Public Art to Make a Big Impression on Waterfront

Chief Minister Clare Martin said a group of Indigenous Territory artists would be returning tomorrow from Brisbane, where they had been to workshops to develop their skills in creating public art as part of the Darwin Waterfront project.

Ms Martin said the Waterfront Project would feature works of public art and was also supporting local artists.

“This support includes funding for twelve local Indigenous artists to attend workshops to develop their public art skills,” she said.

“This in turn will increase the capacity of our artists to produce public art for the Waterfront and sites throughout the Territory.

“The program of workshops has grown out of the public art commissioning process at the Darwin Waterfront and has been supported by the NT Government and the Toga Group.”

Ms Martin also announced today that two artists had been commissioned to further develop their public art ideas for the Waterfront.

“This commissioning is a significant milestone highlighting the important role public art will play at the Waterfront,” she said.

“We want public art to help provide an identity and a sense of place for what will be one of the most prominent parts of our City.”

Internationally renowned artist Dadang Christanto who spent considerable time in Darwin during the 1990s, had been commissioned to create the key public art piece at the Darwin Waterfront entrance between the hotels and the residential part of the development.

Local jewellery artist Katrina Tyler will create another significant public art piece which will be adjacent to the convention centre entrance.
The artists will now move from the concept to the design development stage.

Public art will be a key feature of the Waterfront precinct with $1.5 million being invested in Stage One.

This is being jointly funded by the NT Government and the Toga Group, the hospitality and residential developer, who has agreed to contribute at least one per cent of construction costs towards public art.

Executive Chairman of the Toga Group Ervin Vidor said his company was committed to promoting and developing the unique qualities of Northern Territory artists as well as incorporating Indigenous Public Art at the Darwin Waterfront.

Further details on public art is available at www.darwincitywaterfront/togart.com.au

For further information about the artists contact Helen McGlashan 0417 873 410.

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