



Embargoed until 6.30pm, Thursday 7 February

Eco-Art: GreenGallery Guide launch

The Australian art community is showing its eco-sensibility through the launch of the GreenGallery Guide, a collaboration between the Australian Commercial Galleries Association (ACGA) and the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF), on 7 February.

The GreenGallery Guide will help gallery owners and managers make their workplaces more sustainable and environmentally friendly.

Designed to be simple and easy to use, the GreenGallery Guide helps gallery owners and managers identify simple changes that will save energy and water, reduce waste and help artists and clients live more sustainable and healthy lives.

“The Australian Conservation Foundation is pleased to partner with peak bodies such as the Australian Commercial Galleries Association to affect positive environmental outcomes and we hope the GreenGallery Guide does just that,” said ACF Executive Director Don Henry.

Inspired by the GreenClinic Guide, developed by ACF and Doctors for the Environment, Mr Guy Abrahams, National President of the ACGA and a long time supporter of ACF, was keen to encourage members of the ACGA to do their bit for the environment.

“The ACGA has taken the lead in environmental practices to provide a starting point for others in the arts industry to follow. We are hoping this will be taken up by the commercial and public gallery sphere across Australia,” Mr Abrahams said.

“It is wonderful to be able to assist ACGA members to reduce their environmental impact. We hope this is the start of things to come and that we can work with the broader arts community on future initiatives,” said Phoebe Dunn, ACGA Chief Executive Officer.

The GreenGallery Guide will be launched in conjunction with the auction of ACF’s collection, *Art and Artefacts*. This prized collection features ACF’s donated works documenting 40 years of environmental campaigning in Australia.

Art and Artefacts includes paintings, drawings, cartoons, prints, photographs and postcards relating to ACF’s various campaigns to protect, restore and sustain Australia’s environment.

A lack of hanging space in ACF's open plan green office means there isn't space for the extensive art collection. ACF wants the art to have a continuing life of inspiring viewers in other collections.

What: GreenGallery Guide launch and ACF art auction

When: Auction commences at 6.30pm, Thursday 7 February 2008

Where: Christine Abrahams Gallery, 27 Gipps St, Richmond, 3121

Who: ACGA National President Guy Abrahams and ACF Executive Director Don Henry will speak at the event.

Copies of the GreenGallery Guide can be downloaded from the ACGA website www.acga.com.au and the ACF website www.acfonline.org.au/greengallery

For further information on the Guide or for any queries, please contact greengallery@acfonline.org.au or info@acga.com.au

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