

REVEALED EXHIBITION: NEW AND EMERGING WA ABORIGINAL ARTISTS

Statement by Minister for Culture and the Arts

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah — Minister for Culture and the Arts) [2.09 pm]: I would like to inform the house of a significant event I had the pleasure of attending and opening last Friday evening—the tenth anniversary exhibition at the Fremantle Arts Centre, *Revealed Exhibition: New and Emerging WA Aboriginal Artists*. *Revealed* has become Western Australia’s premier annual event for new Aboriginal art. In its 10-year history, the event has featured almost 400 Aboriginal artists from most corners of the state, been experienced by more than 50 000 people, and generated almost \$1.5 million in sales. Although the event has evolved over this 10-year period from its origins at North Metropolitan TAFE, the heart of *Revealed* has not changed. At this heart are the dozens of talented Aboriginal artists who come together each year to show their work in the exhibition, participate in the professional development program and make the Saturday market such an energised gathering. The success of *Revealed* is testament to the extraordinary creativity, cultural strength and generosity of the artists and art centres that have participated in *Revealed*, and public appetite to experience and understand more about the first people to live in Western Australia.

In addition to the exhibition featuring approximately 80 emerging artists from every region of the state, the *Revealed* program included a public symposium, Artists in Conversation, and the ever-popular marketplace event. In 2017, *Revealed* was experienced by 14 000 people and generated \$438 000 in sales. *Revealed* highlights that Aboriginal culture is a treasured and unique part of Western Australia, setting this place apart from anywhere else in the world. As home to one of the oldest living cultures on the planet, it is something that this government embraces as a vital part of our Western Australian story. Demonstrating the importance of Aboriginal culture to our identity as a state and the opportunity it presents for us to showcase its uniqueness, sharing this story with visitors is a major part of our cultural tourism offering. With paintings, prints, carvings, photography, textiles, video, weaving and more, the *Revealed* exhibition presents the work of artists from the state’s very remote areas, alongside those from regional centres and the metropolitan area. The exhibition continues at the Fremantle Arts Centre until Sunday, 20 April, with all works available for sale. I urge members to visit this wonderful exhibition. *Revealed* is the product of a successful partnership between state, commonwealth and local government. Special acknowledgement must go to the Fremantle Arts Centre for working with the artists and art centres to create a beautiful and captivating celebration of contemporary Aboriginal visual arts and culture. I congratulate the Fremantle Arts Centre and its partners on a successful *Revealed* for 2018.