

PRESS RELEASE

Unique art exhibition to showcase in Mount Isa

Mount Isa, 7 September 2012

Mount Isa is set to host to a marvellous selection of unique paintings direct from the 2012 Xstrata Percival Portrait Award held recently in Townsville.

178 portraits were entered into the 2012 awards and for the first time a key selection (22) will travel outside of Townsville and be showcased at the Mount Isa Civic Centre over two weeks.

A highlight of the travelling exhibition will be the winning entry by Melbourne artist Kevin Lincoln, titled Self Portrait, which took out the elusive \$40,000 prize.

Now this popular biennial event is set to grow, travelling to Mount Isa and sharing with residents the powerful stories the paintings embody.

Steve de Kruijff, Chief Operation Officer Xstrata Copper North Queensland will have the honour of officially opening the exhibit on Friday 7 September at the Mount Isa Civic Centre.

"For the first time, a component of the exhibition will tour outside of Townsville, here to Mount Isa, for the benefit of the Mount Isa community," said Steve.

"The arts are a powerful vehicle for communication, a way to express visions that are beyond the capacity of words," he said.

"We have been involved with the Xstrata Percival Portrait Award from the beginning and have proudly watched as the event continues to grow in stature and prize money encouraging the development of local art, cultural pride and self expression."

"The event has received overwhelming endorsement from the Townsville community and we are sure the Mount Isa community will do the same."

Background:

The Perc Tucker Regional Gallery located in Townsville's CBD is recognised as north Queensland's premier art gallery and currently has a collection of over 2000 artworks.

The gallery's focus is on works that relate to north Queensland and encompasses contemporary art of tropical Queensland, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, contemporary art from Papua New Guinea, popular art, and Ephemera.

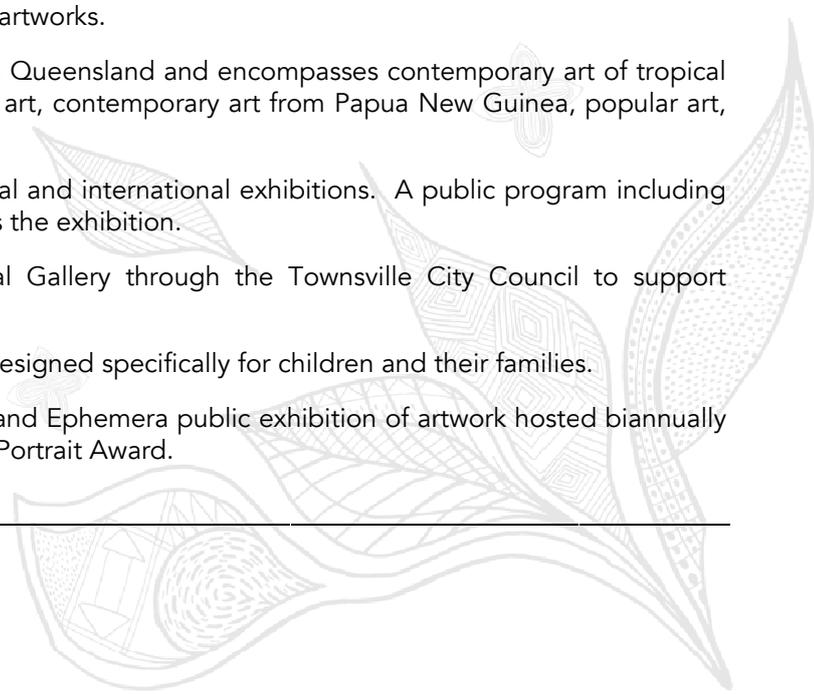
The gallery has a diverse program of local, national and international exhibitions. A public program including floor talks, lectures and performance complements the exhibition.

Xstrata has partnered with Perc Tucker Regional Gallery through the Townsville City Council to support education through art.

Each year the partnership supports an exhibition designed specifically for children and their families.

During 2011 the partnership also included the Strand Ephemera public exhibition of artwork hosted biannually on the Strand, and in 2012 the renowned Percival Portrait Award.

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Neither the content of the company's website nor the content of any other website accessible from hyperlinks on the company's website is incorporated into, or forms part of, this announcement

Xstrata contacts:

Melissa Trim

Telephone +61 7 4744 2965
Mobile +61 423 849 009
Email mtrim@xstrata.com.au

Avril Plath

Telephone +61 7 4781 8222
Mobile +61 417 784 104
Email aplath@xstratacopper.com.au

www.xstratacommunity.com.au

Notes to editors

About Xstrata plc

We are a major producer of a range of vital commodities used in everything from constructing buildings and delivering electricity, to developing jet engines and mobile phones. We are one of the top five global producers of copper, thermal and metallurgical coal, ferrochrome, zinc and nickel and we also produce silver, lead, platinum, gold, cobalt and vanadium.

Founded in 2002 and headquartered in Switzerland, we operate in over 20 countries and employ over 70,000 people at more than 100 operations and projects around the world. We work in a responsible and sustainable way, with an entrepreneurial spirit and dynamic approach. For more information, visit www.xstrata.com

About Xstrata Copper

We are the fourth largest global copper producer and one of the world's largest producers of smelter, refined and recycled copper, including from third party materials.

The copper we produce is essential to our modern society, being used extensively in electronic, consumer and building products, and with its use in green-technologies, anti-microbial applications and ability to be recycled, it is playing a vital role in our sustainable future.

Headquartered in Brisbane, Australia, we have operations and projects in eight countries and employ over 20,000 people. We play an essential role in the communities in which we live and work, by providing jobs, training, infrastructure, income for suppliers and support for social development. For more information, visit www.xstratacopper.com

About Xstrata Zinc

Headquartered in Madrid, Spain, Xstrata Zinc is one of the world's largest producers of zinc and one of the commodity business units within the major global diversified mining group Xstrata plc. Xstrata's zinc and lead operations and exploration projects are located in Australia, Canada, Germany, Peru, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Xstrata Zinc's operations in Spain comprise the San Juan de Nieva zinc smelter and the Arnao zinc semis plant in Asturias, and the Hinojedo roasting plant in Cantabria.

In Australia, operations comprise: the Mount Isa, George Fisher underground, Handlebar Hill open cut and Black Star open cut zinc-lead mines, zinc-lead concentrator, lead smelter and Bowen Coke Works in north Queensland; the McArthur River open pit zinc-lead mine, processing and loading facility in the Northern Territory; and the Lady Loretta mine in north-west Queensland.

In Canada, operations and exploration projects include the Brunswick zinc-lead mine and lead smelter in New Brunswick; 25% of the CEZ zinc smelter near Montreal; and the Perseverance zinc deposit in Quebec.

Xstrata Zinc also operates the Nordenham zinc smelter in northern Germany; the Northfleet lead refinery in the United Kingdom; and owns 33.75% of the Antamina mine in Peru.

Around half of all zinc currently consumed is used for galvanizing steel, which is an environmentally friendly method of protecting steel against corrosion. Zinc also finds application in the manufacture of die-cast alloys, brass and the production of zinc oxides and chemicals.