

Galleries, Museums & Climate Change

Energy efficiency, climate change, sustainability and culture come together in an industry seminar being presented by **Museum & Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ)** on Wednesday 13 November 2013 at the University of Queensland Art Museum.

International keynote speaker, Judith Nesbitt, Head of National and International Partnerships, Tate, United Kingdom, will lead the discussion, speaking on the innovative work of this international cultural institution to reduce its carbon emissions and embed environmental sustainability across all areas of the organisation's policy and practice. This includes building and exhibition design, through to the Tate's catering and retail outlets.

M&GSQ Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said today,

"We are delighted to have **Judith Nesbitt** as our International keynote speaker for this event. Judith **leads the Tate's Sustainability Task Force** and works with colleagues across each of the Tate's four gallery sites **to improve its energy efficiency and sustainability**. The Tate's work in this area has achieved great recognition, including being awarded the Carbon Trust Standard, Green Tourism Business Scheme gold award (Tate Liverpool) and the Green500 Platinum Award in the United Kingdom."

"The **seminar looks at new approaches to environmental collection management protocols, lighting and sustainability**. It also looks at ways in which our sector can **educate and engage our audiences in issues of environmental sustainability and energy efficiency**."

Other speakers include:

- **Emrah Baki Ulas**, Associate, Steensen-Varming, and co-author of *The Technical Industry Report on Museum and Gallery Lighting and Air Conditioning* (2011), speaking on future options for economically and environmentally sustainable methods of display environments, preservation and storage of art and cultural material; and
- **Dr Laura Fisher**, Research team member, National Institute for Experimental Arts, CoFA, University of NSW, speaking on the *Curating Cities* project and how the arts can generate environmentally beneficial behaviour change and influence the development of green infrastructure in urban environments.

ABC Radio National Weekend Arts presenter, **Sarah Kanowski**, will moderate a panel discussion with the speakers and audience.

Following the seminar **Fiona Hall, Janet Laurence** and **Caroline Rothwell** will discuss their work on display in the University of Queensland Art Museum exhibition. The artists will talk about how they make visible the interconnections between nature and culture, and elaborate the devastating impact of human action on the environment.

Judith Nesbitt's visit to Australia is co-hosted by the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council and the project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

The Energy Efficiency component of this activity received funding from the Department of Industry as part of the Energy Efficiency Information Grants Program.

MEDIA RELEASE

M&GSQ Annual Seminar is presented in partnership with University of Queensland Art Museum and The University of Queensland Museum Studies Program.

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