

DON'T MISS THE FIRST ELOQUENCE ART PRIZE AND DISCOVER AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE ART PROFESSIONALS



Celebrating 150 years of the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Photographer: Mim Stirling

The [Eloquence Art Prize](#) is a pro-bono initiative of [CulturePlus](#), presented in partnership with the [Embassy of France in Australia](#) and with the support of the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

The concept behind the prize is to reward the best 15-minute art talk given by a university student in front of a jury composed of leading Australian arts professionals. The first Eloquence Art Prize jury is presided by Maud Page, Art Gallery of NSW Deputy Director and Director of Collections.

The Grand Final will provide some of the most engaging art talks in the country: four of the top Australian universities across three states are competing, including the Australian National University, Monash University, University of Sydney and the National Art School are competing.

Arts students at the level of Honour, Master and PhD are selected through a three-stage process. Each University is electing its champion to participate in the Grand Final on the 7th of February. The Grand Final will take place on **Wednesday 23rd of February from 5.30pm to 9 pm at the Art Gallery of NSW** with all University champions.

This year's theme is "The Influence of Matisse on Australian Art" and is largely inspired by the exhibition, *Matisse: Life & Spirit, Masterpieces from the Centre Pompidou, Paris*, at the Art Gallery of NSW in Sydney, presented until 13 March.

The Eloquence Art Prize is designed to provide unique opportunities to university arts students. Marie Chretien, Director of [CulturePlus](#) said: "The prizes provide exceptional 'money can't buy' experiences for the recipients."

Prizes for the winner include:

- **A trip to Paris** to meet the curators of the [Pompidou Centre](#), and other Paris-based arts professionals that the winner would like to meet.
- **Art history classes** at the [Ecole du Louvre](#) in Paris .
- **A mentoring session** with president of the jury, Art Gallery of NSW Deputy Director and Director of Collections, Maud Page.



Pompidou Museum, Paris

Karine Mauris, Cultural Attaché of the French Embassy in Australia said: *“In Paris, the Eloquence Art Prize winner will be taken care of by the French Minister of Culture.”*

Prizes for all champions:

- **A private tour** of the *Matisse: Life & Spirit* exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW with Special Exhibitions Curator, Jackie Dunn.
- **Mentoring sessions** with members of the Grand Final jury including:
 - Barbara Moore, *Biennale of Sydney CEO*
 - Professor Roger Benjamin, *University of Sydney, International Matisse Expert*
 - Jackie Dunn, *Art Gallery of NSW, Special Exhibitions Curator*
 - Dr Stephen Gilchrist, *University of Sydney, Lecturer, Writer, Curator of Indigenous Art from Australia*
 - Daniel Browning, *ABC presenter, The Art Show*
 - Karine Mauris, *Embassy of France in Australia, Cultural Attaché*
 - Marie Chretien, *Culture Plus CEO*
- **French lessons** with Alliances Françaises [Melbourne](#), [Sydney](#), and [Canberra](#)

“Expected to be among the most exciting cultural events of the beginning of 2022 and involving talented Australian tertiary students, the Grand Final is the demonstration of the fantastic solidarity that exists at all levels in the Australian arts industry,” said Marie Chretien.

The 2022 Eloquence Art Prize will be awarded during a **Ceremony on the 23rd of February, from 5.30 to 9 pm, at the Art Gallery of NSW.**

Marie Chretien is the CEO and founder of [CulturePlus](#) and the organiser of the Eloquence Art Prize. She is also Vice-President of Alliance Française Sydney and a Council Member of the Sydney University Foundation, the Power Institute.

She has graduated from University of Sydney (Master of Art) and has been awarded the Francis Stuart Prize. She has also graduated from the Australian Institute of Company Director (AICD) and from Macquarie University MGMS (MBA). In France, she holds an engineering degree (EFREI).*

* The Francis Stuart Prize is awarded to the best Sydney University undergraduate, Honors or Master of Arts Coursework long essay or Master of Arts Research in Asian Art

For more information about the Eloquence Art Prize: CulturePlus.com.au/Eloquence-art-Prize
Or contact Marie Chretien, +61 416091965; Marie@cultureplus.com.au