



## Mills Oakley holds live Indigenous art experience

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Leading Australian law firm Mills Oakley has marked NAIDOC week and National Reconciliation Week with a live art experience with Indigenous artist Trevor Eastwood.

For two days during National Reconciliation Week, Trevor established a temporary studio in the foyer of Barrack Place Sydney, creating a space for Mills Oakley staff and clients to interact with and learn about Indigenous culture. This was a collaborative project with building manager Investa and co-tenants Pfizer and Arup.

Mills Oakley commissioned Trevor to create a special work representing Mills Oakley using Indigenous motifs. Dots and contour lines are used to depict the diversity of modern Australia and bridging the gap between law, business and justice and also connecting five hubs representing the five Mills Oakley offices and the collaboration and connection that happens there. Journey lines depict the story of Mills Oakley and our people.

With the commission completed in time for NAIDOC week, Trevor's artwork and eight further pieces by Trevor's students were displayed at a special NAIDOC-themed staff function during the week. The exhibition coincided with the launch of the firm's new First Nations Australians Recruitment Policy which sees Mills Oakley committing to strengthening the number of First Nations staff appointed as practitioners and support services personnel.

Commenting on these initiatives, Mills Oakley partner Catherine Hallgath said:

"At Mills Oakley, we're committed to a vision for a just and equitable Australia. We share a vision for an Australia where the voices and ideas of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples are fundamental and empowered."

"Social equality and the creation of a better community is close to the hearts of lawyers. We can't address the inequality between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians without recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First Australians and building a relationship by listening and learning on our own part."

"Trevor's artwork is important and it was important for Mills Oakley that the creation of the painting itself was a learning opportunity. We hope the finished work will be a catalyst and inspiration for our people to talk about reconciliation and learn more about Indigenous culture."

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