



Marion Scrymgour
MINISTER FOR ARTS AND MUSEUMS

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\$20 000 TO BRING MURAL BACK TO LIFE

The NT Government will provide \$20 000 in funding to bring new life to an important public icon in Alice Springs.

Arts Minister Marion Scrymgour said the Clifford Possum Tjapaltjarri Mural, which was painted in 1985 as a work of public art for the Araluen Arts Centre, would receive a facelift to restore it to its former glory and vibrancy.

“Time, sunlight, water erosion and the quality of the paint used at the time have all contributed to the deterioration of the mural,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“The wall and downpipes on which the work was sited are also showing signs of age and drainage issues have compounded the problem.”

The mural was completed by local artists, Bob and Kay Kessing, under the direction of Clifford Possum in 1985.

The original painting, containing six different interconnected dreaming stories: *Yuelamu*, *Nyinyalingi*, *Yulutjirrka*, *Tjipitji* and *Ngala*, is part of the Araluen Collection and is on display in the foyer of the Centre.

“Clifford Possum Tjapaltjarri passed away in 2002, however his daughter, Gabriella Possum Nungarrayi, has been consulted regarding the restoration of the mural and has given permission for the work to be re-painted,” Ms Scrymgour said.

Ms Scrymgour said she was pleased to announce that the Government would provide the Friends of Araluen with a grant of \$20,000 from the Public Art Grants Program for the Restoration Project which will bring new life to this important public icon in Alice Springs.”

Work to prepare the wall will begin as soon as contractors can be sourced to undertake the preliminary processes. Once that has been completed the process of re-painting the mural will commence.

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