



Paul Henderson
CHIEF MINISTER

13 March 2008

EARTH'S CREATION TO VISIT TERRITORY PARLIAMENT

The painting *Earth's Creation* by Central Australian artist Emily Kame Kngwarreye could be hung in the NT Parliament House later this year.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson made the announcement after viewing the painting at the Osaka National Museum of Art in Japan.

"This is an iconic painting – by one of the Territory's and Australia's iconic artists – it would be a great privilege to have it on display in Darwin," Mr Henderson said.

"*Earth's Creation* was sold at auction for a world record \$1.056 million – it's a large painting, consisting of four panels.

"This would be a fantastic opportunity for Territorians to see a world renowned work of art – I'm sure many people would come to see it hanging in the Parliament.

"I'd like to thank the owner of the painting Tim Jennings of Mbantua Gallery in Alice Springs – who has offered to lend the work to the NT Parliament for three months.

"There are a few issues to work through – but if everything goes according to plan the painting would temporarily be exhibited in Darwin on the way to its permanent home in Alice Springs.

"*Earth's Creation* is part of the exhibition of works by Emily Kame Kngwarreye which has been developed and curated by the National Museum of Australia for display in Japan."

Experts have described the exhibition as telling the story of one of Australia's greatest contemporary female artists.

The \$30 million collection includes 120 paintings – and is the largest body of work by an Australian artist to tour overseas

The painting is the highest price ever achieved for a piece of artwork by any female artist in Australia.

Contact: Richard O'Leary 0401 119586

Photo caption: Chief Minister Paul Henderson in front of *Earth's Creation* with the curator of the Osaka National Museum of Art in Japan Yasuyuki Nakai.

