



# Where Art Meets Nature

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## WAMA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FY 2023 - 2024

Wow! - WAMA has made almost unbelievable progress since the last AGM. All involved can be justly proud of what has been achieved as we position ourselves for the official opening of the gallery facility in April 2025.

Highlights include:

- The on-budget construction and early completion of the \$10.6 million of the gallery and associated facilities. All that remains to be done prior to obtaining the occupancy certificate are minor punchlist items, expected to be completed early December. My compliments to Case Meallin and AW Nicholson, respectively our Project Managers and Construction Contractor who have delivered the Project in an outstanding manner.
- Pippa Mott, has been appointed CEO, arriving in September, Pippa has had an immediate positive impact, and energised all preparations for the opening in 2025. The recruitment of her executive team is well underway, expect the announcement of a number of talented, exciting appointments in the near future. Pippa and her emerging team, over the next 5 months, are focussed on operationalising the WAMA vision with excellence, in readiness for the official opening.
- Fundraising continues to be a challenge, however, WAMA has arranged a \$1.7 million line of loan funding secured against the facility to cover the current shortfall in our Campaign to raise \$5 million by EOFY 25. This funding will ensure that WAMA can open with panache!

John Hawkins, the WAMA Director, primarily responsible for design and construction of WAMA - Stage 1 has decided to step down, after a tremendous contribution over many years. Job well done. John, Thank You for your unwavering commitment and most professional execution of the role.

Standing for election to the Board this AGM will be potential new members Megan Calder and Paula Toal - we look forward to welcoming them to the Board.

All this would not have been possible, without the support of many donors and volunteers, to which I extend my heartfelt thanks.

Thank You.

Greg Lewin AM

**Chairman,**  
WAMA Foundation