



**Marion Scrymgour**  
MINISTER FOR SENIOR TERRITORIANS

November 14 2005

### **Grey Panthers are the People's Choice**

A portrait that pays homage to the legendary Grey Panthers has won the People's Choice Award at the closing of the Portrait of a Senior Territorian Art Exhibition, Arts Minister Marion Scrymgour announced today.

The much loved Grey Panthers have been immortalised in a painting of fine brushstrokes and painstaking detail, by artist Catherine Paton.

Catherine wins a cheque for \$1000 donated by the NT Government.

'It's wonderful to see Darwin's favourite senior dancers live forever on canvas,' Ms Scrymgour said.

'They have earned their place in the Top End arts community with their hard work with Tracks Dance.'

In 1988 Tracks Dance Inc. formed the Grey Panthers, a unique group of Territory women predominantly over 60.

With over 1,200 collective years of wisdom they dance, sing, act, write, perform drill marching and poetry, and ride on the back of Harley-Davidson bikes in street parades.

Most recently they opened the Portrait of a Senior Territorian Exhibition with a spine tingling dance to Shirley Bassey's 'Fever'.

After a successful career as an illustrator, Catherine now professionally paints portraits on commission.

She has won the People's Choice Award twice before. Once for a portrait of the Honourable Austin Asche AC QC and the other Chrisoula Anictomatis, the former Administrator's mother.

This year's winning portrait of Dr Reg Prasad, by Tobias Richardson, will soon be hung at Government House.

*Contact: Maria Billias 0401 119 746*