

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For immediate release**

**Composer Peter Sculthorpe portrait voted best of Portia Geach for inaugural People's Choice Award**

**S. H. Ervin Gallery, 5 November, 10 AM.**

Trust Foundation, in conjunction with the National Trust Australia (NSW) S. H. Ervin Gallery, is proud to announce Danelle Bergstrom as the winner of the 2009 Portia Geach People's Choice Award for her work *Sun Music II*, a portrait of composer Professor Peter Sculthorpe.

Chosen from this year's 51 exhibiting artists, Danelle, as voted by the gallery visitors, received \$5,000 in prize money.

Born in Sydney in 1957, Danelle Bergstrom studied at the Julian Ashton School of Art and then did a Bachelor of Art Education at the Alexander Mackie College of Advanced Education. She has exhibited in solo and group shows since 1980 including the Portia Geach Memorial Award, the Doug Moran Portrait Prize, the Kedumba Drawing Prize and the Archibald Prize. Her work is represented in collections in Australia and overseas, including the National Portrait Gallery of Australia.

On hearing that she had won the People's Choice Award, Danelle was delighted and said "The win has made my year". Over 1500 people voted in the People's Choice Award with over 100 people voting for Danelle's work.

The subject of her work, called *Sun Music II* is Professor Peter Sculthorpe AO OBE (b. 1929), Australia's best-known composer. Born in Launceston, Tasmania, Sculthorpe wrote his first compositions at the age of seven and by his teens had decided on a career in music.

Over a six-decade career, he has amassed a catalogue of over 350 compositions. His major early works include *Sun Music 1* (1963), *Sun Music Ballet* (1968) and *Rites of Passage* (1974). The Sun Music series (1965-69) and (1977) are known for their distinct evocation of Australian landscape and climate. His later works have been influenced by Balinese gamelan pieces, the music of Asia and the Pacific and, more recently, indigenous Australian traditions. Sculthorpe has received a plethora of local and international honours and awards and has been declared a National Trust Living Treasure.

Trust Foundation People's Choice Award is an initiative to promote and encourage Australian artists. Trust Foundation is a charitable trust which has proudly supported the Australian Community since 1985. The Foundation supports areas including the arts, health, education, indigenous affairs and medical research.

The National Trust Australia (NSW) S. H. Ervin Gallery, together with Trust, has been presenting the Portia Geach Memorial Award since 1989. 328 artists entered this year's competition with 51 being selected for the exhibition. This year's Portia Geach Memorial Award winner is Christine Hiller for her work *The Old Painter*.

The Portia Geach Memorial Award was established under the Will of Florence Kate Geach, Portia's sister who died two years after her, in 1961. It has been 50 years since the death of Portia Geach but her life and work continue to inspire and support many Australian artists. The Award's first winner was Jean Appleton, who won £1,000 in 1965 for her work *Self Portrait*. Since then, the Award has played a major role in developing the profile of women artists in Australia.

**Trust Contact:**

Clare Stanford – 02 8295 8100

**Media Contact:**

Justin Kirkwood  
Kirkwoods Corporate Relations  
+61 2 9231 5600  
+61 411 251 324

**About Trust**

**[www.trust.com.au](http://www.trust.com.au)**

Trust Company Limited (Trust) is one of Australia's longest serving financial services companies with over 124 years of experience.

The Company provides a wide range of financial services which include:

- Personal Services offers Wealth Transfer Planning, Trust Lifestyle Care, Health & Personal Injury services, Funds Management, Financial Planning, Estates & Trusts administration and Philanthropy services to intermediaries and the wider retail market
- Corporate Services offers Property & Infrastructure Custody, Responsible Entity services, Superannuation Compliance & Trustee services, Structured Finance Trustee services and REIT Trustee services to institutions

Trust has offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Townsville and Singapore, with over 220 employees and a market capitalisation of approximately \$190 million.