



**Marion Scrymgour**

MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

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## **NEW GENERATION OF BOTANICAL ART**

A new generation of botanical art that combines traditional knowledge and western science is about to be launched in Darwin.

Minister for Arts and Museums Marion Scrymgour will officially open the *Replant* exhibition to the public tonight.

Ms Scrymgour said *Replant* is an exhibition that brings art and science together - in the bush.

“Although the results can be seen this evening as prints on a gallery wall, the genesis of the work is very much based on the natural universe,” she said.

“It is an exhibition that has brought together four Aboriginal and three non-Aboriginal artists—in this case to Malak Malak traditional lands on the Daly River—to explore different cultural perspectives and traditions through plant life of the region.

“In doing this, they were doing something quite ancient: describing and naming the country around them through the eyes of artists.”

Ms Scrymgour said that six out of seven of the artists represented in the exhibition are women.

“And this is not surprising: it is something that fell naturally given the subject matter and traditional links women have with the gathering and use of plant life.

“The exhibition will be an opportunity to increase understanding about the diversity and complexity of cultures, arts, languages, lands and environments in the Top End.

“The major objective of the project is to broaden the application for education and cultural awareness through the creation of original art and accompanying research text that explains cultural links, plant use and scientific knowledge.”

The exhibition will be open to the public from August 11 - 27, between 6.00 -10.00pm daily at the Wesleyan Church in the George Brown Botanic Gardens, entry from the Gardens Road gates.

**MEDIA NOTE: Opening is happening tonight at 6.30pm at the George Brown Botanic Gardens.**

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