



Hobart Airport
TASMANIA

Auction of Airport Art to Boost Bonorong Wildlife Rescue Efforts

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A silent auction of original Tasmanian wildlife artwork currently on display at Hobart Airport will raise vital funds for Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary, supporting wildlife rescue and rehabilitation across the state.

The works by Tasmanian artist Natalia Bennett, which have been on display near the airport's check-in area since July last year will be auctioned, with all proceeds donated to Bonorong.

Hobart Airport Chief Operating Officer Matt Cocker said the auction transformed the exhibition's conservation story into direct, meaningful action for wildlife protection.

"Over the past year, thousands of travellers have stopped to admire Natalia's artwork and learn more about some of Tasmania's most vulnerable native species," Mr Cocker said.

"As Tasmania's busiest gateway, we have a unique opportunity to connect visitors and locals with stories that matter to our state, and this exhibition has done exactly that.

"To further increase its impact, Hobart Airport will match the total funds raised through the auction up to \$10,000, effectively doubling the donation to Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary," Mr Cocker said.

"The exhibition highlights the impact of road trauma on native animals and encourages motorists to take greater care on Tasmania's roads."

As Tasmania's busiest gateway, Hobart Airport welcomes six in every 10 visitors to the state, many of whom continue their visit by car.

Artist Natalia Bennett said the auction gave the works a lasting purpose beyond the exhibition.

"The exhibition has helped shine a light on some of Tasmania's most vulnerable native species, and the auction gives travellers and the wider community an opportunity to contribute to their protection.

"The artworks feature some of Tasmania's most endangered wildlife, including the Spotted-tailed Quoll, Masked Owl, Swift Parrot, Tasmanian Devil and Wedge-tailed Eagle.

"These species are under real pressure, particularly from road trauma," Ms Bennett said.

"To know the artworks will now help fund the care and recovery of injured wildlife makes this incredibly meaningful."

Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary CEO Matt Clement said almost three in four fatal incidents involving Tasmanian wildlife occurred on the state's roads.

"Wallabies and possums account for the significant majority of animals killed or injured on our roads each and every day," Mr Clement said.

"But our endangered species, those most at risk of extinction, are especially vulnerable, often being struck by vehicles as they feed on carcasses left on or beside the road.

"Natalia's artwork and this collaboration with Hobart Airport help shine a light on these remarkable animals, many of which are found nowhere else on Earth."

Mr Clement said funds raised through the auction would support Bonorong's frontline wildlife rescue and rehabilitation services.



“Every dollar raised will help our teams rescue, treat, rehabilitate and return injured, orphaned and displaced animals to the wild,” he said.

The silent auction starts today and runs until 22 June. Bids can be placed online at <https://airauctioneer.com/slow-down-for-wildlife-campaign-artworks-for-bonorong>

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