

MEDIA RELEASE
NEW BOARD APPOINTMENTS
27 NOVEMBER 2008

At its Annual General Meeting and National Board meetings held on Monday 24 November 2008, the Australian Commercial Galleries Association (ACGA) made the following appointments to its National Board:

Beverly Knight	National President
James Makin	VIC TAS Chapter Chair and Secretary
Stella Downer	NSW ACT Chapter Chair
Arthur Roe	National Board member and Treasurer.

The National Board also confirms the following reappointments:

Bruce Heiser	Queensland Chapter Chair
Diane Mossenson	Western Australian Chapter Chair
Karen Brown	SA NT Chapter Chair.

National President of the ACGA, Ms Beverly Knight, said: ‘I am extremely pleased to be able to represent the ACGA in this milestone year. The many issues confronting our industry and the current financial climate pose many challenges but also provide greater opportunities to impact in a positive sense on the lives our members, their gallery staff, and the artists they represent, as well as the visual arts in Australia more broadly.’

‘The ACGA has an exciting program for 2009, including a broad range of projects and education initiatives to benefit our members, artists, art collector and art lovers and the Australian arts industry. We are looking forward to formally announcing a number of these in early 2009.’

‘The issues surrounding the current Australia Council Indigenous Code of Conduct for the art industry and also the recently introduced Federal Government Bill for resale royalties on art sales are important issues for consideration for our artists and gallerists, and we will continue to represent our members and their artists in that regard.’

Chief Executive Officer, Phoebe Dunn said: ‘I would like to congratulate all incoming board members on their appointments, and thank those who are continuing on the Board and those who are retiring, namely Martin Beaver (former NSW | ACT Chair) and Guy Abrahams (Immediate Past President).

‘Guy Abrahams has decided to close his gallery after 22 years as Director of Christine Abrahams Gallery and pursue other passions. I would like to express my heartfelt

thanks and deep gratitude to Guy for his support for me and for his commitment to the Association. Guy's energy, enthusiasm and integrity within the art world will be sorely missed, and his legacy and that of his mother, Christine Abrahams, will endure for many years to come. On behalf of all members, thank you for your wonderful and generous contribution to the ACGA, and we wish you all the best for the future.'

Beverly Knight said: 'Guy's departure ends a significant family involvement in the ACGA and the Australian art scene spanning more than 30 years. Guy's mother, Christine Abrahams, was my mentor when we commenced Alcaston Gallery 20 years ago. She supported me in my pursuit of exhibiting great Indigenous Australian artists. All the ACGA members wish Guy all the very best and sincerely thank him for all his great efforts in the last 22 years.'

The ACGA is committed to ethical representation of living Australian artists.

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NSW | ACT Chair
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