



Media Release:

1.08.2008

Ocean to Outback Exhibition at Araluen

A travelling exhibition from the National Gallery of Australia featuring some of Australia's most iconic artists can be seen at the Araluen Arts Centre in Alice Springs from Saturday 9 August until Sunday 19 October 2008.

Ocean to Outback: Australian Landscape Painting 1850-1950 celebrates the rich history of landscape painting in Australia and has been curated by the National Gallery Director Ron Radford AM.

Araluen Art Centre Publicity and Promotions Officer Kelsey Rodda said the exhibition features 58 paintings which reflect the most dynamic century of landscape paintings following World War II.

"From the colonial 1850's landscape paintings became the chosen subject of Australian art which coincided with the changing nature of the nation's identity," Ms Rodda said.

"During this period the general public started to visit their own museums and art galleries and were enthralled with seeing images of their own country, and this fascination and love of Australian landscapes continues to this day.

"Some of the artists whose work is featured in this exhibition include Sidney Nolan, Tom Roberts, Arthur Streeton, Thomas Baines, Eugene Von Guerard, Charles Conder, Ray Crooke, Grace Cossington Smith and Clarice Beckett.

"One of the paintings by Thomas Baines is of a Gouty stem tree which is located near a creek south-east of Stokes Range, Victoria River in the Northern Territory."

Ms Rodda said the exhibition was part of a program developed by the National Gallery to ensure people across all parts of Australia have access to the art treasures held in the National Collection.

"So far this exhibition has travelled to Tamworth, Mount Gambier, Ballarat, Cairns and following the stop here in Alice Springs it will travel to Newcastle before returning to Canberra," Ms Rodda said.

"It's fantastic for art enthusiasts who live outside the capital cities to have the opportunity to see the nation's best art collections in their own backyard, and we encourage all residents and visitors to visit the exhibition here in Alice Springs."

For further information contact the Araluen Arts Centre on 8951 1122 or visit the Araluen Arts Centre website at www.araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au.

Ends

Media Note - Further information contact Kelsey Rodda on 8951 1132



Image Credits:

1. Thomas Baines

Gouty stem tree, Adansonia Gregorii, 58 feet circumference, near a creek south east of Stokes Range, Victoria River 1868

oil on canvas

45.2 x 66.5 cm

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra Purchased 1973

2. Charles Conder

Ricketts Point, Beaumaris, 1890

oil on wood panel

12.0 x 21.5 cm

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra Purchased 1973

3. Sidney Nolan

Burke at Cooper's Creek 1950

oil and enamel paint on composition board

121.5 x 152.0 cm

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Issued: 2pm Friday, 1 August 2008