

MEDIA RELEASE

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NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

Portrait 50 hits the shelves

Exclusive: Julia Gillard on Joan Kirner in *Portrait* magazine

With contributions from the 27th Prime Minister Julia Gillard, arts commentator Fiona Gruber, and historian Dr Karl James among others, the National Portrait Gallery's 50th edition of *Portrait* has something for everyone.

Editor-in-chief and Director of the Gallery, Angus Trumble, recognises the milestone as a great accomplishment for the magazine and the Gallery.

'*Portrait* was in existence before the Gallery moved into its new home on King Edward Terrace. It has evolved and changed with the Gallery over the years, it is a true reflection of what the Portrait Gallery has to offer,' said Angus.

'To mark this special occasion we have brought together a group of talented, well-known arts writers, artists, historians, curators, and a former Prime Minister to give this edition the content it deserves.'

'Former Prime Minister Julia Gillard has written a tribute to the late Joan Kirner, former Victorian Premier, reflecting on Kirner's "spirit of generosity to those who walked, and sometimes stumbled, on the trail she blazed."'

Also in *Portrait*'s fiftieth edition:

- Fiona Gruber, arts commentator and presenter for Radio National's Books and Arts Portrait Series, re-lives her experience of sitting for a portrait with Australian artist Kristin Headlam in her article, 'Confessional Conversations';
- Jane Raffan, art valuer and writer, explores the popularity of national mythology and masculinity among buyers at Australian auction houses;
- Dr Karl James, Senior Historian at the Australian War Memorial, comments on the enduring memory and mythology around General Sir John Monash, Australian military commander in the First World War;
- The issue will also have an exclusive in-depth essay on the Gallery's new exhibition *Bare: Degrees of undress* by Curator Penelope Grist (on display until 15 November).

Portrait: Magazine of Australian and International Portraiture is a quarterly magazine produced each season by the National Portrait Gallery. The Spring edition, number 50, will be available from 1 September through selected newsagencies and bookshops.

To view previous issues of *Portrait* go to portrait.gov.au/magazines

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