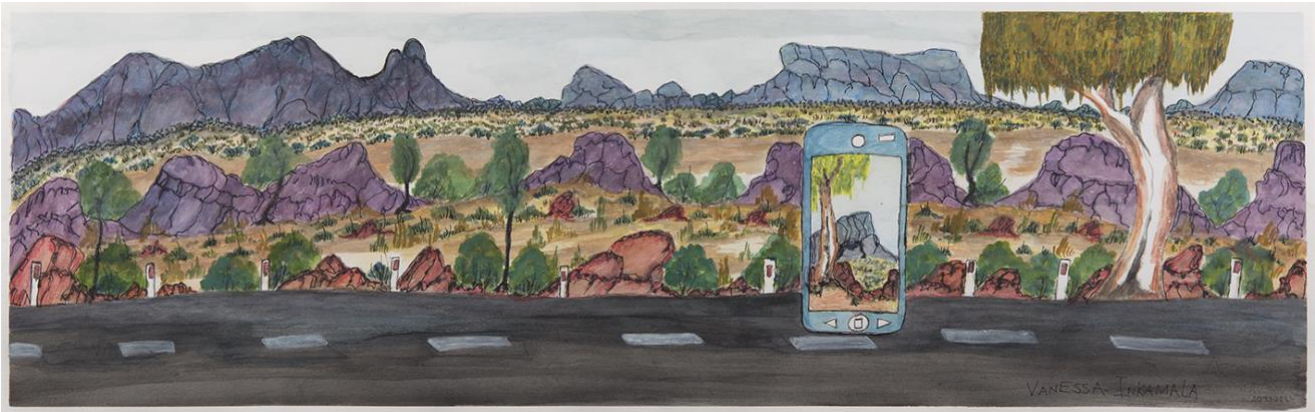


MEDIA RELEASE

24 October 2019



New gallery in Adelaide's south opens with showcase of beauty from the red centre

A new gallery in Adelaide's south is bringing the treasures of a nationally acclaimed art movement to the community, launching today with an exhibition of breathtaking watercolours from the famed Hermannsburg School.

The gallery at Flinders University marks a new chapter in the history of the university's art museum, providing for the first time a dedicated exhibition space for the visual arts at the University's Bedford Park campus.

"It's an exciting step in our museum's vibrant journey that has added much to the learnings and lives of our students, staff and our wider community," says Flinders University Vice-Chancellor Professor Colin Stirling.

The art museum hosts one of the largest art collections of any university in Australia, with a focus on Indigenous Australian art, European prints, Post-object and documentation art, and Australian political prints and posters. It's oldest work dates to the mid-15th century.

Professor Stirling says the museum is a distinct South Australian resource that plays an important role in education and research while benefiting the broader community through its public facing exhibitions and programs.

In celebrating the launch of the gallery, the University is thrilled to present *Tjina Nurna-ka, Pmarra Nurna-kanha, Itla Itla Nurna-kanha: Our Family, Our Country, Our Legacy*, an exhibition of works by Western Aranda watercolourists that pays tribute to the enduring legacy of famed artist Albert Namatjira.

Widely regarded as the pioneer of contemporary Indigenous Australian art, Namatjira inspired the now acclaimed Hermannsburg School of artists whose work is characterised by evocative watercolours of Western Aranda Country around Mparntwe (Alice Springs) and surrounding areas of Central Australia.

The exhibition features recent and decades-old paintings drawn from practising artists of Ittja Ntjarra Many Hands Art Centre in Alice Springs and the collections of Flinders University, the Art Gallery of South Australia and South Australian Museum.

Developed over a period of 12 months in consultation with the Western Aranda community of artists, it is presented in partnership with the Art Gallery of South Australia and Ittja Ntjarra Many Hands Art Centre, for Tarnanthi: Festival of Contemporary Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art.

“This superb exhibition is testament to the vision of our art museum in creating a place of collaboration and dialogue, opening us to new ideas and different ways of seeing the world,” Professor Stirling says.

The launch of the new gallery is accompanied by fresh branding, including a name change from Flinders University Art Museum to Flinders University Museum of Art (FUMA).

“Our new visual identity is deliberately bold, nodding to the mid-century roots of our University” says FUMA Director Fiona Salmon.

“It is designed to energise the museum’s unique character while speaking to its diverse audiences and encouraging new ones,” she says.

Curated by Marisa Maher, Nic Brown and Madeline Reece, *Tjina Nurna-ka, Pmarra Nurna-kanha, Itla Itla Nurna-kanha: Our Family, Our Country, Our Legacy* is displayed across two sites: Flinders University Museum of Art and the Art Gallery of South Australia.

Exhibition date and locations

Flinders University Museum of Art

Ground floor | Social Sciences North Building
Flinders University | Sturt Road
Bedford Park SA 5042

[View location map.](#)

25 Oct 2019 – 27 Jan 2020

Mon – Wed & Fri | 10am – 5pm

Thur | 10am – 8pm

Closed 21 Dec – 13 Jan

And

Art Gallery of South Australia

Gallery 8

North Terrace

Adelaide SA 5000

18 Oct 2019 – 27 Jan 2020

10am – 5pm daily

Closed 25 Dec

Public Programs 

Thursday 24 October | 5:30pm

Co-curators Marisa Maher and Nic Brown in conversation

Tuesday 29 October | 12 noon

Floortalk with co-curator Madeline Reece

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Images:

(cover page) Vanessa Inkamala, Western Aranda people, *Phone on the road to Ntaria*, 2018, watercolour on paper, 32.5 x 102.0 cm, Collection of Janet and Monty Maughan, © Vanessa Inkamala / Copyright Agency 2019

(this page) Nic Brown, Marisa Maher and Maddie Reece at Itja Ntjarra Many Hands Art Centre, Alice Springs, April 2019. Photography Rhett Hammerton. © Rhett Hammerton 2019