



Chief executive Will Deague of the new boutique hotel The Cullen, in Commercial Rd, Prahran. N20MP800

Boutique hotel has artist in the frame

PRAHRAN'S newest hotel is a work of art. The Cullen, a six-storey boutique hotel, opened in Commercial Rd last month, was named after controversial artist Adam Cullen.

It boasts 450 of Cullen's works as well as an in-house curator, Jane O'Neill, to guide guests in their appreciation of the collection and Melbourne's art scene generally.

The Cullen is the first of a series of six new luxury hotels, each one focused on a different artist.

The \$300 million Art Series Hotels group is the brainchild of property developer Will

Deague. "The idea came about from the Deague family's extensive travel through Europe, staying in boutique hotels, combined with our love for Australian art," Mr Deague said.

Four of the hotels have Stonnington addresses including Chapel St flagship, The Olsen, which celebrates painter John Olsen.

The \$90 million hotel, due to open in March, claims to have the world's largest glass-bottomed swimming pool, planned to hang over the bustling retail strip.

KATE BRUCE-ROSSER