From early March, 56 of the nation’s best portrait photographs will be on display at QUT’s Art Museum.

Powerful images of well-known Australians Barry Otto and Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu intersect with introspective and vivid images of everyday people in the National Photographic Portrait Prize touring exhibition, which also includes the $25,000 prize-winning photograph by Ingvar Kenne; a candid portrait of his sons Callum and Cormac.

Each entry was judged solely on its merits as a compelling portrait photograph, according to National Portrait Gallery Curator Dr Christopher Chapman, and Kenne’s photograph was judged most outstanding because ‘it’s powerfully direct’.

“We were impressed by the potent connection that is evoked between the subjects in the photograph and the viewer.

“We also appreciated the complex compositional qualities and sculptural sense of space within the photograph, and its technical excellence,” Dr Chapman said.

Dr Chapman notes the portraits selected for the 2009 exhibition are characterised by a heightened sense of drama.

“The exhibition is pervaded by a psychological intensity.

“Many of the photographic portraits reward considered viewing, especially the prize-winning work,” he said.

The National Photographic Portrait Prize is an annual event intended to promote the very best in contemporary photographic portraiture. 1200 entries were received for the 2009 Prize from both professional and aspiring amateur photographers.

The National Photographic Portrait Prize is on display at QUT Art Museum from 5 March to 25 April 2010.
5 March to 25 April 2010
QUT Art Museum, 2 George Street, Brisbane
(07) 3138 5370 | artmuseum@qut.com | www.artmuseum.qut.com

Art Museum Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm, Wednesday until 8pm,
Saturday & Sunday 12pm-4pm
Admission is free

Presented by the National Portrait Gallery, Canberra, and QUT Art Museum

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY EXHIBITION
Supported by VISA

QUT Art Museum is proudly supported by

Kay and Robert Bryan
The Lee Foundation