

Public art a winner

LIVEWORM Director Sebastian Di Mauro has been awarded the largest single art commission under the Queensland Government's public art policy Art Built-in, Minister for the Arts Matt Foley announced recently.

The \$400,060 commission, for the sculptural work called "Drift", will be installed in the new Government office building at 33 Charlotte Street, Brisbane.

Mr Di Mauro's previous public art commission was for "Chat", a pair of 1.2 metre high hands that are a feature of the Credit Union Australia building at 175 Eagle Street.

Mr Di Mauro, who is also a Design lecturer at Queensland College of Art Griffith University, decided to cast "Drift" out of aluminium to connect the artwork to present day life, complementing the architecture of the building.

"The two, 3.6 metre high sculptures resemble seed pods or winged creatures which have evolved from an organic form," Mr Di Mauro said.

"In a subtle way, the artwork conveys the concept of growth, regeneration and renewal, reflecting the evolution of the site where an old building has been demolished to make way for a new building."

Mr Foley said the commission was a coup for Brisbane and was a great example of Art Built-in's



SHAPING PUBLIC ART: Sebastian Di Mauro (right) shows his concept for the commissioned public art work "Drift" to Queensland Arts Minister Matt Foley.

success in providing opportunities for major sculptural commissions for Queensland artists.

"Local Government and private industry recognise the value of public art to the built environment

and are taking the Queensland Government's lead, commissioning public art in new buildings," he said.

The building is expected to be completed later this year.