

MEDIA RELEASE

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New Community Exhibition: Minds Do Matter

The positive relationship between art and its educational and therapeutic values can be seen in the annual *Minds Do Matter* Exhibition at the Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery at Inveresk which opens to the public tomorrow.

Now in its third year with QVMAG, *Minds Do Matter* celebrate its 10th year and is jointly organised with leading community mental health service Wellways which promotes the therapeutic and reflective process of art, and aims to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness.

Tasmanians who have been affected by mental health issues were invited to enter their artwork based on the theme, Do you see what I see?

Incoming QVMAG Director Tracy Puklowski says the number of artists submitting works has increased this year. "We're delighted to host the community exhibition again, and this year has seen a substantial increase in the number of artists participating."

"The work of over 80 artists is on display in the form of individual pieces, and collaborative community works. All of which offer an insightful interpretation of the theme".

The Exhibition previously travelled the State and this year it will be in Launceston for the duration at the Community Gallery which is operated by the City of Launceston's QVMAG. Mayor Albert van Zetten said, "The Community Gallery is a great space which has been designed for this purpose and we're proud to partner with Wellways for the third year. This is an important exhibition for the Tasmanian community, which shines a light on mental health."

The exhibition opens to the public on Saturday 6 October and runs until 5 November 2018.

Artworks will be for sale through Wellways at the artist's discretion. 100% of sales go to the artist.

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QVMAG Director Tracy Puklowski, Wellways Regional Manager Dianne Hawkrige, Artists Annie Young and Kylie Bailey and Mayor Albert van Zetten will be available for interview today at 10.30am in the Community Gallery at the Museum at Inveresk.

Tracy will be commenting on the Minds Do Matter Exhibition at this event. A media event for her plans for QVMAG, Creative Arts and Cultural Services will be arranged soon.

For more information on Wellways and their feelings on the exhibition visit www.wellways.org or contact Jane Kenrick on (03) 6169 0620 or 0439 464 973.