



## AUSTRALIAN COMMERCIAL GALLERIES ASSOCIATION

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **LABOR POLICY ON THE ARTS: “NEW DIRECTIONS FOR THE ARTS”**

The Australian Commercial Galleries Association (ACGA) welcomes the release of Labor’s Policy on the Arts: New Directions for the Arts”.

In particular, the ACGA welcomes the pledged support for Australian artists nationally and internationally. Guy Abrahams, National President of the ACGA said: “It is great to see the political parties focusing on issues confronting artists, and acknowledging the important contribution the arts have for the social, economic and cultural life of Australians. The Australian Commercial Galleries Association has as one of its central tenets the ethical representation of Australian artists, and we look forward to working with the political parties in developing and implementing policy that furthers the opportunities for and livelihood of Australian artists nationally and internationally.”

The ACGA also welcomes the focus on arts education. “Ensuring young Australians have access to arts education is vital to ensuring the health and diversity of our creative community, including the visual arts”, said Mr Abrahams.

The ACGA notes Labor’s commitment to Indigenous artists. The ACGA is currently working with and is represented on the Reference Group for the development of an Indigenous Australian Art Commercial Code of Conduct. The ACGA is committed to working on the issues faced by the Indigenous art market through that process.

The ACGA notes Labor’s pledge to introduce a resale royalty scheme for the visual arts. The ACGA will need to examine the detail of this proposal before commenting.

The ACGA would like to see Labor specify the level of financial commitment in will direct to the each of the initiatives pledged in this policy.

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