



MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Peter Garrett MP

Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts

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RUPERT MYER AM REAPPOINTED TO NGA COUNCIL

The Minister for the Arts, Peter Garrett, today announced the reappointment of Mr Rupert Myer AM as part-time Chair of the Council of the National Gallery of Australia (NGA) for a further three years.

“I am delighted that Rupert Myer AM has agreed to serve as Chair of the National Gallery of Australia for another term.

“Since he was first appointed in 2003 Mr Myer has brought considerable business skill to the council and has been a tireless promoter of the gallery,” Mr Garrett said.

“The NGA recently completed its 25th anniversary celebration, and one of the highlights was achieving the target of \$25 million in donations for the year.

“Mr Myer has made an immense contribution during his time at the gallery and I look forward to working with him for another term as Chair. The NGA is one of our most important cultural institutions and the ongoing leadership of Mr Myer will ensure it continues to flourish.”

Mr Myer, who is also a board member on the National Gallery of Australia Foundation, was also instrumental in gaining funding for the gallery’s ‘new look’ expansion which commenced in 2006.

“This much-needed expansion will enhance the collection display space, particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, and improve the entry facilities and visitor amenities,” said Mr Garrett.

Mr Myer’s contribution to the community encompasses a broad range of interests, including Indigenous enterprise partnerships, a position on an advisory board to the University of Melbourne Faculty of Economics and Commerce, and former memberships of Philanthropy Australia and the National Council of the then Australian Opera.

His academic background is in commerce, economics and political science. After graduating from Melbourne University and then Cambridge, he took an executive traineeship with Citibank London’s oil and mining division.

The National Gallery of Australia’s major exhibition *Degas: Master of French Art*, runs from 12 December 2008 to 22 March 2009 (www.nga.gov.au/degas), supported by the Australian Government’s Art Indemnity Australia program (www.arts.gov.au/collections).