

## MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 13 March 2017

### **The Marten Bequest scholarships increased for emerging artists, now open**

Applications are now open for The Marten Bequest scholarships delivered for the first time by the Australia Council for the Arts in a three-year partnership with Perpetual. This is one of the largest scholarship offerings by The Marten Bequest since it was first awarded in 1975.

This year, the scholarships worth a total of \$600,000 will support 12 successful artists across six categories – Music (Instrumental Music and Singing), Dance (Ballet), Visual Arts (Sculpture and Painting), Theatre (Acting), Literature (Poetry and Prose) and Architecture – each receiving \$50,000 to explore and develop their artistic gifts domestically or internationally.

The charitable trust was established from the estate of John Chisholm Marten (1908-1966), a performing artist, author and philanthropist who strongly advocated for greater financial opportunities for young emerging Australian artists to study their craft.

The partnership draws upon the Australia Council's 50 years of experience delivering arts funding, and will complement Perpetual's Philanthropic Services business, one of Australia's largest managers and distributors of philanthropic funds.

Australia Council Chief Executive Officer, Mr Tony Grybowski said the Council has a long and proud history of partnering with philanthropic foundations, corporations and individual donors, co-investing in and raising the profile of Australian arts and artists.

"The Australia Council welcomes this collaboration with Perpetual to manage The Marten Bequest, supporting Australian artists to explore collaboration, build networks and develop their practice," Mr Grybowski said.

"The Marten Bequest has been awarded annually to emerging and promising artists and creators to achieve their full potential and Perpetual is pleased to work in partnership with the Australia Council to continue this support," Caitriona Fay, Perpetual's National Manager of Philanthropy said.

[Previous recipients](#) of the scholarship include author Tim Winton and painter Wendy Sharpe.

Co-investment is part of the [Australia Council's Strategic Plan](#) and builds on successful international collaborations and external partnerships to support diversity and excellence in the arts.

The Australia Council's commercial relationship with Perpetual is an example of how its unique position and experience can be leveraged to benefit the sector, and as part of a broader strategy to encourage arts investment from diverse sources.

Applications are now open until Monday 10 April 2017, with the successful artists notified mid year. Eligibility and criteria for The Marten Bequest can be found on [the Australia Council's website](#).

[Perpetual is the Trustee](#) and has administered The Marten Bequest since 2014.

Born in England, Mr Marten moved to Australia when he was young and was well known in the arts sector for his generosity, appreciation and support of the arts. He established The Marten Bequest to assist with the financial cost involved in study and training providing artists with the opportunity to undertake study programs, professional training and mentor programs.

### **About Perpetual Philanthropic Services**

Perpetual is one of Australia's largest managers and distributors of philanthropic funds with \$2.4 billion in funds under advice (as at 30 June 2016). Perpetual is trustee for more than 1,000 [charitable trusts and endowments](#) and provides individuals and families with advice on establishing charitable foundations and structured giving programs. Perpetual also assists charities and not-for-profit organisations with [investment advice and management](#).

Media contact:

Justine Sywak, Media Manager, Australia Council for the Arts  
Tel: (02) 9215 9030 Email: [j.sywak@australiacouncil.gov.au](mailto:j.sywak@australiacouncil.gov.au)

Perpetual's Philanthropic Services and advice are provided by Perpetual Trustee Company Limited (PTCo), ABN 42 000 001 007, AFSL 236643. This publication has been prepared by PTCo and contains information contributed by third parties. It contains general information only and is not intended to provide advice or take into account personal objectives, financial situation or needs. The information is believed to be accurate at the time of compilation and is provided by PTCo in good faith. To the extent permitted by law, no liability is accepted for any loss or damage as a result of any reliance on this information. PTCo does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of any information included in this document which was contributed by a third party.