



Marion Scrymgour
MINISTER FOR ARTS AND MUSEUMS

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104 Entries Pre-selected for Prestigious Award

More than 100 pieces of art works have already been pre-selected in this year's 24th *Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award*.

"The Telstra Art Award is not simply about competition but more so the celebration of Indigenous Australian art and culture," Ms Scrymgour said.

"I congratulate everyone who entered this prestigious Award and particularly those people who are finalists.

"I would also like to especially thank the pre-selection panel comprising Vernon Ah Kee, Rosie Barkus and Cath Bowdler who did a tremendous job in putting together a strong final field.

"Visitors to MAGNT are set once again to be impressed by the strong array and abilities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists."

This year's final field includes 49 general paintings, 26 3D works, 16 works on paper and 13 barks.

"There are finalists from most states and territories, as well as the Torres Strait," Ms Scrymgour said.

"The Award is identifying new Indigenous artists every year and this year's pre-selected works are outstanding."

Finalists are urged to submit entries by close of business on June 8 with the exhibition opening on August 10 and closing on November 18 2007.

The Award is non-acquisitive with \$40,000 on offer for the major Award with \$4000 going to each of the four media category winners.

Contact: Maria Billias 0401 119 746