



Robert MacPherson, Australia, born 1937, *Mayfair: Xmas (Wildfire red) for Mrs Pretty*, 2001-2002, Brisbane, synthetic polymer paint on board, 183.0 x 244.0 cm; Gift of the Art Gallery of South Australia Contemporary Collectors 2004.

Contemporary Collectors unveil Christmas gift to Art Gallery

Contemporary Collectors, the new contemporary art benefaction group through the Art Gallery of South Australia last night unveiled its first acquisition for the Gallery: a major work by renowned Australian artist, Robert MacPherson entitled *Mayfair: Xmas (Wildfire red) for Mrs Pretty* 2001-2002.

This dramatic painting in MacPherson's trademark style is inspired by hand-made road produce signs, in this case, red cherries during Australia's Christmas season. The stark use of colour and the simplicity of the composition belie the force of the delivery of the message.

The Contemporary Collectors group was established in June 2003 and now numbers 200 members making it one of the most successful groups of its kind in Australia. The group's purpose is to raise funds for high quality contemporary art acquisitions for the Gallery, as well as to enhance contemporary art appreciation among its members. Throughout the year members attend social, educational and travel events all with a contemporary art focus.

Mayfair: Xmas is now on public display in the Art Gallery of South Australia's contemporary Australian galleries.

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