Media Release

Other side art: Trevor Nickolls, a survey of paintings and drawings 1972–2007

A Generosity of Spirit: Recent Australian Women’s Art from the QUT Art Collection

Opening 22 October, two outstanding exhibitions to conclude the Samstag Museum’s 2010 exhibitions program

For Immediate Release

Other side art is the first museum survey of the work of South Australian Indigenous artist, Trevor Nickolls. Known as ‘the father of urban aboriginal art’, Nickolls, a graduate of the South Australian School of Art, has developed his own iconic language that has influenced and informed subsequent generations of urban Indigenous artists.

This exhibition has for the first time brought together over fifty paintings from public and private collections across Australia. The exhibition curator Michael O’Ferrall has worked with Trevor Nickolls for over three decades, and was the curator of the official Australian Pavilion at the 1990 Venice Biennale, which presented Nickolls’ work alongside Kimberley artist Rover Thomas.

Nickolls’ works reflect his personal experience as a Nunga man and his relationship to land, place and history. These relationships are of universal relevance. They make accessible ideas about nature versus nurture, the psychological and physical self, black and white, ‘insider’ and ‘outsider’ that inform our experience of contemporary life.

A Generosity of Spirit: Recent Australian Women’s Art from the QUT Art Collection is the Samstag Museum’s other latest exhibition and features key works by twenty prominent contemporary Australian women artists including Pat Brassington, Cressida Campbell, Julie Dowling, Marian Drew, Fiona Foley, Janet Laurence, Lindy Lee, Banduk Marika, Gloria Petyarre, Judith Wright and Samstag Scholar Robyn Stacey. Exhibition curator Stephen Rainbird has acquired the works featured in A Generosity of Spirit for the QUT Art Collection over the last four years.
The exhibition also acknowledges the generosity of Queensland University of Technology (QUT) alumnus and benefactor Betty Quelhurst (1919–2008) whose long life was sustained by her commitment to her art. During her later years she turned her attention to philanthropy and became an important supporter of the QUT Art Museum, Brisbane.

Both these exhibitions will be launched on **Saturday 23 October at 3pm** followed by a floor talk by Stephen Rainbird about the exhibition *A Generosity of Spirit* and acquiring works of art for a public collection. On **Saturday 27 November at 3pm** artist Trevor Nickolls will talk about his life and art. All welcome. Bookings essential: telephone 08 8302 0870 or samstagmuseum@unisa.edu.au

*Trevor Nickolls: Other side art and A Generosity of Spirit* both open 22 October and continue until 17 December 2010. Opening hours are **Tuesday to Friday 11–5pm, Saturday and Sunday 2–5pm.** Free Admission.

*Other side art: Trevor Nickolls, a survey of paintings and drawings 1972–2007* is a NETS Victoria touring exhibition developed by the Ian Potter Museum of Art, The University of Melbourne.

*A Generosity of Spirit: Recent Australian Women’s Art from the QUT Art Collection* is a QUT Art Museum touring exhibition.

Interviews with artist Trevor Nickolls and curator Stephen Rainbird are available, along with selected images from both exhibitions.

Education resources have been developed for both exhibitions and are available on the Museum’s website.

For further information contact Erica Green, Director, Samstag Museum of Art
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