



MEDIA RELEASE

LAW AND ART WORLDS COLLIDE AS CURWOODS LAWYERS LAUNCH 2017 ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE EXHIBITION

For immediate release –Thursday, 9 November 2017

SYDNEY: On Tuesday, 14 November 2017, Curwoods Lawyers (**Curwoods**) will host the opening night of an exhibition of works by Joanna Gambotto, Curwoods' 2017 Artist-in-Residence, at the iconic Australia Square.

Since 2007, Curwoods has supported emerging artists through our Artist-in-Residence Program. We provide our seconded artist with a purpose built studio in our Sydney office where they create a suite of works over a 12-month period, culminating in an exhibition. This exhibition gives the artist an opportunity to showcase their artwork and raise their profile, and allows us to support emerging artists – something we are passionate about.

Our Artist-in-Residence Program runs concurrently with the firm's community partnerships and pro bono activities. The Program supports the Rotary Club of Sydney and the activities of its Youth Service Committee, providing leadership development programs to empower youth and young professionals in the community. Proceeds from two of Joanna's works, auctioned on the evening, will be directed to support the activities of the Youth Service Committee. All works displayed will be available for purchase.

Partner and philanthropist, John Snelgrove, the emcee for the evening, will introduce Heath Ducker, CEO of Youth Insearch, as our guest speaker who will announce the official opening of the exhibition, which will run for two weeks until Friday, 24 November 2017.

On the evening, Joanna will share her experience of the Program and what this opportunity has meant for her. When asked to describe her experience, Joanna said, "It was a big achievement for me to be invited to apply for this Program, but to be selected as the 2017 Artist-in-Residence was amazing recognition and provided me with an injection of self-confidence. At first it felt strange to be working in a studio within a law firm, however everyone at Curwoods has been so welcoming and it has been great to receive feedback on my work along the way. I'm grateful for the opportunity to have had my own space to create in, over the past 12 months. I am also very excited to see my works exhibited together in the iconic setting of Australia Square."

Curwoods Lawyers' Managing Partner, Scott Kennedy, said "Joanna is the ninth artist to participate in the Artist-in-Residence Program. The brainchild of John Snelgrove, the Artist-in-Residence Program originated with a suggestion on how to best use vacant office space and has evolved into a highly sought after opportunity for emerging young artists. Next year marks 10 years since the inception of the Program and we are immensely proud of the calibre of the artists and the success they have enjoyed following their participation in the Program. For the last 12 months, Joanna has worked to develop the pieces that are featured in the exhibition on show at Australia Square. We congratulate Joanna on completing a successful residency and producing an exceptional selection of works on display for the general public. The opportunity to witness her creative process has inspired us to continue to take 'a different perspective'."

ABOUT JOANNA GAMBOTTO

Joanna Gambotto is a Sydney-based artist who graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the National Art School in 2013.

Joanna's paintings rest in between representation and abstraction, aiming to evoke a sense of space rather than to render an accurate copy of one. Each of her paintings begin as a



cluster of spontaneously composed snippets of reality, often fragments of places visited in the past. The laborious process of adding paint, scraping and carving results in a sensuous surface, rich in texture, pattern and layers, and becomes a metaphor of how a place can be filled with emotions, memories and history.

Joanna has participated in numerous group exhibitions and has held several solo shows in Australia and abroad. Her previous work can be found in private and public collections worldwide.

ABOUT CURWOODS

Curwoods Lawyers (Curwoods) is an Australian legal firm with 40 years' experience providing commercial and insurance legal advice to local, regional and international clients. Our 15 partners and 170+ employees have a reputation for finding creative and innovative solutions to legal problems. We see ourselves as an extension of our clients and their brand, and partner with them to understand their drivers and deliver legally sound, commercially relevant outcomes.

We have a clear focus on creating a positive impact in the communities in which we operate. Since 2007, Curwoods has supported emerging artists through our Artist-in-Residence Program. We provide our seconded artist with a purpose built studio in our Sydney office where they create a suite of works over a 12 month period, culminating in an exhibition. Our resident artist for 2017 is Joanna Gambotto. Joanna is launching her exhibition on Tuesday, 14 November 2017 in Sydney.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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