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Giant artwork courts attention at Parramatta Justice Precinct

One of the largest landscape artworks in NSW has been installed at the \$330 million Parramatta Justice Precinct.

The 22.4-metre wide and 6.3-metre high artwork, entitled *Pharmacopeia of the Burramatta* occupies an entire wall of the lobby at the new Justice Precinct Offices.

Internationally renowned artist, Gary Carsley said the landscape of Parramatta Park was the largest assignment he had undertaken.

“It took six months to construct the landscape, which consists of 95 intricately detailed panels,” said Mr Carsley.

Mr Carsley said the landscape was made solely from high quality computer scans of different types of wood vinyl contact adhesive foils.

“Up close, the artwork doesn’t make sense – it is just a mix of different styles of faux wood vinyl prints, the types of which you might see on office furniture,” said Mr Carsley.

“But if you take a step back, you will see the prints all come together to depict scenery in the historic Parramatta Park.”

Parramatta Justice Precinct project director Malcolm Levy said the artwork would be viewed by thousands of people each year.

“The NSW Attorney General’s Department will move into the nine-storey Justice Precinct Offices later in the year and this remarkable landscape will be a focal point as staff and clients enter the building,” said Mr Levy.

Mr Levy said a diverse range of shopfront services would operate from the lower floors of the Justice Precinct Offices.

“Couples will be able to tie the knot at the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriage, before having their photos taken in a picturesque garden by the Parramatta River,” said Mr Levy.

“There will also be support services for victims of crime and people who are unable to manage their own affairs due to a disability.

Mr Levy said the Justice Precinct Offices were modern, welcoming and built to a five-star greenhouse rating.

“The earthy character of *Pharmacopeia of the Burramatta* is symbolic of the building’s focus on environmental sustainability.”

Information about the artist

Gary Carsley has exhibited widely in Australia and Europe for 20 years. His work is held at the National Gallery of Australia, the Queensland Art Gallery, the National Gallery of Victoria and the prestigious Stedelijk Museum of Modern Art in Amsterdam. Mr Carsley's work is also part of corporate collections at the MTV building in New York and News Corp's London headquarters. He is a lecturer at the College of Fine Arts in Sydney and in late October his work will be featured in a solo exhibition in the Level 2 Contemporary Projects Space of the Art Gallery of New South Wales. "Karaoke'ing the Photograph", an overview of works similar to *Pharmacopeia of the Burramatta* opens at Thatcher Projects in New York on September 20th.