

# Telstra award includes some moving images



● ABOVE: Curator Hetti Perkins in a still image from *Art+Soul* which she wrote and presented and which will screen as part of the Films About Artists program at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory on 13 August.

● RIGHT: A still from the short claymation film *The Orphan Boy* which will screen as part of the Art Films program at MAGNT on 14 August.



FOR the first time, this year's Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Award exhibition will include a selection of moving images,

with two free film programs screening at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory in Darwin over the opening weekend (13-14 August).

There will also be a free screening of Tracey Moffatt's 1993 feature film *Bedevil* on Sunday 4 September at 1.30pm.

The Saturday 13 August program is called *Films about Artists* and features the first episode of the ABC series *Art+Soul* (55 minutes), directed by Warwick Thornton and written and presented by curator Hetti Perkins.

Short films *Warrwi Basket Weavers* directed by June Mills, about a day's outing collecting materials for basket weaving, and *Dilthan Yolgunha*, about the Dilthan Yolgunha Aboriginal healing centre at Gulkula in north-east Arnhem Land, will round out the program.

Films about Artists will screen on 13 August at 11am, followed by a Q+A session with Hetti Perkins and June Mills, and again at 2.30pm (screening only).

The Sunday 14 August program is called *Art Films* and consists of six short films spanning a 20-year period.

Works range from the 1988 film *Heret My Hand - A Testimony to an Aboriginal Memorial* which documents the making of 200

hollow log burial poles for the 1988 Sydney Biennale exhibition, through to the 2007 film *Who Paintin' dis Wandjina?*, which sees an anonymous, non-Indigenous graffiti artist speaking about his use of the Wandjina in his graffiti around the city of Perth, with its response from traditional owners on the inappropriateness of using this sacred creator spirit without 'proper' knowledge.

## Animations

Two short animation films from cyberTribe's *Big Eye: Aboriginal Animations* touring exhibition also form part of the program, including the claymation adaptation of a traditional West Arnhem Land Dreamtime story *The Orphan Boy*, which was created by students from Gunbalanya Community School with animators from Gozer Media.

Program curator Jenny Fraser will be joined by Indigenous curator Djon Mundine for a Q+A session after the 11am screening of *Films about Artists*.

She said *Heret My Hand* had been Mr Mundine's original concept, and the resulting artwork depicted in the film, made up of 200 hollow log coffins from central Arnhem Land, commemorated all the Indigenous people who had died since 1788 defending their land and had since been installed as a permanent exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia.

Art Films screens at 11am on 14 August (followed by Q+A) and again at 2.30pm (screening only). All screenings are free.