Commissioner Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation; His Excellency Mr Justin Brown, Australian Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg, the European Union and NATO; His Excellency Mr Baso Sangqu, South African Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and the Head of Mission to the European Union; and Dr Catherine Cesarsky, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Square Kilometre Array Organisation warmly invite you to the opening of the SKA’s Indigenous Art & Astronomy exhibition

**Shared Sky**

Under the auspices of Commissioner Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation

**Berlaymont Building**

Inauguration Ceremony: 4.00pm – 6.00pm Monday 16 April 2018

RSVP essential by Tuesday 10 April 2018

Email: Paola.Menabue@dfat.gov.au

**Shared Sky** brings together Australian and South African artists in a collaborative exhibition celebrating humanity’s ancient cultural wisdom, alongside one of the world’s greatest scientific and engineering endeavours: the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio telescope project.

Yamaji and other Aboriginal artists from the mid-west region of Western Australia and African artists of San descent and others from the central Karoo region of South Africa’s Northern and Eastern Cape have created artworks in response to ancestral stories about the night sky – a sky they both share as it appears above their traditional homelands. On both continents this land has nurtured ancient traditions that live on in the spirit of Indigenous artists working in community based art centres today.

These sparsely populated and remote areas were specifically chosen for their radio-quietness and relative emptiness, making them the perfect sites to co-develop the Square Kilometre Array – the world’s largest radio telescope – itself a collaboration between governments, scientists and engineers from around the world.

**Berlaymont Building**

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Other images: Collaborative painting, acrylic on canvas, Yamaji Arts; The Girl Who Made Stars, collaborative art quilt, First People Artists; Bethesda Arts Centre.