

23 October 2008

## 25<sup>th</sup> Silver Jubilee Telstra Art Award Closes This Sunday

The 25<sup>th</sup> Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) will close this Sunday 26 October 2008.

MAGNT Acting Director Apolline Kohen said this year's Award had been another great success.

"Since the Telstra Art Award opened to the public on 15 August this year, we have had more than 50,000 visitors come through the gallery," Ms Kohen said.

"While the exhibition is closing all of the preselected works are still viewable through the online gallery which has had almost 2500 visits since its launch."

This year's Award celebrated 25 years and the artworks presented this year were outstanding.

"I am also very pleased to announce MAGNT has acquired a number of works from this Silver Jubilee year which will be part of our permanent Indigenous collection."

Artworks acquired by the MAGNT from this year's award include:

**The \$40,000 Telstra Award winner** Makinti Napanangka, *Untitled*, synthetic polymer paint on linen;  
**The \$4,000 Telstra Works on Paper winner** Dennis Nona, *Dugam*;  
**The \$4,000 Wandjuk Marika Three-Dimensional Memorial Award winner** Nyapanyapa Yunupingu's *Incident at Mutpi (1975)*, natural pigments on bark painting and filmed narrative of the event;  
The highly commended Gloria Pannka, *West MacDonnell Ranges*, watercolour on paper; and  
Hubert Pareroutja, *Simpsons Gap*, watercolour on paper.

Ms Kohen said MAGNT had acquired a total of 214 works since the Award began 25 years ago in 1984.

"MAGNT has a wonderful collection of Indigenous art, and an integral component of the Telstra Art Award is the opportunity to purchase these works directly from the preselected artists," Ms Kohen said.

Other Award winners from this year's Silver Jubilee Award include:

**The \$4,000 Telstra General Painting Award**, Doreen Reid Nakamarra, *Untitled*, synthetic polymer paint on linen  
**The \$4,000 Telstra Bark Painting Award**, Terry Ngamandara Wilson, *Gulach – Spike Rush*. natural pigments on bark.

The overall \$40,000 Telstra Award and further four media categories are non-acquisitive, which means the winning artists can retain or sell their works.

To view the online gallery go to [www.magnt.nt.gov.au](http://www.magnt.nt.gov.au)

The Telstra Art Award is open to all adult Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and aims to showcase the very best Australian Indigenous art from around the country.

**Media note: For more information contact Apolline Kohen on 8999 8220**

### Image Credits:

**Makinti Napanangka, *Untitled*, Synthetic polymer paint on linen, h 122 x w 137 cm**  
**Gloria Pannka, *West MacDonnell Ranges*, Watercolour on paper, h 75 x w 94 cm and**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments.

