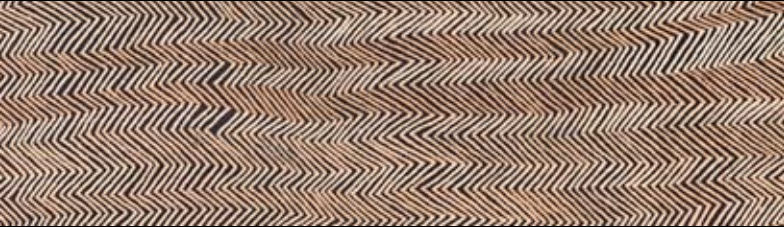


# Masterpieces for the Nation Fund 2008



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(from left)

William Robinson *Creation landscape – fountains of the earth* 2002 oil on linen 167.5 x 488 cm

WC Piquenit *Near Liverpool, New South Wales* c. 1908 oil on canvas 74.2 x 125.0 cm

Sydney Long *Flamingoes* c. 1905–06 oil on canvas 30.6 x 61.0 cm Reproduced with the kind permission of the Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia

Jeffrey Smart *Lovers by house* 1956 oil on board 30.5 x 38.0 cm © Jeffrey Smart

Rajasthan, India *Festival of the cattle [Gopashtami]* 19th century opaque watercolour on cotton 223.0 x 220.0 cm

All works purchased with the assistance of the Masterpieces for the Nation Fund

Since it was initiated in 2003, the Masterpieces for the Nation Fund has assisted the Gallery to acquire five significant works of art for the national collection: William Robinson's *Creation landscape – fountains of the earth* 2002, WC Piquenit's *Near Liverpool, New South Wales* c. 1908, Sydney Long's *Flamingoes* c. 1905–06, Jeffrey Smart's *Lovers by house* 1956 and *Festival of the cattle [Gopashtami]*, a nineteenth-century Indian *pichhavai*.

This year we are again offering donors the choice of two works: Indigenous Australian artist Doreen Reid Nakamarra's *Untitled* 2007 and *Autumn moon festival [Sharad Purnima]*, a eighteenth-century Indian *pichhavai*.





**Doreen Reid Nakamarra** *Untitled*

Doreen Reid Nakamarra is a young Pintupi/Ngaatjatjarra artist with an extraordinary vision of her country. Her use of contrasting colour, tone and line take you on a virtual journey across her traditional country. Her expert use of zigzags of varying lengths give the sense of movement and show the *tali* (sand hills) around Marrapinti, a significant rock hole site to Nakamarra.

Nakamarra was one of thirty Indigenous artists whose work was featured in *Culture Warriors: National Indigenous Art Triennial*. This work was a particular highlight for many visitors to the exhibition. It was displayed on a plinth on the ground and gave a true sense of the shifting nature of Nakamarra's land. *Untitled* will be a valuable and significant addition to the Gallery's collection of Ngaatjatjarra and Pintupi artists works.

**Doreen Reid Nakamarra** *Untitled* 2007 synthetic polymer paint on canvas 183.0 x 244.0 cm © Doreen Reid Nakamarra, courtesy Papunya Tula Artists



*Autumn moon festival [Sharad Purnima]*

Finely painted Indian *pichhavai* (shrine hangings), particularly those depicting Krishna, have become a focus of the Gallery's Asian art collection. This large *pichhavai* was a backdrop for a sumptuous Sharad Purnima (autumn moon festival) shrine. Celebrating Krishna's legendary dance with the *gopis* (milkmaids), the festival is an important ceremony for the Vallabha Hindu sect. An avatar of Vishnu, Krishna grew up in a village in India and was adored for his mischievous personality and miraculous deeds. Flamboyantly costumed Krishna appears here with arm raised, flanked by adoring *gopis*. The imagery refers to the lifting of Mount Govardhana and the dance of love. The child Krishna tricked the rain god Indra, who retaliated with a great storm. Krishna then lifted the mountain to shelter his cows and herders. In another legend, Krishna enticed the *gopis* to dance during the autumn full moon and magically multiplied himself to dance simultaneously with each enthralled woman. An insight into Vallabha ritual, the border comprises scenes of seasonal Krishna festivals.

**Rajasthan, India** *Autumn moon festival [Sharad Purnima]*; shrine hanging [*pichhavai*] 18th century watercolour and gold on cotton 220.0 x 170.0 cm



## Masterpieces for the Nation Fund 2008

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### Acknowledgment:

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### I would like my donation to go towards the purchase of: (please tick)

Doreen Reid Nakamarra *Untitled* 2007

Rajasthan, India *Autumn moon festival [Sharad Purnima]* 18th century

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I enclose a cheque made out to the **National Gallery of Australia Foundation** for the amount indicated above.

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### Thank you for supporting the National Gallery of Australia

The information you are asked to provide to the Gallery is personal information and is protected by the *Privacy Act 1988*.

# Masterpieces for the Nation Fund 2008

## Donation form

Please return your donation and this form to the following address (no stamp required):

National Gallery of Australia Foundation  
Reply Paid 1150  
Canberra ACT 2601

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