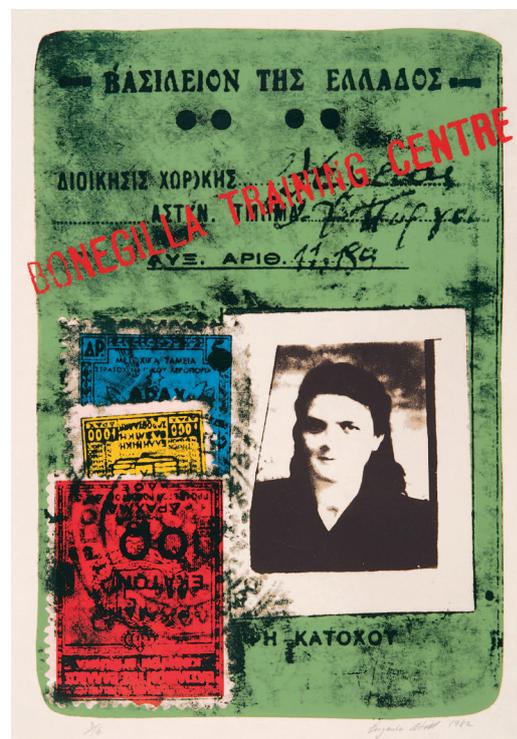


MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MONDAY 7 MAY 2018



HEAD HEAD

Shifting perspectives in Australian portraiture

Flinders University Art Museum farewells the City Gallery with major portraiture exhibition

A compelling exhibition of Australian portraiture showcasing some of the nation's most celebrated artists sees Flinders University Art Museum farewell the City Gallery.

In what is a fitting tribute to the Gallery's commitment to Australian art over its 20-year history, *HEAD-TO-HEAD: shifting perspectives in Australian portraiture* brings together 65 significant works from the Flinders University Art Museum's exceptional collection to explore the evolution of Australian portraiture from the late 19th to the early 21st century.

Featuring painting, printmaking, drawing and photography, *HEAD-TO-HEAD* includes works by renowned artists: Gordon Bennett, Noel Counihan, Nici Cumpston, Julie Dowling, Fiona Foley, Emily Kame Kngwarreye, Ricky Maynard, Tracey Moffatt, Sidney Nolan, John Olsen, Mike Parr, Christian Thompson, Hossein Valamanesh – among others.

Key themes addressed in the exhibition include the representation of Indigenous Australians, first and second generation migrants, and women. The exhibition also looks at the choice of unusual subjects in the depiction of unlikely heroes and everyday Australians, as well as the portrayal of our social and political preoccupations.

These themes bring historically marginal voices to the fore, while revealing a nation coming to terms with its history, inhabitants and ever-changing place in the world.

"In the age of the selfie, HEAD-TO-HEAD illuminates the enduring value of portraiture in understanding how we represent ourselves and others, and grapple with the human condition" says Flinders University Art Museum Director Fiona Salmon.

"Collectively curated by the Art Museum team, it is a show that speaks across generations and cultures about art and life, and represents a powerful denouement to our city presence."

Flinders University City Gallery was first established in Grote Street, Adelaide, in 1997. The Gallery moved to the larger and more prominent location within the State Library of South Australia in 2003. Over this period the Gallery has staged 125 exhibitions, opening its doors to more than half a million visitors.

To ensure Flinders University Art Museum and Gallery remains a leading and progressive exemplar in its field the public facing exhibition program is being strategically relocated to the University's main campus at Bedford Park, where it will build on its important work and connect in new ways to students, staff and the broader communities it serves.

New infrastructure to support the program will ensure Flinders University Art Museum continues to address social, cultural and educational objectives and deliver a fresh and exciting space in which many communities can gather, exchange ideas and meaningfully engage with art.

HEAD-TO-HEAD: shifting perspectives in Australian portraiture will be formally launched on Friday 11 May 2018 at 6pm by Karen Vickery, Director of Learning and Visitor Experience, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra. The show runs until 24 June 2018.

PUBLIC PROGRAM

Saturday 12 May | 2 – 3pm

Floortalk with Celia Dottore, Exhibitions and Public Programs Manager

Flinders University Art Museum

Friday 18 May | 11.30am

Capturing spirit in Indigenous Australian portraiture

Floortalk with South Australian artists, Ali Gumillya Baker and Polly Sumner Dodd

Go to <http://artmuseum.flinders.edu.au/public-programs/>

Flinders University City Gallery

State Library of South Australia

North Terrace | Adelaide

Tue – Fri 11am – 4pm | Sat & Sun 12 – 4pm

artmuseum.flinders.edu.au |   #flindersart

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