



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

KANANGOOR/Shimmer

13 May – 19 August 2023

A JOURNEY OF COMFORT AND DISQUIET ACROSS COUNTRY

Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery (LWAG) is pleased to present new exhibition *KANANGOOR/Shimmer*. In co-curating this exhibition, Amanda Bell, Badimia and Yued artist and curator, and Lee Kinsella, LWAG curator, offer visitors a journey through the Gallery space, guided by sound and light. Drawing upon resonate objects from several UWA collections, and enriched by new commissions from Amanda Bell, Corey Khan and Rickeeta Walley, *KANANGOOR/Shimmer* is a consideration of our relationship with the environment. You are invited to follow the wardong in flight as we travel across Country and recognise reverberations of comfort and of disquiet.

KANANGOOR/Shimmer considers responses to the landscape; of objects that emerge from a profound engagement with land to others that communicate a sense of dislocation or strangeness. The exhibition includes works of protest and works of remarkable power, beauty and delicacy, such as the shimmering silk batik fabrics produced by Utopian artists, and Joseph Williams Jungarrayi's remarkable paintings upon the maps of an abandoned gold mine. What is consistent to all is a sense of agency and of the land being active and vital.

"This place, the place of our ancestors, the sustaining Boodja, rows of Wannang and the breath and life off the Derbarl Yerrigan has been a space where, we have been unseen, just a trace — sometimes our bodies barred, wounded and removed," Ms Bell said.

"In the sound and song of *KANANGOOR/Shimmer*, we mean to provide a place to listen, reflect, move through space, ready for change and show ways forward. Our bodies stand on Whadjuk Boodja at the Gallery. We propose change, and to bring our blood and spirit to a place where it has always been."

The *KANANGOOR/Shimmer* exhibition highlights some of the narratives that traverse across and deep within the traditional lands of the Whadjuk Noongar peoples, upon which the UWA, Nedlands campus site is located. Visitors will encounter a range of engagements with Country – both Indigenous and non-Indigenous – that allude to the many knowledges and traditions which inform understandings of place.



Chris Pease, *Down the rabbit hole II*, 2013, oil on canvas, 61.5 x 90.5 cm. The University of Western Australia Art Collection, University Senate Grant and Gift of the Friends of the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, 2014, Copyright and courtesy of the artist and Gallerysmith.

Elisabeth Kruger's double-sided screen, *The collector*, painted during her Möet and Chandon residency in France c.1989, alludes to the folly of Western concepts of ownership of nature, while Bethamy Linton's lace-cut titanium casket is a homage to the danger and beauty of the King Brown snake. In Barbara Haddy's 4-plate etching, *Drift*, (1987), we look beyond the detail of the 'cockies tongues' (*Templetonia retusa*), deep into the shifting, abstract depths of blue water, while Katie Breckon's, *Two Homes - Deep South with Kimberley Stains*, (2018), alludes to starkly contrasting landscapes by comparing colours from the Kimberley with those of her home in Aotearoa, New Zealand. Amanda Bell presents an immersive sound and light installation that features the journey of the wardong: *We are the crow, and the crow are we*.

KANANGOOR/Shimmer will be launched with an opening celebration on Friday 12 May from 5.30pm in the Sunken Garden at the University of Western Australia. Dr Richard Walley will present a Welcome to Country and there will be musical performances, including the newly commissioned song in language by Rickeeta Wally.

Artists include Sandra Hill; Emily Kame Kngwarreye; Utopia batik artists: Polly Nelson Gnale, Gloria Tamerre Petyarre, Jeannie Petyarre, Lena Skinner Gnale, Rosie Kngwarre, Nora Petyarre, Ollie Kemarre, Joy Petyarre; Tennant Creek Brio artists: Joseph Williams Jungarayi, Jimmy Frank Japarula, with Lévi McLean; Amanda Bell, Christopher Pease; Bethamy Linton; Ben Pushman; Elisabeth Kruger; Barbara Haddy; Danielle Freakley; Katie Breckon and Jody Quackenbush. Also featuring handwritten music scores by composer Meta Overman; an architectural installation by Corey Khan and new music composed by Rickeeta Walley.

The installation, *Wirringkirri*, by Joseph Williams Jungarayi, Jimmy Frank Japarula, and Lévi McLean, in the Janet Holmes à Court gallery, is curated by Jessyca Hutchens for the Berndt Museum. It was first presented as part of the exhibition *Black Sky* (2023) and will continue to accrete new meanings and elements as part of *KANANGOOR/Shimmer*.

Exhibition launch opening date and time: [Friday 12 May 5.30–8pm](#)

Exhibition dates: 13 May – 19 August 2023

The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday, 12pm to 5pm, and admission is free

For more information, visit the LWAG website: uwa.edu.au/lwag/home

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Images: [Images available here – please note all images must be accompanied by captions provided](#)

Website: uwa.edu.au/lwag/Exhibitions/Kanangoor-Shimmer

MEDIA REFERENCE:

Lee Kinsella (Curator, Cruthers Collection of Women's Art) on 08 6488 3709 or lee.kinsella@uwa.edu.au

Clare McFarlane (Visual Design and Communications Officer) on 08 6488 7809 or clare.mcfarlane@uwa.edu.au

Annelies Gartner (UWA PR and Media Manager) on 08 6488 6876 or annelies.gartner@uwa.edu.au