

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Public invited to official opening of Nolan exhibition

The official opening of the Sidney Nolan Gallipoli series exhibition will be held tomorrow night from 5pm at the UTAS Academy Gallery at Inveresk.

The Australian War Memorial has loaned the series, which consists of more than 80 works, to UTAS; the only Tasmanian venue to host the national touring exhibition.

The series will be open to the public at the Academy Gallery until mid-October.

Australian War Memorial head of art Lola Wilkins will deliver a talk on the exhibition, starting at 5:15pm tomorrow at the Academy Gallery, Inveresk.

The exhibition is of Nolan's least-known work; paintings on the Gallipoli theme produced over 22 years from 1956.

The works show the development in Nolan's view of war, from the heroic, based on Greek myths and legends, to the realistic view of bloody battlefield scenes, to the finality of his last work in crayon – a deathly skull in a slouch hat.

While the paintings are all on the theme of war they certainly are not devoid of emotion; there is humour and fun as well as pathos, horror and tragedy.

Particularly moving is the Diptych: the two largest works of the exhibition depicting the drowning death of Nolan's brother Raymond at the end of the war.

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