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Major new Patricia Piccinini exhibition announced for Adelaide

An exciting, major new exhibition showcasing the life's work of leading contemporary Australian artist, Patricia Piccinini will be staged at the Art Gallery of South Australia in April 2011, Premier Mike Rann announced today.

Premier Rann said, "The Patricia Piccinini exhibition will be the largest and most comprehensive exhibition of this influential Australian artist ever staged. I am delighted to announce it will be unique to Adelaide, showcasing never-before-seen works of art made especially for the exhibition."

Patricia Piccinini is perhaps best known in Adelaide as the artist behind *Big mother*, the life-size silicon sculpture of a genetically-engineered baboon breast-feeding a human baby, which the Art Gallery of South Australia acquired earlier this year.

Art Gallery of South Australia Director, Nick Mitzevich said, "Since *Big mother* was unveiled in February, around 125,000 people have flocked to see her. We've been so inspired by the overwhelming public response that we've decided to introduce South Australian audiences to the rest of Piccinini's fantastical creatures and creations."

The Premier said, "Nick Mitzevich and his staff at the Art Gallery of South Australia are currently working closely with Patricia Piccinini and her studio, to create a spectacular exhibition which will really raise the bar for visual arts events in this state."

The Patricia Piccinini exhibition will be funded primarily by the State Government using funds originally allocated in the 2009/10 budget for a Bauhaus design exhibition.

The Patricia Piccinini exhibition will be on show from mid-April to mid-June 2011 at the Art Gallery of South Australia.

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