WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR INAUGURAL AUSTRALIAN ARTS IN ASIA AWARDS

Winners announced for inaugural Australian Arts in Asia Awards - Art Collector

8 August 2013 | The recipients of a new federal government initiative celebrating the role of Australian artists and arts organisations working across Asia have just been announced.

The Australian Arts in Asia Awards recognise Australian artists working in and across Asia and thereby contributing to stronger cultural links between the two regions. Finalists were nominated across 14 categories including philanthropy, Indigenous, individual artist, major arts organisations and innovation.

Federal arts minister Tony Burke announced the category winners at an event in Sydney’s Luna Park last week. They include Jayne Dyer, who received the individual artist award for her permanent public art installation *The Butterfly Effect*, pictured above. It is a 20 storey high sculptural piece commissioned for the Four Seasons retail and residential property in Shanghai.

The 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art received the philanthropy award for the Sydney Pavilion at the Shanghai Biennale. As part of the Inter-City Pavilions project, it brought curators and institutions from over 30 international cities to present projects in various locations across Shanghai.

Another winner was the Warburton Arts Project, which received the Indigenous award for their exhibition *Tu Di Shen Ti: Our land, Our Body*. It took nearly 1,000 paintings, textiles and multimedia works by Ngaanyatjarra artists on two tours across China – installation view below.
In total 69 finalists were announced from over 120 entries, reflecting increasing cultural ties between Australia and Asia that will continue to benefit artists and the local and cross-national communities. One of the individual artist category finalists, Anna Glynn, has told Art Collector that she has recently been invited to show in the Tsi Ku Chai Gallery in Hong Kong and that she will be the first foreign artist to exhibit in the gallery.

Alexandra Djurichkovic