



Don Harwin

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Resources
Minister for Energy and Utilities
Minister for the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART SERIES EXHIBITIONS UNVEILED

An exhibition of European modern masters including Matisse, Picasso, Kandinsky and Cézanne will be presented alongside a major retrospective of internationally renowned South African photographer David Goldblatt when the Sydney International Art Series returns for its 2018-2019 season.

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin today announced the Australian-exclusive exhibitions *Modern masters from the Hermitage* and *David Goldblatt*.

“The Sydney International Art Series, an initiative of the NSW Government via Destination NSW, brings the world’s most outstanding art exclusively to Sydney through two blockbuster exhibitions at the Art Gallery of New South Wales and Museum of Contemporary Art Australia,” Mr Harwin said.

“The Sydney International Art Series is a major visitor drawcard for our State. Since its inception in 2010, the annual exhibitions at the Art Gallery of New South Wales and Museum of Contemporary Art Australia have generated more than \$134 million in overnight visitor expenditure for NSW and attracted more than 1.8 million attendees.”

Art Gallery of New South Wales Director, Dr Michael Brand, a member of the International Advisory Board of the State Hermitage Museum created in 1994 on the initiative of UNESCO, said highlights of the exhibition include Cézanne’s *Great pine near Aix*, 1895/97; Picasso’s *Woman with a fan*, 1908; Gauguin’s *Month of Mary* 1899; Matisse’s *Nymph and Satyr* 1908; Kandinsky’s *Landscape* 1913 and Malevich’s *Black Square*.

“An era of extraordinary change in the early 20th Century saw modernists throughout Europe freeing themselves from tradition and imagining life in new ways. The work of these pioneers still resonates today,” Dr Brand said.

With a career spanning seven decades, photographer David Goldblatt is one of the greatest living photographers of our time, noted for his portrayal of South Africa during the rise and dismantling of Apartheid. With their intense human focus, his photographs offer powerful reflection and insight into South Africa’s turbulent history.

Museum of Contemporary Art Australia Director, Elizabeth Ann Macgregor OBE, said, “David Goldblatt is a living legend of photography, and this exhibition is highly appropriate for the Sydney International Art Series, which brings the world’s most

acclaimed international artists to Sydney. Visitors will discover an extraordinary artist whose documentary eye has not strayed from the complexities of his country of birth, but resonates with other global histories (including Australia's) through striking and memorable photographs."

Modern masters from the Hermitage is at the Art Gallery of New South Wales from 13 October 2018 until 3 March 2019. *David Goldblatt* is at the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia from 19 October 2018 until 3 March 2019.

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