

TARNANTHI CONTEMPORARY ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ART

MEDIA RELEASE for immediate release



TARNANTHI Art Fair brings leading contemporary art from across Australia to you

Adelaide, Australia: The TARNANTHI Art Fair returns this October, providing a unique opportunity to view and purchase works of art directly from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and art centres. Bringing together over 40 art centres from across the country, the Art Fair presents works of art from the Tiwi Islands, Arnhem Land, Central and Western Deserts, Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands, Kimberley and the Pilbara.

This year, the Art Fair welcomes ten new participant art centres including Bábbarra Designs which represents the community of Maningrida, home of the 2018 TARNANTHI feature artist and master bark painter John Mawurndjul. At the Art Fair a wide range of works of art will be on offer, from painting to textiles, sculpture, ceramics and jewellery. Works for sale are available at varying prices.

Art production is a key source of income for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and in 2017 the TARNANTHI Art Fair represented 500 artists, and generated \$810, 825 in sales with profits going directly to art centres, artists and the Purple House Foundation.

Artistic Director, TARNANTHI Contemporary Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art, Nici Cumpston, says, 'The Art Fair embodies the core values and vision of TARNANTHI. This includes creating a platform for artists to share their art and culture with the world.'

Beth Conway, Art Centre Manager, Iwantja Arts says, 'The TARNANTHI Art Fair is a very exciting annual event for art centres across Australia. Artists are thrilled to be able to share their works of art with visitors to Tandanya. It is a sensational opportunity to view and purchase art directly from art centres, knowing that the full sale of the work is going back to the artist, their families, and their art centres. We look forward to returning in 2018.'

The TARNANTHI Art Fair is an annual pillar of TARNANTHI: Contemporary Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art. TARNANTHI is presented in partnership with BHP and with support of the Government of South Australia. The TARNANTHI Art Fair is presented in partnership with Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute and supported by the City of Adelaide.

Laura Tyler, Asset President Olympic Dam, BHP says, 'BHP is thrilled to support the TARNANTHI Art Fair, a truly inspiring opportunity to purchase contemporary Aboriginal art and generate a direct source of income for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.'

TARNANTHI Art Fair runs from Friday 26 October 2018 to Sunday 28 October 2019 at Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute. For further details, visit tarnanthi.com.au.

ABOUT TARNANTHI TARNANTHI presents contemporary art of the oldest living culture on an unprecedented scale, in a national event held annually by the Art Gallery of South Australia. A platform for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists from across the country, TARNANTHI presents an opportunity to share important stories.

TARNANTHI illuminates the diversity and depth of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art by alternately staging an expansive city-wide festival in one year and a focus exhibition the following year. This year's feature artist is master bark painter John Mawurndjul. TARNANTHI also includes an annual Art Fair, artist talks, performances and events.

TARNANTHI ART FAIR Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, 253 Grenfell Street, Adelaide

MEDIA PREVIEW Friday 26 October at 2pm

OFFICIAL OPENING Friday 26 October at 5pm

PUBLIC OPENING TIMES Friday 26 October to Sunday 28 October 2018

MEDIA CONTACT Georgia Walker | Communications Coordinator | Art Gallery of South Australia | P 08 8207 7402 | M 0467 882 182 | E walker.georgia@artgallery.sa.gov.au

PARTICIPATING ART CENTRES View the full list at <https://www.tarnanthi.com.au/events/tarnanthi-art-fair/>

IMAGES Available for download from <https://www.tarnanthi.com.au/media-gallery/>

VIDEO Available for download from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2fdPWWmoxo>

Additional art centre profile videos available from late September

image captions left to right: TARNANTHI Art Fair; photo: Nat Rogers. TARNANTHI Art Fair; photo: John Montesi. TARNANTHI Art Fair, Faye Matjarra Garrawurra, one of the Directors of Bula'bula Arts with fabric by Philip Gudthaykudthay aka Pussycat; photo: Nat Rogers.

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