

Martumilli

Warrarnku Ninti

CELEBRATION

Friday 5 July to Monday 8 July 2024

Presented by Martumilli Artists and Kanyirrinpa Jukurrpa in partnership with Tura

Warrarnku Ninti (knowledge of Country) is a multi-year partnership project initiated by Martumili Artists with Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa, culminating as a series of theme-based arts and cultural bush camps with distinct exhibition outcomes.

Coming together in one event, the *Warrarnku Ninti Celebration* aligns with the opening of the *Kujungka* exhibition with works from the Tura and Martumili Kulininpalaju (We Are Listening!) project, to activate the collection of paintings in a program of immersive sound and light experiences.

What's On	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Kujungka Exhibition and Soundscape Martumili Gallery Space	4pm–8pm	10am–4pm	10am–4pm	10am–4pm 5:30–7pm
Warrarnku Ninti Sound + Light Show EPAC Void Activity Space	6–7pm 7–8pm	6–7pm 7–8pm	6–7pm 7–8pm	6–7pm
Kulininpalaju Soundscape EPAC Void Activity Space		10am–4pm	10am–4pm	10am–4pm
Weaving Workshops Martumili Gallery Space		11am	11am	

Kujungka Exhibition and Soundscape

Martumili Gallery Space

The *Kujungka* exhibition, meaning ‘all coming together as one’, is the culmination of three years of collaborative programming, celebrating the spirit of cooperation and togetherness. Presented by Martumili Artists and Kanyirininpa Jukurrpa (KJ) in partnership with Tura, the visual aspects of the exhibition were developed through Martumili and KJ’s joint activities. The sonic elements of *Kujungka* feature compositions created from the Kulininpalaju Sound Archive.

The sounds you hear in the gallery space were made during on-Country developments in Punmu, Parngur and Kunawarritji communities and feature Martu artists:

Azarni Dean	Kimeal Simpson
Alysha Taylor	Kieran Patch
Alana Patch	Marlene Anderson
Bethany Wumi	Mayika Chapman
Bianca Simpson	Nola Taylor
Brianna Booth	Owen John Biljabu
Corban Clause Williams	Rianne Burton
Corina Jadaí	Robina Clause
Dean Brooks	Sarah Jones
Derrick Butt	Shamicka Sampi
Gladys Kuru Bidu	Shaylene Taylor
Helen Dale Samson	Timera Frank
Jenny Butt	Tionne Gibson
Judith Anya Samson	Thelma Judson

The collectivity and reciprocity of Martu culture reminds us of the interconnectedness of all things, and as such this exhibition expresses the fruitful cross-pollination of diverse creative practices as an everyday Martu way of living.

Artwork: [Top] *Untitled*, Jakayu Biljabu (dec.) and Corban Bamba Clause Williams, 2021, acrylic on linen; [Middle] *Waterholes, Emu Tracks, Tuwa and Rabbit Proof Fence*, Judith Anya Samson, 2024, acrylic on canvas; [Bottom] *Wantili (Warntili, Canning Stock Route Well 25)*, Bugai Whyoulter, 2023, acrylic on linen



Warrarnku Ninti Sound + Light Show

EPAC Void Activity Space

The rich possibilities of *kujungka* are powerfully realised in the *Warrarnku Ninti Sound + Light Show*. Senior and emerging Martu artists come together and take the audience on a journey deep into desert country. Paintings by Judith Anya Samson, Muuki Taylor, Nola Taylor, Bugai Whoulter, Cyril Whoulter, and Corban Clause Williams, are transformed to fill the East Pilbara Arts Centre with immersive landscapes illuminating many shared cultural practices.

Wantili, Wayinkurangu, Puntawarri, Kulyakartu and Punmu are all evoked in mesmerising animations created with Sohan Ariel Hayes (third generation English settler producing artist with extensive experience working with Senior Martu Law Men and Women), with immersive sound compositions that have been created by Martu and Tura artists from the on-Country Kulininpalaju (We Are Listening!) project.

Warrarnku Ninti Sound + Light Show furthers ongoing investigations into collaborative work and new media, sharing Martu ways of knowing Country.

Artwork: *Wantili (Warntili, Canning Stock Route Well 25)*, Cyril Whyoulter, acrylic on linen

Kulininpalaju Soundscape

EPAC Void Activity Space

During the day across this celebratory weekend, visitors are invited to experience a surround-sound immersive audio experience sourced from the Kulininpalaju Sound Archive. In this expansive soundscape, selections from the archive are given space to stretch out, mimicking the immense desert landscapes of Martu *ngurra* (Country).

About Kulininpalaju

Kulininpalaju is a long-term creative collaboration between Martumili Artists and Tura, supported by BHP. The project explores the extensive possibilities of collective listening and recording, literally translating to ‘*we are listening*’ in Martu *wangka* (language).

Over 100+ hours of audio recordings made during on-Country developments since 2020 in Punmu, Parnngurr and Kunawarritji. The recordings were made by over 25 Martu artists, alongside Tura facilitators and sound artists Philip Samartzis and Annika Moses.

Through Kulininpalaju, Tura and Martumili have honed a strong methodology for Martu-led intercultural collaboration in the creative sound art medium. Kulininpalaju explores sound as an exciting and potent medium for sharing Country, supporting intergenerational knowledge transfer and contributing to collective cultural wellbeing.

Kulininpalaju Sound Archive will be the source material for the creation of many immersive sound compositions as well as collaborations with other media and an online curated sound archive to connect those for those absent from Country.



Images: Ignatius Taylor, 2021, photo: Tim Pearn; Alysha Taylor at Sandy Creek on Nyiyarparli Country, 2023, photo: Anna Spencer; Judith Anya Samson and Annika Moses recording, 2021, photo: Zoe Martyn.

Martumili Artists is a Martu-driven Aboriginal art centre, hosted by the Shire of East Pilbara. Martumili represents Martu artists working in the communities of Parnpajinya (Newman), Jigalong, Parnngurr, Punmu, Kunawarritji, Irrungadji and Warralong. Based in Newman in the East Pilbara Arts Centre, Martumili maintain a self-curated gallery space and a drop-in art studio. Martumili also service remote communities through regular field trips to satellite community based art facilities. Martumili are well-recognised by national institutions and private collectors, and are exhibited worldwide.

Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa is a Martu organisation that works with Martu delivering a suite of cultural, environmental, educational, and social programs. KJ's mission is to build strong and sustainable Martu communities and one of KJ's primary objectives is to preserve Martu culture and traditional knowledge. This focuses KJ's work on Martu living within the four desert communities, but does not prevent the far-flung Martu diaspora also working with KJ. Currently the largest employer of Martu, the success of KJ's programs have been acknowledged at a national and international level.

Tura creates ambitious projects and experiences that celebrate sound and defy expectations. As a national organisation based in Boorloo/Perth Tura makes a leading contribution to the cultural life of Australia and beyond through award-winning productions, major projects and community engagement programs that strive for positive social change. Tura supports artistic risk and innovation and creates new works that are diverse, unexpected and daringly bold. Tura works with communities and artists at all levels to foster talent, ambition and growth. Participants and audiences are encouraged to experience new and surprising perceptions of place, the world, and themselves.

Martu are the traditional owners of a large part of the remote western desert region of Western Australia. Their ancestral land includes much of the Great Sandy, Little Sandy and Gibson Deserts as well as the Karlamilyi National Park. Across their Country, Martu share common languages, law and culture.

Presented by



Kanyirninpa Jukurpa

Shire of **EAST
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