

2.5 MONASH GALLERY OF ART: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MGA COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEE CALLED THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT MEMBER (RH:AP)

Responsible Committee: Monash Gallery of Art Committee of Management

Responsible Director: Russell Hopkins

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *Approves the reappointment of Val Brown to the Monash Gallery of Art Committee of Management for a term of three years from 31 May 2021 – 30 May 2024;*
2. *Approves the reappointment of Kirsty Grant to the Monash Gallery of Art Committee of Management for a term of three years from 4 June 2021 – 3 June 2024;*
3. *Notes that Milton Harris's tenure on the Monash Gallery of Art Committee of Management concludes on 31 May 2021; and*
4. *Approves the appointment of Richard Janko to the Monash Gallery of Art Committee of Management for a term of three years from 5 May 2021 – 4 May 2024.*
5. *Approves the appointment of Kirsty Grant as Deputy Chair of the Monash Gallery of Art Committee of Management effective 1 June 2021.*

INTRODUCTION

This report seeks Council's approval for proposed members of the Monash Gallery of Art (MGA) Committee of Management (COM) and the appointment of the Deputy Chair.

BACKGROUND

The MGA COM is now a Community Asset Committee under Section 65 of the 2020 Local Government Act. The CEO has delegated to the COM a range of strategic, business development and collection development responsibilities that accord with its Section 65 status. At its meeting on 28 April 2020, Council resolved to establish, under section 65 of the Local Government Act 2020, the Monash Gallery of Art Community Asset Committee's Terms and Reference. The recommendations of this report comply with the Terms of Reference.

DISCUSSION

The MGA COM seeks Council's approval to reappoint Val Brown and Kirsty Grant for a further term. Their first terms will expire May and June respectively. Dr Milton Harris will retire from COM after serving eight years on the COM, which has included being a member of the Collection Committee and the Governance and Nominations Committee. A new member is being put forward for appointment, Richard Janko. Richard is currently a member of the MGA Foundation and is proposed to serve on both Committees and will act as a conduit between the two, seeking to create greater alignment.

Ms Val Brown is currently Executive General Manager Consumer Experience at REA Group, the global online real estate advertising company. At REA, she has also held the roles of Executive Manager Mobile Applications & Personalisation, Group Manager Product

Development & Pricing, Online Operations Manager and Marketing Specialist. She is a highly experienced executive across key areas that have previously been identified by the COM to support strategic and business development, including digital marketing and digital product design, development and delivery, as well as strategy development, implementation and commercialization of products.

Ms Kirsty Grant is an independent art consultant, independent curator and writer. She was the Director of Heide Museum of Modern Art from January 2015 to December 2016 and was Senior Curator of Australian Art at the National Gallery of Victoria from April 2007 to December 2014. This extensive and significant record of curatorial, research and industry achievement will benefit the strategic direction and industry knowledge to inform MGA's development.

Dr Milton Harris will retire after more than two terms on COM. Dr Harris has been a significant member and contributor to COM, and a member of the Collections Subcommittee and Governance and Nominations Committee. His expert guidance and recommendations for collection acquisitions has supported the development of the City of Monash, MGA Collection, which is a cultural asset for the community. As a member of the Governance and Nominations Committee, he supported good governance and helped shape the strategy around recruitment of COM members. He has been generous supporter through his time, treasure and talent, including supporting fundraising events and becoming a *Luminary* Donor in 2019.

Richard Janko is currently Director (Head of Transactions) at IDA Property Group, a private real estate funds management and advisory business based in Melbourne, Australia. He is also a member of IDA's Investment Committee. He is an executive with broad experience across the legal, finance, investment and real estate sectors, with a strong interest in the visual arts and the gallery/museum sector.

He is currently a trustee of the Monash Gallery of Art Foundation and has held previous positions as advisory committee member for the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art's Contemporary Circle program and as board member of Bus Projects (a non-profit contemporary art gallery). His interest in the visual arts and art galleries has been longstanding, including completing an Arts/Law (Hons) degree at the University of Melbourne in 2008, majoring in Art History with an emphasis on contemporary art practice and theory.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The social implications of this report are the appointment of committee members to guide, advocate and support the strategic vision of Monash Gallery of Art. The arts, cultural and community aspirations of MGA will benefit from their appointment and support the achievement of positive social outcomes.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications inherent to this report.

CONSULTATION

Following discussion at its meeting of the MGA COM on 5 May 2021 endorsed these recommendations.

CONCLUSION

To support the development of the strategic objectives of MGA and the efficacy of its COM, Council's approval is sought for the appointment of Val Brown, Kirsty Grant and Richard Janko to the MGA Committee of Management and appointment of Kristy Grant as Deputy Chair. The retirement of Dr Milton Harris from the MGA Committee of Management is noted, and his significant contribution is recognised and appreciated.