

# Keeping Culture Strong in a Changing World

## Creative Learning in the Gallery

Explore First Nations Australian Art in the *Revealed: New and Emerging WA Aboriginal Artists* exhibition at PICA!

Aboriginal artists from all over Western Australia have shared stories through their art in exciting ways. Some artworks share ancient knowledge, keeping culture strong and traditions alive. Others use new materials and technologies to ask questions about our changing world and views of the past.

Look closely and think about these works to learn about different ways of seeing and understanding the world.

Find out more! Scan the QR code to read the *2025 Revealed* exhibition catalogue.

*Revealed* is presented with the Aboriginal Art Centre Hub of Western Australia.



## Keeping Culture Strong

**Tools and traditions** - Find an artwork that could be used as an object in a traditional practice. How could it be used?

**Old Ways, New Art** - Look for an artwork made using old or traditional techniques. Why did the artist use this technique?

Why might it be important for artists to remember or relearn old practices and knowledge?

## Art Centre in Focus - Martumili Artists

**Martumili Artists** is an Aboriginal arts centre in the Pilbara region, representing Martu people from communities such as Jigalong, Parnngurr, Kunawarritji, Punmu and others.

The works of Martumili Artists show a deep connection to Country, family and memory. Many of the artists see painting as a way to stay connected to Country even when far away.

How are **colour** and **repetition** used in Martumili paintings to tell a story or show the landscape?

Why might artists paint places they've only heard about from Elders? How do paintings act as memory-keepers?

## Responding to a changing world

**New Materials** - Find an artwork that uses modern materials.

What does the artist's choice of materials say about things influencing them? Such as social, cultural & historical context.

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**New Technologies**- Look for an artwork made with new technologies. How might this help people to understand the cultures and lived experiences of Aboriginal people today?

## Different Ways of Seeing Country

**Compare & Contrast** - artwork representing the environment using photography to one using painting as a technique.



Do these works show different ways of seeing Country?

What might **perspective** (such aerial vs. linear points of view) tell us about the artist's relationship to place?

Does the technique chosen by the artist say something about their intention? Such as making a political stance of protest or support.

## Student Response

To better understand the artists' connection to Country and culture, what would you ask them about their artwork?

What cultural knowledge and stories are yours to share?  
When do you need permission to share knowledge?

How do you stay connected to places or people that are important to you?

Read about these artists in the catalogue

### **Tools & Traditions**

- Colleen Drage, *Connecting Springs Murchison House Station to Kalbarri & Quandongs on the Ground (From the Murchison House Station Life series)* (pages 46-47)
- Brett Jennings, *A New Song* (pages 154-155)
- Sheryl Green, Andrea Green-Ugle and Charmaine Papertalk Green, *Kangaroo skin cloak awl clasp set* (pages 170-171)

### **Martumili Artists** (pages 62 - 71)

- Attaya Angie, *Untitled*; Brett Bidu, *Pitu (Separation Well)*; Damien Miller, *Karlkun—Karlkun*; Dianne Marney, *Nyinyiri*

### **New Materials**

- Jacinta Taylor, *Don't Step on Me* (pages 212-215)
- Emma-Lee Maher, *Boundary* (pages 204-207)
- Katelyn Whitehurst, *A Game of Moort* (pages 220 - 223)
- Mandy White, *DON'T CALL US BIN CHICKENS!* (pages 218 - 219)

### **New Technologies & Photography**

- Jacinta Taylor, *Boorloo, white city* and *Cuirmara Moort* (pages 212-215)
- Juluwarlu Photography Collective, *Nhaungu Ngurrawaanalangu* (pages 42-43)
- Nuriah Judai, *Walyunkurr—Mangala Mulnyi* (pages 16-17)
- Shannon Clohessy, *Whispering Shores* (pages 238-239)

Produced for the *2025 Revealed: New and Emerging WA Aboriginal Artists* exhibition presented at PICA with the Aboriginal Art Centre Hub of Western Australia.

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