

JGM GALLERY

Leading specialists in Contemporary Art & Aboriginal Australian Art

Travelling through Country

*An exhibition of Aboriginal art from across Australia
opens 2 March – 2 April 2022 at JGM Gallery in Battersea, London*

Works by 20 leading Australian Aboriginal artists feature in JGM Gallery's latest exhibition, *TRAVELLING THROUGH COUNTRY*, which takes us on a journey from the rugged rock formations of the Kimberley region, across the dry Central Desert region, and on to the tropical Arnhem Land.

TRAVELLING THROUGH COUNTRY, which runs from Wednesday 2 March until Saturday 2 April 2022, is presented as part of the [UK/Australia Season 2021-2022](#), organised jointly by the British Council and the Australian Government.

As is characteristic of Aboriginal painting, the 29 works in the exhibition map the artist's 'Country' with sacred sites, food and water sources. Country refers to land, sky and water, where traditions are embedded and "time is circular, continuous and place based" ⁽¹⁾.

Jennifer Guerrini Maraldi, founder of JGM Gallery, says: "For tens of thousands of years, the Indigenous peoples of Australia have travelled often for hundreds of kilometres, and traditionally by foot, to visit sacred sites in Country. Their paintings, which represent a blueprint for survival, carry the laws and stories passed down from elder to elder."

*'Driving through Texas' by Kimberley
artist **Patrick Mung**, 2019
180cm x 180cm
Natural ochre on canvas*



TRAVELLING THROUGH COUNTRY reminds us of the rich diversity of Aboriginal art and culture, a culture which some 120 different languages are still spoken.

Artists from the north-western Kimberley region – renowned for its artistic use of earthy natural ochres – and featured in TRAVELLING ACROSS COUNTRY include:

- **Tommy Carroll:** his works recount the Rainbow Serpent Dreaming, with the solid circles representing water holes and the lines the hills.
- **Mabel Juli:** the Bush Turkey and Emu Dreaming, with the line of dots representing the road travelled.
- **Patrick Mung Mung** worked on Texas Down station for many year (see page 1).
- **Rammey Ramsey** was brought up in Warlawoon country, where he would walk the bush with his family (see below).



'Warlawoon' by Kimberley artist
Rammei Ramsey, 2021
90cm x 120cm
Acrylic on canvas

Other Kimberley artists featured in the exhibition include **Churchill Cann**, **Claude Carter**, **Dora Griffiths** and **Lindsay Malay**.

Artists from the CENTRAL DESERT REGION include:

- **Bob Gibson Tjungarrayi:** is a Western Desert artist living in the Gibson Desert in Western Australia. His bold, vibrant works have been described as a "celebration of individual expression within the cultural continuum" ⁽²⁾.
- **Kittey Malarvie** is a Kimberly artist who uses natural ochres to depict her mother's Country, Sturt Creek, with its naturally milky waters, and black soil that reflects a myriad of different colours.
- **Maureen Poulson Napangardi** uses dotting to represent hailstorms, as well as colour and design for features such as waterholes, sandhills, clouds and rocks (see page 3).

Other Central Desert Region artists featured include Doris Bush Nungarrayi, George Japaltjarri, Alice Nampitjinpa Dixon, Daphne Marks and Martha Protty.

Kapi Tjukurrpa-Kalinpinypa
by Central Desert artist **Maureen Poulson Napangardi**, 2021
95cm x 152cm
Acrylic on linen



Artists from ARNHEM LAND, on the western shore of the Gulf of Carpentaria, include:

- **Nonggirnga Marawili**: renowned for her vivid, deep pink, using ochres and acrylic.



Baratjala by Arnhem Land artist
Nonggirnga Marawili, 2020
76cm x 56cm
Ochre & acrylic on Arches paper

- **Dhurrumuwuy Marika**: who paints the Rulyapa saltwater Country close to Yirrkala and the sacred dome-shaped rocks exposed at low tide.

- **Nawurapu Wununmurra:** famous for his monkey and fish carvings using the Garraparra pattern, a special design belonging to him which depicts Blue Mud Bay.



'Makani' by **Nawurapu Wununmurra**
150cm x 12cm
Carving & bark painting

- **Ralwurrandji Wanambi:** the strong, graphic lines in the picture featured marks a departure from the sacred, solitary granite rocks of Trial Bay that she normally depicts.

All the artists featured have their works represented in all the major museum collections in Australia as well as private collections around the world.

⁽¹⁾ Source page 1: Intro to JGM Gallery exhibition catalogue for '[Colour from the Australian Desert](#)', written by Professor Margo Ngawa Neale, Head of the Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Senior Curator & Advisor to the Director at the National Museum of Australia.

⁽²⁾ Source page 2: [Essay](#) by Henry F. Skeritt Curator of Indigenous Arts of Australia Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection University of Virginia

For further information, or for high-res images for media use, please contact us at the gallery on info@jmgallery.com or + 44 (0) 207 228 6027.

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