

XSTRATA percival portrait award 2012

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178 portraits were displayed on both floors of Perc Tucker Regional Gallery for the 2012 *Xstrata Percival Portrait Award*.

All works demonstrated some link to Townsville. The link can be the subject, the artist or the artist's history, etc, and can be direct or tenuous. This is a way of capturing history and building a collection that directly references Townsville's stories and geographical location. For the benefit of Gallery visitors, stories connected to the artwork were included with all 178 artwork labels.

Melbourne artist Kevin Lincoln has won Townsville's acquisitive \$40,000 *Xstrata Percival Portrait Award* for 2012.

The winning entry, titled *Self Portrait*, was announced by Mark Roberts of Xstrata, the exhibition's major sponsor, at a gala opening of the Percival at the Perc Tucker Regional Gallery tonight.

The portraits were judged by Barry Pearce, the Emeritus Curator from the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

Mr Pearce said Lincoln's winning portrait was an outstanding work.

"The portrait is a thoughtful, contemplative work. The artist's use of the golden mean is very clever, and he's restrained in his use of colour, but it creates a sense of intimacy that allows the viewer to actually enter his space. It's monochromatically impeccable," Mr Pearce said.

"There are essentially two kinds of paintings, the Apollonian and the Dionysian, and while there are fine examples of both kinds of paintings in this exhibition that made judging very difficult, Lincoln's is a classical Apollonian work in which he demonstrates his sophistication and restraint as an artist, as well as a mastery of a carefully ordered composition."

Kevin Lincoln rarely enters art prizes, but was encouraged to submit a portrait for the *Percival* by a great friend who lives in Townsville, hence the connection to this region. The prize winners for 2012 were:

Xstrata Percival Portrait Award

\$40,000 Kevin Lincoln – Self Portrait

Ergon Energy People's Choice Award

\$2,000 Jun Chen – David North

Costel Vasilescu Unpackers Prize

\$1000 Donna Beningfield – The Beginning

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Image: Kevin Lincoln, *Self Portrait*,
winner of the 2012 *Xstrata Percival Portrait award*