



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **the Premier and Cabinet**

Minister for Culture and the Arts

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Media Statement

2010 Western Australian indigenous art awards artists announced.

The finalists in the nation's richest indigenous arts prize, the Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards, were today announced by Culture and the Arts Minister John Day.

Mr Day congratulated the 16 artists who have been invited to participate in the awards exhibition and have the opportunity to share in \$65,000 in prizes.

"In the third consecutive year of this award, it has become established as a fixture on the indigenous arts calendar and 185 nominations were received from arts organisations nationally," he said.

"The awards are the cornerstone of the State's support for indigenous visual arts development and I am looking forward to seeing the finalists' work in the exhibition, which will be held biennially after this year's event."

The selection panel for the Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards 2010 consisted of three indigenous curators: Brenda L. Croft, Stephen Gilchrist and Glenn Pilkington, all with nationally-acknowledged expertise and knowledge within the Australian indigenous arts sector.

The awards comprise a group exhibition of outstanding art and three non-acquisitive awards totalling \$65,000: the Western Australian Indigenous Art Award of \$50,000; the Western Australian Artist Award of \$10,000; and the People's Choice Award of \$5,000.

The \$50,000 Western Australian Indigenous Art Award will be awarded to the artist whose work in the awards exhibition is considered by the selection panel to be the most outstanding. The \$50,000 award winner and \$10,000 recipient will be announced at the opening event on July 30.

The People's Choice Award of \$5,000 will be presented at the end of the exhibition season to the artist who receives the highest number of visitor votes.

The exhibition will be on display at the Art Gallery of Western Australia from July 31. Entry to the exhibition is free, although donations are welcomed.

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The 16 artists selected to exhibit in the Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards 2010 are:

Artist	Language Group	Lives
Richard Bell	Kamilaroi	Brisbane, QLD
Mick Jawalji	Gija	Imintji, WA
Sonia Kurarra	Walmajarri	Kurnangki, WA
Pauline Moran	Nyoongar	Darwin, NT
Makinti Napanangka	Pintupi	Kintore, NT
r e a	Gamilaraay & Wailwan	Lawson, NSW
Nura Rupert	Pitjantjatjara	Tjitapiti, SA
Yhonnie Scarce	Kokatha & Nukunu	Melbourne, VIC
Nellie Stewart	Pitjantjatjara	Nyapan / Kanpi SA
Wakartu Cory Surprise	Walmajarri	Fitzroy Crossing, WA
Ken Thaiday Snr	Meriam Mer	Cairns, QLD
Christian Thompson	Bidjara	Melbourne, VIC
Harry Tjutjuna	Pitjantjatjara	Pipalyatjara, SA
Judy Watson	Waanyi	Brisbane, QLD
Bugai Whyllouter	Manyjilyjarra	Kunawarritji, WA
Gulumbu Yunupingu	Gumatj	Yirrkala, NT

Selection panel members:

Dr Brenda L Croft - University of South Australia

Brenda L Croft is a member of the Gurindji and Mudpurra nations from Kalkaringi and Daguragu communities in the Northern Territory. In 2009, Brenda commenced at the University of South Australia as a lecturer of Indigenous Art, Culture and Design. From 2002 to early 2009, she was senior curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art at the National Gallery of Australia, where she initiated and curated the inaugural 'National Indigenous Art Triennial: Culture Warriors' in 2007, which toured to the USA in 2009.

Stephen Gilchrist - National Gallery of Victoria

Stephen Gilchrist is from the Yamatji people from WA's north-west. He has been curator of Indigenous Art at the National Gallery of Victoria since July 2005 where he has curated 'Land Marks', 2006; 'Across the Desert: Aboriginal Batik from Central Australia', 2008-09; and 'Shared Sky', 2009. In July 2009, he curated 'I forget to forget' at Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, which has been published widely.

Glenn Pilkington - Art Gallery of Western Australia

Glenn Pilkington is from the Nyoongar and Yamatji peoples of WA. He has been associate curator of indigenous art at the Art Gallery of Western Australia since November 2007 and been involved with exhibitions including 'Larrakitj: The Kerry Stokes Collection' (2009) and 'Culture Warriors: The National Indigenous Art Triennial' (2007). Prior to this, Glenn managed the Regional and Indigenous Artists Development program for artsource: The Artists Foundation of Western Australia.