

Troy Grant MP

Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing
Minister for the Arts



Katrina Hodgkinson MP

Minister for Primary Industries
Assistant Minister for Tourism and Major Events

MEDIA RELEASE

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POP ART BLOCKBUSTER AND EXTRAORDINARY PORTAITS AT THE SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART SERIES

Minister for the Arts Troy Grant and Assistant Minister for Tourism and Major Events Katrina Hodgkinson today launched the fifth annual Sydney International Art Series, which includes works from the giants of pop art and portraiture from one of America's most loved visual artists.

Minister for the Arts Troy Grant said Sydney's pre-eminent art museums, the Art Gallery of New South Wales and the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, will present two inspired exhibitions exclusive to Sydney for this year's Arts Series.

"Pop to popism at the Art Gallery of New South Wales will run from 1 November 2014 to 1 March 2015 and Chuck Close: Prints, process and collaboration at the Museum of Contemporary Art runs from 20 November 2014 to 15 March 2015," Mr Grant said.

"Australian pop artists will be shown alongside the giants of pop art through *Pop to popism*, while one of America's most loved visual artists, Chuck Close, will also be exhibited exclusively in Sydney.

"The NSW Government is proud to support the Sydney International Art Series created by our tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW, which brings the world's most outstanding exhibitions to Sydney," Mr Grant said.

Ms Hodgkinson said securing these outstanding exhibitions through the Sydney International Art Series enhances Sydney's reputation as the cultural tourism hub of Australia.

"Since it was first held in 2010 more than one million people have attended Sydney International Art Series exhibitions at the Art Gallery of New South Wales and the Museum of Contemporary Art, generating more than \$80 million in visitor spend," Ms Hodgkinson said.

"The Sydney International Art Series also helps to enrich the cultural fabric of NSW and is one of the many fantastic annual events held in our State, including Vivid Sydney, the Sydney Festival and the ARIA awards."

Tickets for this year's Sydney International Art Series are now on sale. A special Sydney International Art Pass is also available and provides discounted entry to both exhibitions.

Visit www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au or www.mca.com.au to purchase tickets.

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