

Dear Dr Ian Holland,

Please find below a few paragraphs from me on the matter of Paul Sweeney's dealings with *Australian Art Collector* magazine over the publication of advertisements for works by Makinti Napanangka.

I received a number of written complaints over a couple of images that appeared in a particular issue of *Australian Art Collector* magazine. The images were of works purporting to be by Makinti Napanangka and appeared in two advertisements attempting to sell those works, and one appeared in our editorial. The complaints came from a collector, a subscriber and an advertiser. Comments on the image that appeared in the ads also appeared in two other publications. The complaints and comments questioned the authenticity of these works and/or their quality.

*Australian Art Collector* magazine currently enjoys the trust and high regard of its readers and the respect of the industry and so when this matter was brought to our attention we took it very seriously and attempted to deal with it decisively.

I contacted Paul Sweeney at Papunya Tula immediately and talked to him about what might be done. During the course of that very long conversation, I asked him if he would be prepared to offer an opinion on the quality or authenticity of any Makinti images the magazine intended to publish, either in editorial or in ads. He agreed but I must say, was reluctant about offering an opinion on the images to be used in advertisements. However, he took on the role out of a sense of duty to the artist and, as her agent, her reputation and market.

I phoned two other experts and asked them to also be available should we require an opinion on a Makinti image. They both declined for different reasons.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Borham  
Editor-in-chief  
*Australian Art Collector* magazine