



Australian Government
Australian National Botanic Gardens

MEDIA RELEASE

30 March 2010

Art in the Gardens with Friends

More than 70 botanical paintings, drawings and prints of native Australian plants feature in a new exhibition opening at the Australian National Botanic Gardens on **Tuesday 30 March at 4.30pm**.

Friends of the Gardens' botanic art group coordinator Robin McKeown said Senator Kate Lundy would open *Art in the Gardens with Friends* - the third annual exhibition by the Friends' botanic art group.

"These art works of plant specimens from the Gardens will give visitors a new appreciation of the beauty, variety and enormous range of Australian flora," Ms McKeown said.

"The artists have also captured in paint or sketch many beautiful plants which are inaccessible in the wild."

The exhibition is the work of a small group who began painting and drawing plant specimens in 2005. The original group of 10 has grown to over 80 members who meet monthly to paint and draw plants in the Gardens.

"Visitors to the Gardens have an opportunity to see these plants through the artists' eyes. Some of the pieces are for sale, and the commission will go to the Friends to support projects in the Gardens."

Art in the Gardens with Friends will be open to the public from Wednesday 31 March until Sunday 18 April 2010 in the Visitor Centre Gallery at the Australian National Botanic Gardens

The exhibition is open daily from 9am to 4.30pm.

Media interviews with artists can be arranged.

What:	Art in the Gardens with Friends exhibition
Where:	Visitor Centre Gallery, Australian National Botanic Gardens
When:	Wednesday 31 March until Sunday 18 April 9am – 4.30pm
Opening:	Tuesday 30 March 2010, 4.30pm

Media contact: Paul Ziesing 6250 9559 or 0449 709 840