

The logo for the Portia Geach Memorial Award 2011. It features the name "Portia Geach" in a white, elegant cursive script at the top. Below it, the words "MEMORIAL AWARD 2011" are written in a clean, white, sans-serif, all-caps font. The entire logo is centered on a solid black rectangular background.

Portia Geach  
MEMORIAL AWARD 2011

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Tuesday 30 August 2011**

### **2011 PORTIA GEACH MEMORIAL AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED**

#### *51 ARTWORKS CONTEND FOR LEADING PORTRAITURE PRIZE*

The Trust Company, trustee of Australia's most significant prize for female artists — the Portia Geach Memorial Award – announces today the artworks selected to exhibit at this year's award exhibition, opening on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2011.

Australia's most prestigious award for female artists, the Portia Geach Memorial Award has been awarded since 1965 after being established by Florence Kate Geach in memory of her sister, artist Portia Geach.

This year's exhibition will feature 51 portraits "painted from life of some man or woman distinguished in Art, Letters and Sciences", by 50 artists, several of which are previous Portia Geach finalists. This year's portrait subjects also include several prominent Australian identities, including Rebecca Gibney, Glen Boss, The Hon Pru Goward MP and retired High Court Judge Michael Kirby AC CMG.

"The works selected for inclusion in the 2011 Portia Geach Memorial Award represent the wide diversity of approach to portraiture from traditional depictions to contemporary representations of the sitters. The judges responded positively to the works that demonstrated real sincerity and connection to the subject, however painterly integrity was of the utmost concern" said Jane Watters, speaking on behalf of the 2011 judging panel.

The finalists of the 2011 Portia Geach Memorial Award are:

<b>Artist</b>	<b>Title of Artwork</b>	<b>Portrait Subject</b>
Deborah Angus	<i>Glen Boss</i>	Glen Boss
Wendy Arnold	<i>Topsy-Turvy</i>	Self portrait
Melissa Bates	<i>Designer in Contemplation</i>	Ilia Saiki Chidzey
Carole Best	<i>Presidential man - The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG</i>	The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG
Wendy Bills	<i>'Kita and 'The Birds' at Terrigal Skillion'</i>	Kita Kerford
Joanna Braithwaite	<i>Happy Hour</i>	Self portrait
Krista Brennan	<i>Carpe Diem</i>	Guy Troughton
Cynthia Breusch	<i>Portrait of Christopher McVinish, Artist</i>	Christopher McVinish
Ellie Bunt	<i>Ellie</i>	Self portrait
Deidre But-Husaim	<i>Still Life (5 days)</i>	Nigel Koop, Sera Waters, Ryan Waters, Bridget Currie & Daniel Torchio
Filippa Buttitta	<i>The Sporting Spillane (Portrait of Debbie Spillane)</i>	Debbie Spillane
Fran Callen	<i>Drawing Chrissy Writing Lyrics</i>	Chrissy Amphlett
Sophie Cape	<i>Master and Commander</i>	Admiral Paul Watson
Ann Cape	<i>Sophie Cape</i>	Sophie Cape
Louisa Chan	<i>Romancing the three kingdoms</i>	Self portrait
Gaye Chapman	<i>Bloodshot Nocturne: me &amp; my talismans staring into a brown study</i>	Self portrait
Ah Too Chew	<i>Benedicta</i>	Benedicta Genses

Laura Courtney	<i>self portrait - after Jan Van Eyck 'Man in Turban'</i>	Self portrait
Mary Crock	<i>Meditator, Mediator, Blind Man with a Vision</i>	Professor Ron McCallum AO
Bridget Dolan	<i>Can Can</i>	Bridget Dolan
Yvonne East	<i>Food, Sex and Decay</i>	Yvonne East
Nitza Flantz	<i>Immigrant Affinities</i>	Nitza Flantz & Richard Flantz
Jennifer Gabbay	<i>Fragments of Myself</i>	Self portrait
Jessica Geron	<i>Our Time</i>	Self portrait
Isabel Gomez	<i>John Morris and Maggie</i>	Mr John Morris
Marilyn Hickey	<i>Self portrait</i>	Self portrait
Judy Hungerford	<i>The Story Teller.</i>	Self portrait
Laura Jones	<i>Self Portrait (The Track)</i>	Self portrait
Kathrin Longhurst	<i>Self Portrait as Poster Girl</i>	Self portrait
Alison Mackay	<i>From the Waist Up</i>	Richard Morecroft
Mahala May Magins	<i>Contemplating Two, Self-Portrait Mahala May Magins</i>	Self portrait
Marie Mansfield	<i>Francis Giacco</i>	Francis Giacco
Morna McIlraith	<i>"Cousin"</i>	Vanessa Jeavons
Kerry McInnis	<i>Ann Thomson</i>	Ann Thomson
Carolyn McKay	<i>Captive Text</i>	Brian Joyce
Michelle Dawson	<i>Sparrow Man</i>	Rene Bolten
Michelle Dawson	<i>The Visitation</i>	Self portrait

Wendy Murray	<i>Marie Cook Meditating</i>	Marie Cook
Christine O'Hagan	<i>Rebecca Gibney</i>	Rebecca Gibney
Amanda Penrose Hart	<i>Ego Vobis Valedico</i>	The Hon. Roderick Pitt Meagher
Judi Power-Thomson	<i>Trusted Friend</i>	The Hon Prue Goward MP
Donna Rankin	<i>Desire The Horse</i>	Holly Rankin
Sally Ross	<i>Nell</i>	Nell
Robyn Stanton Werkhoven	<i>Jenny Kee with Waratahs</i>	Jenny Kee
Xenia Stefanescu	<i>Self portrait</i>	Self portrait
Kate Stevens	<i>Indian Dream</i>	Willy Bernardoff
Victoria Watts	<i>Senex, a portrait of my Father</i>	Arthur John Watts
Sally West	<i>Talking Rabbitohs and Rosalie Gascoigne with Reg Richardson</i>	Reg Richardson
Maryanne Wick	<i>Self Portrait (Reflection of a Night Painter)</i>	Self portrait
Jan Williamson	<i>Gladdy Kemarre - Utopia</i>	Gladdy Kemarre
Michelle Zuccolo	<i>Self Portrait</i>	Self portrait

The 2011 judging panel includes: Jane Watters, Director of National Trust S.H Ervin Gallery, Eleonora Trigboff, Publisher / Editor of *Art and Australia*; and John Beard, renowned Australian artist.

The winner of the 2010 Portia Geach Memorial Award was Prudence Flint's *Scrambled Eggs*.

The winner of the 2011 prize will be announced on Thursday 22nd September 2011 and awarded \$18,000.

**2011 EXHIBITION PUBLIC VIEWING: 23<sup>rd</sup> September – 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2011**

**Location:** S.H. Ervin Gallery, Watson Road, Observatory Hill, The Rocks, Sydney

**Gallery Hours:** Tuesday – Sunday: 11.00am – 5.00pm

The Trust Company *as Trustee*

**Entry Fees:** \$7 adults, \$5 concession and \$4 National Trust members

In a first for the prize, the exhibition will tour to the Tweed River Art Gallery, Murwillumbah next year from 3 February to 18 March, 2012.

For more information relating to The Trust Company and the Portia Geach Memorial Award, please visit The Trust Company website: [www.thetrustcompany.com.au](http://www.thetrustcompany.com.au) and [www.nationaltrust.com.au](http://www.nationaltrust.com.au)

**-ENDS-**

For more information , interviews or images, please contact Burson-Marsteller:

Dan Silburn 02 9928 1524 / 0430 190 755 [dan.silburn@bm.com](mailto:dan.silburn@bm.com)

Amy Whittaker 02 9928 1522 / 0410 932 379 [amy.whittaker@bm.com](mailto:amy.whittaker@bm.com)

#### **About the Portia Geach Memorial Award:**

The Portia Geach Memorial Award was established by Florence Kate Geach in memory of her sister, artist Portia Geach, who spent much of her life campaigning for the rights of women in Australia and was determined to make a living from painting. Geach was widely acclaimed as a leading artist and was a frequent commentator in the national media – making her an iconic figure in the Australian arts community.

The Portia Geach Memorial Award is awarded by The Trust Company as trustee, to the entry with the highest artistic merit.

#### **About The Trust Company:**

The Trust Company is one of Australia's longest serving financial services companies with over 125 years of experience. The Trust Company provides a wide range of financial services including:

- Personal Services offering Wealth Transfer Planning, Lifestyle Care, Health & Personal Injury services, Funds Management, Financial Planning, Estates & Trusts administration to intermediaries and the wider retail market.
- Corporate Services offering Property & Infrastructure Custody services, Responsible Entity services, Superannuation Compliance & Trustee services, Structured Finance Trustee services and REIT Trustee services to institutions.
- Philanthropy Services include setting up charitable structures, advice on taxation and charitable vehicles, funds management and assistance selecting charitable projects.

The Trust Company has offices throughout Australia and Singapore with over 230 employees and a market capitalisation of more than AUD160 million. The Trust Company has also recently acquired The New Zealand Guardian Trust Company Limited, which significantly expands the company's presence in the Asia-Pacific Region.