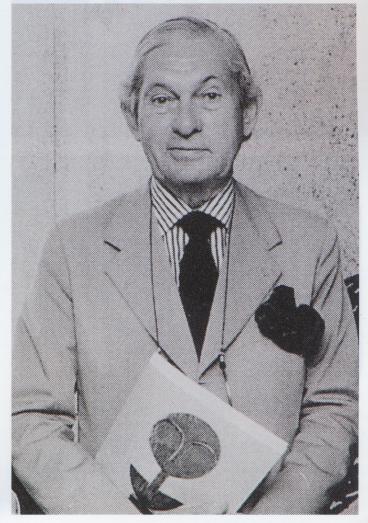


The medal, which has been designed by acclaimed Queensland artist Barbara Heath, is a classic and elegant marker of distinguished service to the Gallery. It incorporates an iconic breezeway lattice pattern found in many Queensland homes, together with a cascade of silver 'water' droplets. Like the rain, which nourishes and cultivates, the recipient of this medal has given a precious gift to both the Gallery and the state's cultural landscape more broadly.

Professor Susan Street, and the Board of Trustees, together with Gallery Director Chris Saines, and staff, would like to thank Arija Austin, Richard Austin's wife, for receiving this medal in his honour on 11 November. There is no recipient more deserving of the inaugural Gallery Medal than the person who was instrumental in turning us towards Asia and the Pacific. We hope he would be proud of QAGOMA's achievements today, so many of which were made possible because of his visionary contribution.

Chris Saines, CNZM Director Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art



Medal designer Barbara Heath and Malcolm Enright (right) presenting the Gallery Medal to QAGOMA Director Chris Saines, CNZM, and Chair of the Board of Trustees, Susan Street, AO. Recipient of the inaugural Gallery Medal, Richard WL Austin, AO, OBE (1919-2000). Photograph taken 1990, Queensland Art Gallery.