capon, Margaret Olley, John McDonald and last year, arts patron, Reg Richardson AM.

The Mosman Art Prize offers four further art awards in addition to the acquisitive major prize.

Other Prize Awards:

In addition to the major prize of \$30,000, Mosman Council also sponsors the **Allan Gamble Memorial Art Prize**. An accomplished architect and artist, and Mosman Councillor for 24 years, Allan Gamble was the founder of the Mosman Art Prize. Valued at \$3,000 (non-acquisitive), this prize will be awarded to the best painting, which explores the theme of 'the built environment'.

The **Commendation Prize** of \$5,000 (non-acquisitive) is sponsored by **Henry Bucks**, other sponsors include the **Fourth Village Providore Young Emerging Artists' Award** (under 35 years) \$2,000 and the **Mosman Art Society Viewers' Choice Award** for \$1,000.

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Important Dates: 2012 MOSMAN ART PRIZE

Monday 9 July	Receiving Day for artworks (8.00am – 7.00pm)
Monday 16 July	Finalists announced
Friday 20 July	Prize Announcements and official opening (6.30pm-8.30pm) - by invitation
Saturday 21 July	public viewing of award exhibition (daily, 10.00am-5.00pm)
- Sunday 26 August	

END

For further media enquiries and photo opportunities please contact:

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(Curator and Public Programs Coordinator, Mosman Art Gallery)

In Australia, art prizes come and go. They may offer large sums of money and have glamorous marketing campaigns, but they still have limited life spans. The chief exceptions to the rule are the Archibald Prize, and the Mosman Art Prize

John McDonald, Mosman Art Prize adjudicator, 1989 & 2004

The Mosman Art Prize is a barometer of contemporary painting which showcases some of Australia's best artists. When people see this show they will see a diversity of practice and the potential of painting as a contemporary medium and how immediate painting is to ideas.

Kon Gouriotis OAM, Mosman Art Prize adjudicator, 2010

2012 MOSMAN ART PRIZE – celebrating 65 years

Where:	Mosman Art Gallery, cnr Art Gallery Way & Myahgah Road, Mosman, NSW
On view:	21 July to 26 August 2012
Open:	7 days, 10am – 5pm
Admission:	Free
PH:	02 9978 4178
Information:	www.mosmanartgallery.org.au



Winner of 2011 Museums and Galleries National Award for Exhibition
Winner of 2011 Local Government Cultural Award for Aboriginal Cultural Development