

AUSTRALIAN EXHIBITION FOR TATE GALLERY, LONDON

Statement by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. R.G. Menzies

The Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, said today that while he was in London for the Prime Ministers' Conference he had taken the opportunity to discuss with the Chairman of Trustees of the Tate Gallery, Sir Colin Anderson, and the Director, Sir John Rothenstein, arrangements for an exhibition of Australian art to be held in the Tate Gallery in the English winter of 1962.

The Prime Minister said the exhibition would comprise about 200 paintings and that the Commonwealth Art Advisory Board had already given considerable thought to its composition. There would be a small section of Australian historical paintings and a few paintings of the impressionist period but the main emphasis would be on contemporary Australian paintings. It was also hoped to include paintings by young Australian artists whose work is comparatively unknown outside Australia.

The Prime Minister also said that never before had an Australian exhibition of the scope of the one proposed been shown in London and he was grateful to the Tate Gallery authorities for this opportunity of bringing to the British public an outline of Australian artistic achievement.

The Prime Minister added that the exhibition would most likely be shown at centres outside London after the Tate showing.

CANBERRA,

14th April, 1961.