



MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

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City of Sydney contributes \$1million to MCA new building campaign

Sydney, Australia: The Museum of Contemporary Art has received a grant of \$1 million from the City of Sydney to support its new building campaign.

The City of Sydney commitment arrives as the MCA has received two new individual pledges of \$500,000 which brings total funds raised to \$27 million. The NSW State Government committed \$10million earlier this year and \$16 million has been raised from the private sector. The total project cost is \$50million.

The planned MCA redevelopment involves building a northern wing that will provide a centre for creative learning of national significance, along with revamped and extended gallery spaces and a new fully accessible entrance.

The design, by innovative architect Sam Marshall in partnership with the NSW Government Architect, will complement the existing building and energise The Rocks precinct and Circular Quay.

MCA Director Elizabeth Ann Macgregor said: "We are very grateful to the councillors for their support. This significant contribution from City of Sydney brings us closer to the realisation of this important project."

"The extension and renovation will allow the MCA to expand the important range of educational programs, properly house and display the collection including contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander artworks, as well provide improved access."

"We are on track with our fundraising campaign and will lodge a development application this October, working towards a planned 2010 opening," Ms Macgregor said.

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About the MCA: The MCA is the only museum in Australia dedicated to exhibiting, collecting and interpreting both local and international contemporary art. The MCA was voted by Sydney-siders as their favourite museum or gallery in an independent poll conducted by the Sydney Chamber of Commerce in 2007. Located on one of Australia's most iconic sites on Sydney's West Circular Quay, the MCA is a hub for creative learning and a world renowned and locally loved institution. Admission is free and the MCA is open to the public daily between 10am and 5pm. www.mca.com.au