

# Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee —Budget Estimates May 2009

## Answers to Questions on Notice

### Parliamentary Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

#### Topic: Artworks in storage

#### Question P9, Hansard reference F&PA 33

Date for the return of answer: 10 July 2009

**Senator BERNARDI**—How many artworks do we have in storage?

**Ms Hanley**—In total, the art collection has over 5,000 objects. Most of those are on display either in office suites or else in circulation areas. As for the exact number that we have in storage at the moment, I would have to take that on notice and get the answer to you.

#### Answer

1 There are currently (as of 16 June 2009) **2,927** items from the Parliament House Art Collection (**PHAC**) in the Art Store including **551** artworks from the Rotational Collection. The table below gives a breakdown of all the items currently in store.

Sub-collection Area	Description of Group	No. in store
Historic Memorials Collection ( <b>HMC</b> ) *	Includes portraits, studies and sketches, and archival items relating to the Historic Memorials Committee	89
Gifts Collection*	Significant objects presented as gifts to the Parliament since 1901	556
Archive— Historic Material	Includes ephemera, photographs and other archival material relating to significant parliamentary activities and events	97
Archive— Architectural material	Includes architectural designs, etc. relating to Parliament House	28
Archive— Art Collection*	Includes design sketches, sample pieces, photographs etc. relating to artworks held in the PHAC (including artworks commissioned during construction of the building).	63
Joseph Banks <i>Florilegium</i>	Prints from the 1980 edition of the <i>Florilegium</i>	241
PH Construction Photography Project	Commissioned archive of photographs documenting the construction of Parliament House	659
Explorers portraits	Collection of historic engravings of early Australasian explorers	36
Works in store temporarily unavailable for conservation reasons	Includes Rotational Collection artworks on paper and photographs, which require enforced rest in storage to prevent damage from over-exposure to light—these works will be made available again when current rest period ends	607
Available Rotational Collection	Works from the Rotational Collection currently in storage and available for display	551
(i)	<b>TOTAL All objects in store</b> (not including commissioned furniture items)	<b>2927</b>