

Vale James Mollison AO

The Australia Council wishes to acknowledge the passing of James Mollison AO and pay tribute to his impressive contribution to Australian visual arts and culture.

James was the National Gallery of Australia's Acting Director from 1971 to 1977 and Director from 1977 to 1990. He also served as Director of the National Gallery of Victoria from 1990 to 1996.

James was instrumental in the purchase of Jackson Pollock's *Blue Poles*, which became one of the defining moments in the history of the National Gallery.

Australia Council Arts Practice Director Visual Arts, Laura McLeod said: "James Mollison will be remembered as one of the great visionaries of the Australian art world; a pioneer who helped to build one of the most impressive art collections in the world. We extend our sympathies to his friends, family and colleagues."