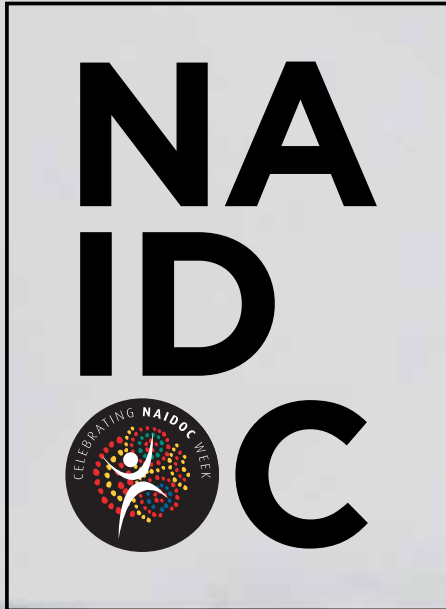


**NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS**  
**BECAUSE OF HER WE CAN**



**JOONDALUP BOORUNGUR**  
**EXHIBITION CURATED BY**  
**SHARYN EGAN**

**2 - 27 JULY 2018**

Joondalup Art Gallery  
4/48 Central Walk Joondalup

Tuesdays to Thursdays  
10.00am - 2.00pm

Fridays  
10.30am - 2.30pm

Artwork: Sharyn Egan, *The Mulligans*, 2017 (installation detail). Image courtesy of the artist and Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts. Image credit: © Alessandro Bianchetti



As part of 2018 NAIDOC week celebrations, Artist/Curator Sharyn Egan has been commissioned to present Joondalup Boorongur, an exhibition conceived in response to the City of Joondalup's Art Collection.

Two of the City's works, by Lindsay Harris and Sally Morgan, with others by Tjyllyungoo Lance Chadd, Richard Walley and Sharyn herself, are presented to share Nyoongar perspectives on the totemic relationships in this region.

The City is grateful to the artists, and to Edith Cowan University (ECU), for loaning a number of artworks from the ECU Art Collection. These were created as part of the ECU Vice Chancellor's Commission for NAIDOC Week 2015 in conjunction with Kurongkurl Katitjin.



Sharyn Egan, *The Nullians*, 2017 (installation detail). Image courtesy of the artist and Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts. Image credit: © Alessandro Bianchetti



Sharyn Egan.  
Photo credit: Alessandro Bianchetti

## ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Nyoongar spirituality lies in the belief of a cultural landscape and the connection between the human and spiritual realms. Through our paintings, we pay respect to our ancestors and strengthen our belief systems. Our connection to nature and country shows a close relationship with spiritual beings associated with the land. The story of Nyoongar people is told through our interactions with the plants and the animals, which are an important part of our environment. We express this through our caring for country.

Boorongur means both "spiritual elder brother" and "blood brother relation", identifying the strong connection Nyoongar culture has between place and belonging. Boorongur can be a natural object, plant or animal that is inherited by members of a clan or family as their spiritual emblem. Boorongur defines people's roles and responsibilities, and their relationships with each other and creation.

Each person had at least four Boorongur which represent their nation, clan and family group, as well as a personal Boorongur. You are born with your Boorongur for nation, clan and family totems, whereas personal Boorongur recognise each person's strengths and weaknesses. Boorongur link a person to the universe - to land, air, water and landmarks. People don't own their Boorongur, rather they are accountable for them. Each person has a responsibility to ensure that their Boorongur is protected and handed down to the next generation.

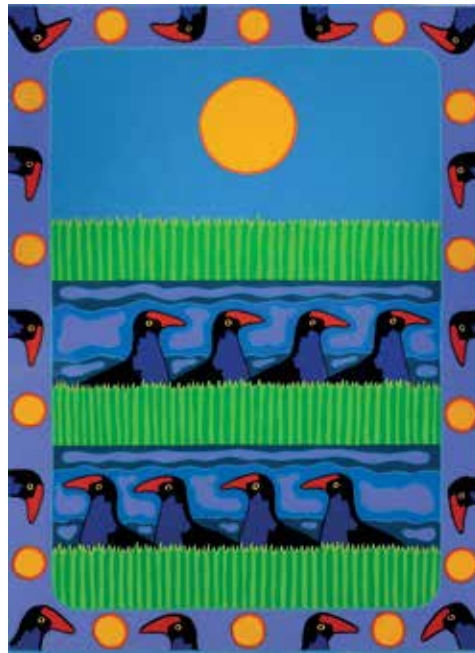
The artworks in this exhibition speak of the stories of the artists, their families, their culture and their traditions. The artworks unite the past with the present and the future; the oldest living culture and our present world. This is about artists living and working on Nyoongar country communicating the relationship to the land we are standing on today. This connection is a spiritual one, which is the very essence of Nyoongar life. Presenting these works to the public is an invitation to a dialogue between different cultures and different times.

**Sharyn Egan**  
Artist/Curator





Lindsay Harris. *Koraar Woolagut Koorling, Yey Kwodjungut Koorling* (Long ago behind going, today in front going), 2013. Resin, pigment and binder on hemp. 195x136cm. City of Joondalup Art Collection.



Sally Morgan. *Swamp Hen at Lake Joondalup*, 1991. Silkscreen print. 64x48cm. City of Joondalup Art Collection.



Richard Walley. *Koora Yay Boordah (Past, Present, Future)*, 2015. Acrylic on canvas. 122x152cm. Created as part of the ECU Vice Chancellor's Commission for NAIDOC Week 2015 in conjunction with Kurongkurl Katitjin. Courtesy of the artist and Edith Cowan University.



Tjyllyungoo Lance Chadd. *Ngoolark*, 2015. Acrylic on Canvas. 90x120cm. Created as part of the ECU Vice Chancellor's Commission for NAIDOC Week 2015 in conjunction with Kurongkurl Katitjin. Courtesy of the artist and Edith Cowan University.



Sharyn Egan, *Bindi Bindi*, 2015. Acrylic and resin on canvas. Courtesy of the artist and Edith Cowan University. Created as part of the ECU Vice Chancellor's commission for NAIDOC Week 2015 in conjunction with Kurongkurl Katitjin.

#### OTHER WORKS

Tjyllyungoo Lance Chadd. *Boorongurup*, 2016. Acrylic on Canvas.

Sharyn Egan. *Bindi Bindi 2*, 2016. Acrylic, ochre and resin on canvas.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

For further information regarding the City's NAIDOC celebrations call 9400 4927 or visit [joondalup.wa.gov.au](http://joondalup.wa.gov.au)

### Tjyllyungoo Lance Chadd

Lance Chadd, a Bibbulmun Nyoongar/Budimia Yamatji Aboriginal artist born in the southwest town of Bunbury, paints under his traditional tribal name 'Tjyllyungoo' (meaning, Elder Man/Wisdom/Law, given to him by his Father, Norman Chadd, a well-known Drover of Yamatji Country). Tjyllyungoo has painted professionally since 1981 and is known as one of the most senior and important Nyoongar artists alive today. Early influences were his uncles Allan Kelly and Reynold Hart, who were both of the well-known 'child' artists of the Carrolup Mission, the start of the South Western Aboriginal movement of painting. Tjyllyungoo's strong connection to his cultural history and drive for cultural maintenance and knowledge, stem from his late father's passion and early sharing. He continues his exploration and research of his ancestors, as well as his personal and artistic journey of deepening connections to country.

### Sharyn Egan

Artist Sharyn Egan is a Wadjuk Nyoongar woman and was born in Perth in 1957. At the age of three, Egan was taken from her family and placed in the New Norcia Mission until she was thirteen years old. She never saw her parents again. Egan's work, in oils, natural ochres, resins and acrylics on canvas, as well as natural fibre woven sculptures, is informed by this experience and comments upon the associated trauma, emotions and a deep sense of loss and displacement amongst Aboriginal people. She has qualifications in contemporary art from Curtin University and Claremont School of Art and her works are held in the collections of the Berndt Museum of Anthropology and the National Museum of Australia. Sharyn most recently exhibited an installation of found objects in 'When the Sky Fell: Legacies of the 1967 Referendum' at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art.

### Lindsay Harris

Lindsay Harris, Nyoongar painter, was born in 1947. He is known for his use of natural pigments and resin, collected from his ancestral lands land around Kwolyin, 200km east of Perth, in his spacious abstract compositions that reflect the affiliation with this territory. His use of sticks to apply these materials and acrylic paint evokes, for him, the scarification of land as well as ceremonial scarring. Harris has exhibited regularly since 2006, winning the Vincent Prize at the Town of Vincent Art Awards and being shortlisted for the 25th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award in 2008.

### Sally Morgan

Sally Morgan OAM was born and raised in Perth, Western Australia. She completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Western Australia in 1974, followed by postgraduate diplomas in counselling, computing and librarianship at the Curtin Institute of Technology in Perth. In 1987, Morgan became a national celebrity with the release of her autobiography, *My Place*, which charts her discovery of her Aboriginality and outlines her family history. Morgan is also a nationally recognised artist. Her artworks can be found in major collections including the Robert Holmes a Court collection, the Dobell Foundation and the Australian National Gallery. She was awarded a Medal of Australia in 1990.

### Dr. Richard Walley

Dr. Richard Walley OAM is a former Chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board of the Australia Council. A Nyoongar man, he was born at Meekatharra and grew up in Pinjarra. In 1978, he co-founded the Middar Aboriginal Theatre with friends including Ernie Dingo, with whom he later devised and performed the very first 'Welcome to Country' ceremony, of the kind with which all Australians are now familiar, as a courtesy to visiting Pacific Islanders in Perth in 1976. Walley is a renowned visual artist, musician, performer and writer. He received a doctorate of letters from Murdoch University in 2001 in recognition of his contribution to Nyoongar culture and the wider community.



T: 08 9400 4000

F: 08 9300 1383

Boas Avenue Joondalup WA 6027

PO Box 21 Joondalup WA 6919

[joondalup.wa.gov.au](http://joondalup.wa.gov.au)



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