

ART MOB

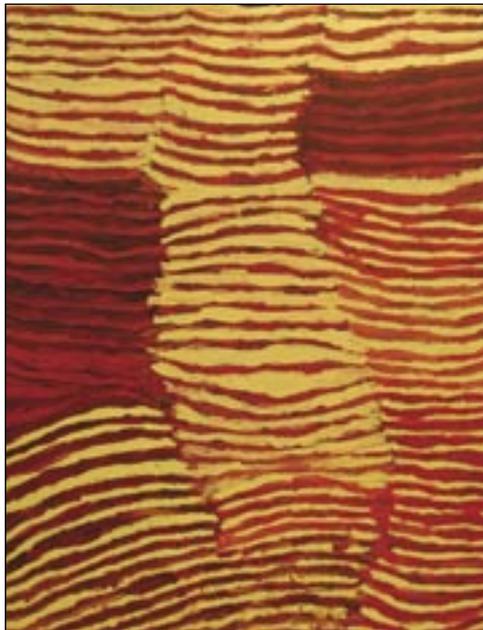
Aboriginal Fine Art

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Feb '06



Top 50 Exhibition Results - Girls going crazy!!!

21 out of our 27 paintings exhibited in our 'Top 50' exhibition last month were all female artists. Gloria Petyarre, Minnie Pwerle, Lilly Kelly Napangardi, Makinti Napanangka and Eubena Nampitjin, just to name a few, are names consistently appearing in our sold list. (Gallery assistant Emma, astutely contributed this paragraph.)

February exhibitions

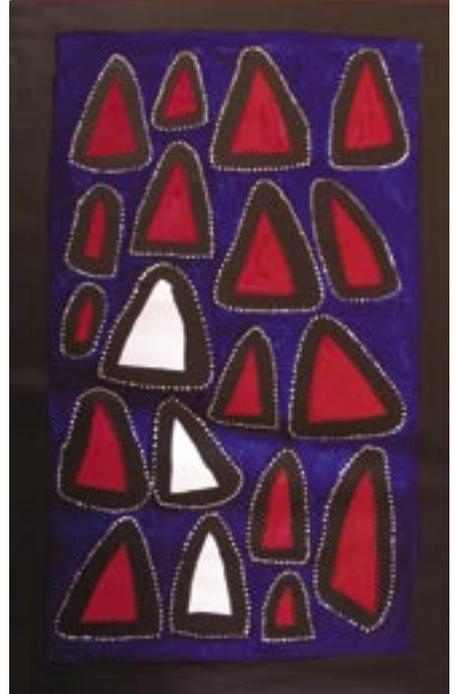
Late this month, but not forgotten. The Kaltjiti Collaboration exhibition has become a virtual exhibition on-line on our web site at www.artmob.com.au. Difficulties in getting paintings to match rugs and continuing daily sales of rugs forced this option. Check out our current stock on-line – it will change as new rugs come in – including high sheen cotton rugs. Bush Tucker launches at 6pm Friday Feb 17th with an eclectic range of works showing Aboriginal food sources from a number of communities. Witchetty grubs will not be served as canapés this time.

Patronising attitudes

I recall an article where a Sydney gallerist was asked what annoyed him the most. It was the common statement "I like the piece but just don't have the space". His gallant reply was "Well, what are you? An interior decorator or a collector?" Not as brave, Art Mob's gallerist, Euan Hills wouldn't contemplate such bold repartee but does get miffed with "How do I know that the artist gets paid properly for a painting that I may consider?" Fronted with a response "Do you ask that same question in a "white" artist gallery?" usually elicits a negative response. Well, then why ask it? In many cases the payment is faster and the sum better. Good work comes from happy artists and is well paid for in purchase terms. Worse still is the attitude that only proper Aboriginal art comes from community art centres. Our Aboriginal artists deserve the right to choose how

Found Wandjinas!!!

Last month's perturbed plea resulted in delivery of the 2 missing works to the gallery in San Francisco but it took a month! Maybe it was the advice to the freight company that Wandjinas don't like to be mucked around with. All's well that ends well – nice choice of name for an interim exhibition of Jack Dale & Makinti Napanangka. Watch out for it!



and for whom they should paint. Sure, Art Mob supports art centres strongly but is not constrained by patronising attitudes that smack of racism and discrimination. At the end of the day the quality of the art counts. Archibald Prize winner Geoff Dyer wouldn't contemplate the same control mechanisms applying to him.



Introduction to Aboriginal Art class

7pm Thursday Feb 23rd - book now for you and a friend. **It's free.**



Yidumduma Bill Harney

Yidumduma Bill Harney was artist-in-residence for a week in January 2006 at Art Mob in Hobart. During this week Bill unveiled his 2005 Telstra Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award entry titled *Wuhneh* - a paperbark bush coffin - at the gallery. He then commenced painting *Imulun* - a massive painting 2.8 metres by 1.3 metres - depicting the law of his nation, the Wardaman people. Bill brought the paints with him from his home country, pipeclay from Brandy Bottle Creek and yellow and

red/brown ochres dug from his earth. 6 long days later Bill completed this truly amazing painting. The full process was filmed by Lensvision and a documentary will be made in the near future. Hugh Cairns, co-author of *Dark Sparklers* along with Bill Harney, observed the whole process and along with Art Mob's gallerist Euan Hills will write the book *Imulun* - *Wardaman Law*.

Price \$55,000 including GST.



Bill Harney at work on *Imulun*



AM 3500/06

Wuhneh - Paper Bark Bush Coffin

2005 \$10,000

Paper bark, kurrajong fibre string & wood, native grasses, natural ochres & pigments, bush turkey feathers

This piece was made by Yidumduma Bill Harney early in 2005 and was a finalist entry #3 in the 2005 Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders Art Award. Bill is the last one to be able to make the bush string.