FUMA NEWS | June 2020



Message from the Director

Flinders University Museum of Art (FUMA) is thrilled to be back up and running with a brand-new exhibition, which formally launched online on 1 June alongside the University's inaugural <u>Reconciliation</u> <u>Action Plan</u>. Co-curated with Flinders University colleague Dr Ali Gumillya Baker, multi-disciplinary Mirning artist and Senior Lecturer in Indigenous and Australian Studies, the FUMA exhibition features works by Indigenous and non-Indigenous contemporary Australian artists that challenge Eurocentric representations of Captain Cook and the nation's recent past.

In opening our doors again, FUMA advises that we are following Government advice regarding physical distancing and hygiene measures. Please note that a maximum of 20 visitors can be accommodated in the gallery at once ensuring a 1.5m minimum distance between people. For guided tours, bookings are essential such that we do not exceed the limit on capacity. Please also note that instead of hardcopy brochures, extended exhibition interpretation will be downloadable onto your smartphone or tablet via a QR code. Hand sanitizer will be available at the door.

We look forward to welcoming you back and seeing you soon.

Warm regards,

Fiona Salmon



In the hold | Decolonising Cook in contemporary Australian art

A Flinders University Museum of Art exhibition

Now showing until 30 September

Comprising 35 works including paintings, prints, photography, moving image and sculpture, and presented 250 years since Captain Cook's landing on Dharawal Country, on the southern headland of what is also now known as Botany Bay, this exhibition contemplates our collective responsibility to our histories and how we grapple with their meanings and effects in the present day.

The exhibition can be <u>explored online</u> and is accompanied by <u>extended interpretive text</u>. From 11 June FUMA will be offering a series of guided exhibition tours which can be booked <u>here</u>.

Image: Installation view, *In the hold | Decolonising Cook in contemporary Australian art*, May 2020, Flinders University Museum of Art Gallery, Bedford Park; photographer: Brianna Speight



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art in Health Project

In partnership with the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health

Funded by the Flinders University College of Medicine and Public Health (CMPH), this collaboration draws on FUMA's nationally significant collections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art with the aim of effectively engaging students with Indigenous Australian histories and contemporary experiences, and associated determinants of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing. The project builds on FUMA's previous object-based learning (OBL) initiatives and through consultation with Indigenous and non-Indigenous academics and the participation of practising artists, will deliver new and adaptive resources for Flinders University staff teaching in this space.

With the completion of three short films with artists Ali Gumillya Baker, Sandra Saunders and Darren Siwes, the project recently reached a major milestone. The full suite of resources will be available for teaching in Semester 1, 2021.

Image: Ali Gumillya Baker, Sandra Saunders and Darren Siwes with examples of their artworks used in the short films



National Library of Australia Community Heritage Grants Program

The exceptional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art collection at FUMA is highly regarded with works regularly featuring in important publications and exhibitions across the nation. A special highlight within these holdings is the Papunya Painting Collection which includes many pieces from the first decade of the <u>Western Desert Art</u> movement.

Between 2016 and 2019, with support from the Papunya Tjupi Board of Directors and Papunya scholars Vivien Johnson and John Kean, FUMA was awarded a series of grants from the National Library of Australia Community Heritage Grants Program, to commission significance and preservation assessment reports on the collection and to fund a rehousing project and priority conservation. Following recommendations from ArtLab Australia, the collection was relocated into new storage infrastructure earlier this year and two highly significant and fragile paintings have just been successfully conserved. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Community Heritage Grants scheme that made this important work possible.

Image: Papunya Painting Collection storage, Flinders University Museum of Art, Bedford Park



2020 Exhibition Review Competition

Want to win \$250 and be published?

We're holding an exhibition review competition to give students the chance to show off their writing skills. You'll have the chance to submit a written response to each of our upcoming exhibitions. Our current exhibition In the hold | Decolonising Cook in contemporary Australian art is now on display in the FUMA Gallery and online.

Second submission deadline is 24 July. Find out more here.

Image: Chips Mackinolty, The first pandemic, 2020, digital print on archival paper, 40 x 36 cm, © Chips Mackinolty 2020



TAKE 5

Take 5 minutes to explore a handful of hidden gems from the FUMA Collections. In this edition we feature the work of Australian art collective Optronic Kinetics, founded by renowned sculptor Bert Flugelman (1923-2013). More information here.

Image: Optronic Kinetics, Feathered office (detail), 1971, gelatin silver photograph, 20.3 x 25.4 cm, Gift of Emeritus Professor Donald Brook, Collection of Flinders University Museum of Art 3097, Image © the Estate of Herbert Flugelman, 2020

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