



2006/07 a blockbuster year for Art Gallery of South Australia

The Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide has recorded an outstanding year of achievements, ending 2006/07 with unprecedented levels of self-raised funds and increased high visitation, bolstered by the blockbuster exhibition, *Egyptian Antiquities from the Louvre*.

Figures to be released in the Art Gallery of South Australia's 2006/07 Annual Report show that the Gallery generated an unprecedented \$11.77 million in revenue in support of its operations, programs and acquisitions, more than doubling the state Government contribution of \$5.49 million.

A total 536,865 people visited the Art Gallery of South Australia during the last financial year – the highest attendance in eight years and the second highest in its 126 year history.

The combined value of gifts of cash to fund purchases of works of art, and donations of works of art in 2006/07 was \$7.64 million. Nearly 300 works were acquired for the Gallery's 35,000-strong collection, which is now valued at well over \$600 million.

The international blockbuster *Egyptian Antiquities from the Louvre: Journey to the Afterlife*, attracted 82,000 visitors during its Adelaide season, the greatest result for a ticketed exhibition at the Gallery in two decades. Significantly, an additional \$5.2 million was contributed to the state's economy through regional, interstate and overseas visitors to the exhibition.

"This has been a blockbuster year for the Art Gallery of South Australia" said Director, Christopher Menz. "Presenting the hugely popular *Egyptian Antiquities from the Louvre* was a great coup and this combined with the enormous generosity of our donors in particular, has made 2006/07 one of the most successful years on record for the Gallery" he said.

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