

PORTRAIT OF QUEEN SIRIKIT

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

Her Majesty Queen Sirikit of Thailand has consented to have her portrait painted by Australian painter Judy Cassab. The portrait will form part of the exchange of gifts associated with the visit to Australia of Their Majesties.

Some preliminary work is expected to be done on the portrait during Her Majesty's visit to Australia and it will be completed by the artist in Bangkok early in October.

Miss Cassab lives in Sydney and is a naturalised Australian. She came to Australia in 1951 and exhibited at the Macquarie Galleries, Sydney, in 1953, 1955 and 1959. She also exhibited in London in 1959 and 1961.

In 1955 Miss Cassab won the Perth Prize and the following year won the Women's Weekly Portrait Prize, followed in 1961 by the Archibald Prize.

She has painted portraits of H.R.H. The Duke of Kent, H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent, H.R.H. Princess Marina of Kent, H.R.H. Prince Michael of Kent, the Maharajah and Maharani of Jaipur, the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, Mr. Hugh Gaitskell and the British Minister for Defence the Rt. Hon. Peter Thorneycroft.

Miss Cassab is represented in most major Australian public collections. She is married and has two sons.

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CANBERRA,

27th August, 1962.