



Franck Gohier

# LANE ART SPACE

## Koulla Roussos

Barrister

John Toohey Chambers

I believe in the power of art. Art is a human expression and not only makes life more bearable but it also enhances community spirit, cohesiveness and identity.

I believe it is important as a criminal law barrister to have an outlet—a practice in an area other than law. I bring my advocacy, rigor and organisational skills and devote these to an area which gives me great joy and satisfaction. I find

that it has helped me manage my practice better and has furthered healthier approaches to stress management.

Darwin is a very dynamic place. I wanted to open up the city to contemporary art in a way that mirrored Darwin's energy and spirit. We have a tradition of accepting new people and new ideas. People come and go and leave with an imprint of Darwin forever stamped on their memory and heart.





Koulla Roussos

Darwin is also a home to so many artists who interpret and shape its constantly shifting identity. One of our most revered artists is Franck Gohier, whose laconic sense of humour has been shaping our contemporary culture for over thirty years. I wanted to open the Lane Art Space with a tribute to his print work, as a way of acknowledging the important role he has played over the years in getting Darwin on the international art radar.

I have created the Lane Art Space to get our art and culture outside of the usual art gallery and into the street, to stimulate conversation and to get people out and about into our lane ways, to connect with and enjoy our quirky, laconic and irreverent Top End sense of humour.

The support I have received for this project has been tremendous. The NT Government and the City of Darwin have been joined by some of Darwin's leading business men and women to help me realise this project. I especially want to acknowledge the generous support received from Nick Hannigan (Paspaley Group), Jason Hanna (Deck Bar), Maria Simeon (Café Del Art), Luke Hunter (Knight Franck),

John Halikos (Halikos Group), Ann Combe (TIO), Simon Chadbourne (Ryldges Palmerston), Darren Lynch (Darwin City & Waterfront Retailers Association) and Angela Tomazos (NAB), Maleys Barristers & Solicitors and Squire Paton Boggs.

I am grateful for this opportunity. However I should note, art is not a 'profitable' enterprise. I have only received two-thirds of the 50% minimum cost of the Lane Art Space project.

If anyone from the legal fraternity wants to contribute to the ongoing success of this project, they can contact me directly via email: [koulla.roussos@johnntooheychambers.com.au](mailto:koulla.roussos@johnntooheychambers.com.au).

**Franck! is on until 25 October 2017.**

*The next show: K Roussos and J Saunders in 'TaNTrum Returns' and D Collins '1977 Wrestler Series' opens on 27 October which is a show about superheroes, both imagined and real!*