

Media Release

August 3, 2016

Hazelhurst
REGIONAL GALLERY & ARTS CENTRE

Patron: Edmund Capon, AM, OBE

AMBITIOUS INDIGENOUS EXHIBITION A FIRST FOR AUSTRALIA

This is an ambitious undertaking for a regional gallery and we are pleased to showcase some of Australia's leading Indigenous artists from some of Australia's remotest areas at Hazelhurst Regional Gallery.

Belinda Hanrahan, Director, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery.



Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre will open a significant and ambitious Indigenous exhibition in October which will showcase 50 works by 50 artists from the seven art centres of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands. This vast area of 103,000 square kilometres is located in remote South Australia, near the tri-state border with the Northern Territory and Western Australia and is home to some of Australia's best known and most innovative Indigenous artists.

The exhibition, **Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars** will be the first major survey exhibition from the seven art centres of the APY Lands. The Art Centres include Tjala Arts at Amata; Ernabella Arts at Pukatja; Mimili Maku Arts at Mimili; Tjungu Palya at Nyapari; Ninuku Arts at Kalka; Kaltjiti Arts at Kaltjiti, and Iwantja Arts at Indulkana.

Belinda Hanrahan, Director, Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery and Arts Centre said *this is the most significant and most ambitious project for a regional gallery to do. It's a huge undertaking and we know it will bring people from not just Sydney but from regional areas of New South Wales and beyond as it is such a rare opportunity to see this spectacular work from seven major Indigenous art centres in remote central Australia. The works will be in our exhibition space as well as installations in other parts of the gallery and our expansive gardens.*

Artists include Dickie Minyintiri, Pepai Jangala Carroll, Tjungkara Ken, Tiger Palpatja, Wingu Tingima, Hector Burton, Nellie Stewart, Harry Tjutjuna, Jimmy Donegan, Sandy Brumby, Tjampawa Katie Kawiny, Sylvia Ken, Ngupulya Pumani and Taylor Cooper.

Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars will include new and commissioned works in a range of media from painting and printmaking to ceramics, fibre work and installations by senior and young and emerging artists. The exhibition will be supported by a short documentary featuring interviews with the artists and a diverse public program.

The exhibition is a partnership project between Hazelhurst and the artists and art centres of the APY Lands. The idea for the exhibition at Hazelhurst began in 2014 when the five Ken Sisters from Tjala Artists, Tjungkara Ken, Yaritji Young, Freda Brady, Marinka Tunkin and Sandra Ken, produced their first collaborative painting, a work depicting the country belonging to their father and celebrated artist Mick Wikilyiri, for Hazelhurst's exhibition *Sublime Point: The landscape in painting* which brought together Indigenous and non-Indigenous painters from across the country. Hazelhurst Curator, Carrie Kibbler, then began the initial discussion about the survey exhibition with Tjala Arts to bring a major exhibition of artists work to Sydney, and to make it accessible for audiences outside of South Australia. As the exhibition has developed the artists have proposed and developed significant new works specifically for the project.

Carrie Kibbler says: *The highlights of the exhibition will be two 3 x 5 metre collaborative paintings featuring artists from each of the seven art centres – the first time that artists from across the APY Lands have worked together on a single painting. The women's collaborative, which was developed during workshops held in June, tells the Seven Sisters story and includes the work of 20 artists. The men's collaborative painting is currently being developed in workshops with 10 of the senior artists from across the region.*

Artist Nyurpaya Kaika Burton, from Tjala Arts spoke about the significance of the women's collaborative canvas painted in Kaltjiti in 2016:

Awari nganana alatji tjungungku waarka palyara walytjapiti pukulpa nyinanyi uwa ka tjukurpa nyangatja nganampa anangu maru uwankaraku kempatjangka unngu ngaranyi.

Nganana unngu kututungka tjukurpa tjuṯa kanyini munula palulanguru kunpu ngaranyi.

Nyangatja nganampa titji malatjaku ngaranyi tjana kulu kunpugku kanyintjaku nganana purunytju

Of course when we come together to work like this as family we are happy.

This story is for all of us, all Anangu.

In this canvas is our story.

We have these stories in our heart and inside us.

This makes us strong.

This is for the next generation, so they can strongly hold the stories like we do.

Other works include significant works on loan from national and state gallery collections as well as those from private collectors, along with a new large women's fibre work installation that will be developed throughout August.

Paintings from the APY Lands region are celebrated for the artists' strong use of colour and dynamic movement and for their specific way of transforming their stories - Tjukurpa (Law), Country, and inma (ceremony) - into vibrant articulations on canvas. Ever drawn to the expansiveness of a large canvas, artists use the space to explore various themes around Country and Law, capturing the many undulations of Anangu creation stories, the landscape and its significant sites, in individual and powerful works.

The significant art movement that evolved in the APY Lands is embedded within a wider movement of Desert and Indigenous art across Australia. The desert painting movement has its roots in Papunya in 1971-72 when a group of Pintupi, Warlpiri and Anmatyerre men began painting the stories associated with their ancient land using acrylic paints on board and other surfaces. This awakening through artmaking for a public audience later spread across the Central and Western Desert communities.

EXHIBITION DETAILS:

Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars

Hazelhurst Regional Gallery 15 October – 11 December, 2016

Open daily 10am – 5pm

Admission Free

A partnership project between Hazelhurst and the artists and art centres of the APY Lands.

The project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, Arts NSW and the Gordon Darling Foundation. Principal sponsor is Artwork Transport.

Image credits: from left, Tjungkara Ken, 2012; Peter Mungkuri, 2015, Tjimpuna Williams, 2014.



About Hazelhurst Regional Gallery

Ben and Hazel Broadhurst secured the land that became Hazelhurst in 1945. Situated in Gynea, the land was a natural bushland setting with Dent's Creek running through it. The Broadhursts' two-storey cottage, designed with the help of local architect Harry Smith, is now Hazelhurst's artist-in-residence and digital media studio. The Broadhursts were generous, community-minded people. In keeping with their values, they bequeathed their estate to the Sutherland Shire. Hazelhurst opened as a regional gallery, community gallery, arts centre and cafe in 2000 and has since become a popular meeting place.

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Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre is a facility of Sutherland Shire Council.

Principal Partners: Artwork Transport, Tradies, Transdev, and Moran Aged Care.

