

## Art Gallery of South Australia to host major Turner exhibition in 2013



The Hon Mike Rann MP today announced that the Art Gallery of South Australia will host a significant exhibition of the work of iconic British artist J. M. W. Turner. The exhibition, scheduled for February 2013, is being jointly curated by Tate and the Art Gallery of South Australia and includes many of the artist's most familiar oil paintings and watercolours as well as works that have never been previously exhibited.

*Turner – the Makings of a Master* draws from the finest and most comprehensive collection of the artist's work - the Turner Bequest. There is arguably no greater insight into the working techniques of a great artist than this unique collection, bequeathed to the people of Britain after Turner's death in 1851 and held by the Tate.

Art Gallery of South Australia Director, Nick Mitzevich said "This spectacular exhibition reveals why Turner is regarded as one of the greatest landscape painters of all time."

IMAGE: Joseph Mallord William Turner 1775-1851, *Venice, the Bridge of Sighs* exhibited 1840, oil on canvas support: 686 x 914 mm. Accepted by the nation as part of the Turner Bequest 1856

“His poetic interpretation of nature was wondrous and revolutionary. His ability to capture the movement, appearance and atmospheric impression of light instilled his paintings with a sensory command that has transcended time and place”.

Mr Rann said that “Turner’s work is mesmerizing and so well loved and diverse that this exhibition is bound to be very popular among Australians who would welcome the rare chance to see such an extensive display of his works so intimately.”

“This exhibition is a real coup for our Gallery and Tate have been extremely generous in the scope and scale of the works of art they are sending to the southern hemisphere, some for the first time ever.”

*Turner – the Makings of a Master* has been organised by Tate, London, in association with Art Exhibitions Australia. The Art Gallery of South Australia acknowledges the South Australian Government for its support through the Major Exhibitions Fund.

Further details will be released closer to the official opening of the exhibition.

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**Images available on request**