

Media Release:

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Indigenous Art Award Documentary – Second Screening

Following its successful premiere on Southern Cross TV on Saturday, 3 October 2009 the Territory produced documentary *From Dreamtime to Now: Telstra Art Award* will have a repeat screening across the Northern Territory on Southern Cross TV at 5.30pm this Saturday, 17 October 2009.

From the preparation through to the awards ceremony, the documentary takes you behind-the-scenes and centre stage of Australia's most prestigious and longest-running Indigenous Art Award.

Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) Director Anna Malgorzewicz said the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, held annually in Darwin, attracts a great deal of interest locally, interstate and internationally.

"The Telstra Art Award not only provides the opportunity for Indigenous artists to receive recognition for their art, but they also provide the general public with access to an important representative exhibition of contemporary Indigenous art," Ms Malgorzewicz said.

"We're thrilled with the documentary as it will give viewers a unique insight into how the exhibition and awards come together."

Simon Manzie, Director of local Territory production company Simon Says Television, said this is the first time a documentary has been produced solely about the Telstra Art Award.

"If you missed the first screening, or would like to get another look, make sure you tune in this weekend and see the Northern Territory shine in the spotlight as home of the prestigious awards and at the forefront of Indigenous art and culture," Mr Manzie said.

"*From Dreamtime to Now: Telstra Art Award* will also be screened on National Indigenous Television (NITV) in the near future reaching millions of Indigenous audiences across the nation.

"It's fantastic to see the Northern Territory Government engage with the local Territory screen industry to produce the documentary, and we have high hopes of this reaching even more national and international audiences."

From Dreamtime to Now host and local television presenter Sarah Tucker said the documentary offers Territorians an exclusive opportunity to meet the winners, hear about what inspired their works and what it means to them to be part of the awards.

"The documentary also features exclusive interviews with the MAGNT Director, curator, sponsor, judges and artists," Ms Tucker said.

DVD copies of the documentary *From Dreamtime to Now* will be available to purchase from the MAGNT Shop by mid October 2009.

People from around the world have the opportunity to view moving images of this year's artworks and listen to recordings of the story behind the works through a virtual online gallery at www.nt.gov.au/natsiaa.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Anna Malgorzewicz on 8999 8220, Simon Manzie on 8947 3535 and Sarah Tucker on 0488 344 384

Image – Sarah Tucker with *Dinni's Dream Team* by Dinni Kunoth Kemarre, synthetic polymer paint on wood, 26th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award 2009.

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