FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
20 November 2009

MEDIA RELEASE

Exhibition Dates: 4 December 2009 – 14 February 2010

*Colour Country: art from Roper River* is a national touring exhibition from Wagga Wagga Art Gallery. This extraordinary exhibition of Aboriginal art from Arnhem Land will subvert your expectations about Indigenous art. There are no dot paintings or ochres on bark. Instead the Gallery will be filled with huge paintings, bursting with colour and life, depicting country, ‘landscape’ and ancestral power through these artists’ individual vision.

*Colour Country: art from Roper River* consists of approximately fifty works from artists who painted in the Roper River region of the Northern Territory from 1987. The bulk of the exhibition represents historically significant paintings by major artists such as Ginger Riley Munduwalawala, Djambu Barra Barra, Willie Gudabi, Gertie Huddleston and Amy Jirwulurr Johnson, drawn from private and public collections and from Ngukurr Arts, the artist-run community art centre at Ngukurr, NT.

Paintings from Roper River have only been exhibited together in a major public gallery once before, at the National Gallery of Victoria in 1997. Of the works collected from across Australia for this exhibition, many have not been exhibited at all or are rarely seen. *Colour Country: art from Roper River* offers the opportunity to see how the artists have developed individual innovation and experimentation, within their own distinct styles.

A full-colour catalogue, with contributions by Cath Bowdler, Judith Ryan and Nicolas Rothwell accompanies the exhibition.

Venue:
Flinders University City Gallery
State Library of South Australia
North Terrace, Adelaide
Tel: 08 8207 7055  Fax: 08 8207 7056
Website: www.flinders.edu.au/artmuseum
Email: city.gallery@flinders.edu.au

Gallery Hours:  Tues – Fri 11 – 4, Sat & Sun 12 – 4
Exhibition Dates: 4 December 2009 – 14 February 2010
Opening: 6.00-8.00pm Friday 4 December 2009
Guest speaker: Dr Brenda L. Croft, Lecturer: Indigenous Art / Indigenous Studies at the SA School of Art and David Unaipon College of Indigenous Education and Research, University of South Australia

Public Program: 2.00pm Saturday 5 December 2009
Floor talk by curator Cath Bowdler

Please contact Flinders University City Gallery on 08 8207 7055 for further information

This exhibition is supported by Visions of Australia, an Australian Government program supporting touring exhibitions by providing funding assistance for the development and touring of Australian cultural material across Australia

Image: Ginger Riley Munduwalawala, Ngak Ngak and the owl at night 1997, synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 57 x 123 cm

Courtesy of Estate of Ginger Riley Munduwalawala and Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne.