

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST PEOPLES
FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND ARTS & CULTURE MAGAZINE



UNDER NEW LEADERSHIP

TAKING OWNERSHIP OF AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN UMI ARTS



L to R: Patty Mills GC2018 Ambassador,
Robert Tommy Pau and Brian Robinson Artists



L to R: Bernard Singleton Jnr Artist and
Peter Lenoy UMI Arts Executive Officer

Peter Lenoy grew up in Cairns and his fathers people are the Kuku Djunkan and on his mothers side he is Jittabel. Peter is closely associated with both Yarrabah and Palm Island communities as his father was born in Yarrabah and his Mother grew up on Palm Island.

Peter previously worked as an Engagement Manager for Yarrabah Aboriginal Sire Council and State Manager for Indigenous Community Volunteers Queensland. He commenced as the new Executive Officer in March 2017.

Peter has been instrumental in embedding UMI Arts in to the GC2018 Commonwealth Games celebrations and in August this year hosted the first event with GC2018 Ambassador and NBA Basketball star Patty Mills and his colleagues.

He engaged Member Artists Robert Tommy Pau and Bernard Singleton Jnr to deliver on two basketballs adorned with traditional art and the event also unveiled a basketball ring backboard with art by Brian Robinson. Peter will now lead the team in to a GC2018 Cairns Mini Festival at UMI Arts in April 2018.

WITH INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY

ADVANCING THE FAKE ARTS AGENDA



Australias' First Peoples continue to share thousands of years of heritage and continuing practices and traditions as UMI Arts delivers on unique artistic and cultural expressions by Member Artists and Cultural Practitioners.

Traditional and Contemporary art from Far North Queensland continues to be maintained, protected and developed with integrity and authenticity as the organisation supports Member Artists from remote communities and urban areas.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Visual Arts practices in Far North Queensland cover many areas including painting, printmaking, textile arts, basket weaving and fibre craft, sculpture and photography.

In order to fully support and subsequently sustain the Australian Indigenous Visual Arts agenda, UMI Arts continues to work in partnership to stop the influx of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art into the region and Australia.

UMI Arts is a signatory to the Australian Indigenous Art Code (the Code). The Code sets the standards for ethical behaviour for art dealers and galleries operating in Australia. Unfortunately, there are many breaches of this code that impact heavily on UMI Arts members, families and communities.

FAKEART
HARMS CULTURE

In August 2017 the Australian Governments Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs adopted an inquiry into the growing presence of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 'style' art and craft products and merchandise for sale across Australia.

The aims of the inquiry are to identify ways to prevent the exploitation and misuse of Indigenous culture through the proliferation of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 'style' products.

To view the Submissions visit the Parliament of Australia website;

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Indigenous_Affairs/The_growing_presence_of_inauthentic_Aboriginal_and_Torres_Strait_Islander_style_art_and_craft/Submissions

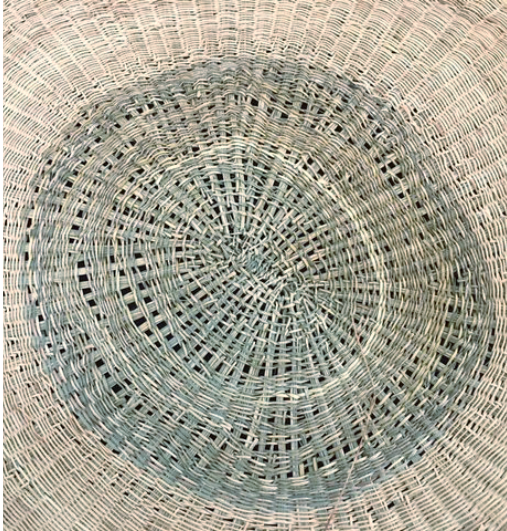
To learn more about the Fake Art HARms Culture Campaign visit;

<https://indigenousartcode.org/fake-art-harms-culture/>



VISUAL ARTS

BASED ON MANY CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS OF AUSTRALIA'S FIRST PEOPLES



UMI Arts is the peak Indigenous Arts and Cultural organisation for Far North Queensland. UMI Arts continues to support Member Artists from remote communities and urban areas with Cairns as many of the members live in Cairns and support UMI Arts as its 'local' art centre.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Visual Arts practices in Far North Queensland cover many genres including painting, printmaking, textile arts, basket weaving and fibre craft, sculpture and photography.



UMI Arts Programs are based on **respect** for cultural protocols and a key aim are to;
preserve
strengthen
maintain and;
celebrate all aspects of the arts and culture of the peoples of Far North Queensland.

The UMI Arts annual program has continued to showcase Artists and Cultural Practitioners and Skills-based programs and Exhibitions, Employment initiatives, Cultural Tourism and Community and Economic development continue to be priorities for the organisation.

'UMI' is a Creole word that means You and Me - for UMI Arts this is significant as we believe that we need to work together to keep our culture strong

LAURA ABORIGINAL DANCE FESTIVAL CAPE YORK ACQUISITIVE ART AWARD 2017

The Laura Aboriginal Dance Festival - Cape York Acquisitive Art Award is a biennial project between UMI Arts and partner Laura Aboriginal Dance Festival (LADF).

There are four categories to the Award and they are;

- The Cape York Emerging Artist Award
- The Cape York Established Artist Award
- The Cape York Art & Craft Award
- The Cape York Schools Award

UMI Arts engaged Member and Arts Leader Ms Francoise Lane to Manage and Curate the Laura Aboriginal Dance Festival - Cape York Acquisitive Art Award 2017.

Thousands of people travel to the Cape York town of Laura 330km north of Cairns for the biennial festival which is widely regarded as the most prestigious Aboriginal Art Award in Queensland.

A highlight of the Exhibition included the amazing ghost net sculptures from the acclaimed Pompuraaw Arts & Cultural Centre, located on the West Coast of Cape York about 500 kilometres from the tip of Australia. The Pormpuraaw Artists have gained recognition in the art world for creating stunning pieces from recycled abandoned fishing nets and the art is in high demand for exhibitions both Nationally and Internationally.

The art of Emerging Artist Shamuliah Ware of Cooktown which is located between the mouth of the Endeavour River and Grassy Hill: 328 kilometres North of Cairns, also received a great deal of interest from visitors at the Festival and even though she is in the early stages of her career she is someone to watch out for. She has painted since a young age and has won school art awards and has begun to catch the eye of people who appreciate Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art.



CAPE YORK ACQUISITIVE ART AWARD 2017 WINNERS

**Congratulations to the 2017 winners in the Cape York
Acquisitive Art Award;**

The Cape York Emerging Artist Award

Joseph McIvor 'Returning Home 2016'

The Cape York Established Artist Award

Bernard Singleton Jnr 'Spear and Spear Thrower' 2017

The Cape York Art & Craft Award

Elliot Koonutta 'Untitled' 2015

The Cape York Schools Award

No Entries Received

Right: The Cape York Established
Artist Award Winning Entry:
Spear and Spear Thrower
2017
Bernard Singleton Jnr



UMI Arts thanks the Laura Aboriginal Dance Festival, the Communities and Artists of Cape York, UMI Arts Members for supporting the Cape York Acquisitive Art Award 2017.

LEADERSHIP

FRANCOISE LANE: GUEST AUTHOR

"I encourage other creative professionals and emerging artists to apply to the various leadership programs available"



It was April 2016 when I decided that I would apply for the ACCELERATE leadership program after a friend and work colleague had encouraged me to look into the program. There were six placements available nationally. I decided to throw my hat in the ring and of course tell no one so that if I didn't succeed, who'd know? Right?

I placed my best efforts into writing my application. A month or so passed before I was contacted for an interview. Great! I'd made it this far. The interview went well, however, I was left thinking I could have answered this or that question better. It was after the interview ended that I realised just how much I wanted this experience! A week later I received the news that I was a successful candidate.

Three years ago, after a near-death experience, I questioned what I really wanted to be doing in life. Indij Design operated by my husband Andrew Lane and I was three years young. Sure, I really enjoyed interior design and the cultural engagement work I had been doing but there was something else I wanted to pursue. Surface pattern and textile design was a field of design and illustration where I had excelled in the past because I loved doing this!

Over the last two years, I have created products incorporating my designs including scarves sold at the Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA) and the Cairns Regional Gallery. Participating in the Designed in Cairns, UMI Arts Freshwater Saltwater Exhibition and Beyond the Surface Exhibitions provided exposure for my designs.

ACCELERATE would allow me to get a sense of where the surface pattern and textile design industry was at on a global scale and open my mind to the opportunities of entering that market. I was at a roadblock with the prints and needed to get past the obstacles.

FRANCOISE LANE: GUEST AUTHOR (CONTINUED)

On a personal development level the leadership intensive in a group setting allowed head space to better 'oneself'. One example was looking at different personality types and exploring how our behaviours may conflict in a work environment and tools were explored to assist in overcoming these, then we identified situations to apply these.

One of the highlights of the Experience was visiting Edinburgh, Scotland and meeting with an Edinburgh Fashion Designer. It was exciting to discover we had a similar approach to creative design. She creates what she loves to wear and use. Our interests in incorporating cultural elements into our designs was a strong connection and we saw a collaborative project in the future. Another highlight was forming friendships through the shared journey with five amazingly talented, generously hearted ACCELERATE 2016 participants.

We are all on a journey and experiences such as these programs allow you to see past the obstacles to the opportunities and meet with those who have overcome them.

Francoise Lane

The British Council is the UK's international organization for cultural relations and educational opportunities. They are on the ground in six continents and over 100 countries, bringing international opportunity to life, every day.

You can find out more about the British Council and ACCELERATE program at <http://www.britishcouncil.org.au/programmes/arts/accelerate>

Interested in being a UMI ARTS Guest Author? Contact us today.

Previous ACCELERATE Participants include:

- Alick Tipoti**
- Marilyn Miller**
- Rita Pryce**
- Emma Loban**
- Solomon Booth**
- Kevin O'Brien**

Accelerate is a Leadership Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working within the creative industries. Accelerate began in 2009 and is a partnership between the British Council and the Australia Council for the Arts in partnership with Arts NSW, Arts NT, Arts Queensland, Creative Victoria and Department of Culture and the Arts QA with additional support from SBS NITV.



NEW WORK SHOWCASED

The Exhibition Ready Programs of early 2017 were curated by Bernard Singleton Jnr and saw two amazing grassroots Artists walk away with new skills to produce and exhibit works to a professional gallery standard.

Steve Tranby Murgha, a Gunggandji/ Djabuguy man who enthusiastically completed all aspects of the Exhibition Ready program and launched his exhibition in March filling the front Window Gallery.

Steve's works are unique and as usual with most of UM Arts Member Artists, he has his own contemporary style, painting rainforest animals, totems, stories from being on country in Cape York resulting in art that is easily seen to have a strong traditional influence.

The exhibition titled "Reflecting Totems" was a success and Steve continued to gain momentum with his art being selected and exhibited at the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair and the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair 2017.

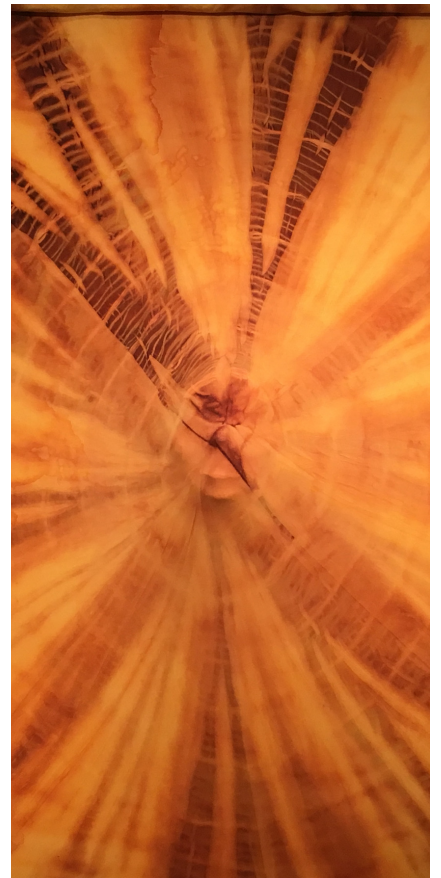
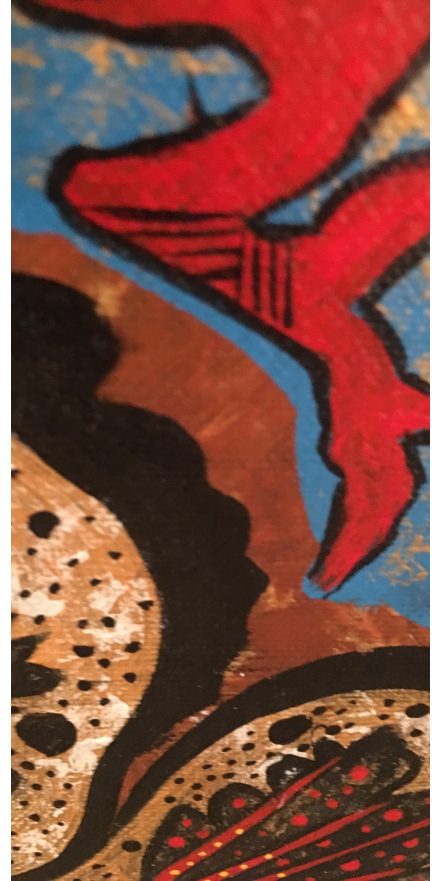
Simone Arnol, a Gunggandji Artist produced works on canvas and portraits on recycled wood framed into authentic Queenslander window frames for her exhibition in May titled: 'Identity'.

Her art was and remains very popular and sold throughout her May exhibition with key pieces being purchased by an international art collector from New York.

Simone's career continues on from the Exhibition and now produces works on fabrics and she is well known throughout the region as an Indigenous Designer having then showcased her art in 2017 at the UMI Arts Freshwater Saltwater Exhibition, the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair and the Regional Indigenous Fabrics and Textiles Show Cairns.

Simone recently showcased her wearable art at the inaugural Australian Eco Fashion Week in Perth. For a look at the Behind the Scenes Interview with Simone visit:

<http://www.ecofashionweekaustralia.com/2017/09/17/behind-the-scenes-interview-with-designer-simone-arnol/>



SIDE BY SIDE

The UMI Arts Side by Side Program aims to support members through the development of professional skills and techniques, mentoring and training.

This is a vital element of the UMI Arts Visual Arts agenda and it supports members who have begun their artistic journey to develop new works for public presentation.

Engaging professional mentors to support and develop artist's practices allows for the creation of new works and increases the awareness of individual member Artists' works.

The Workshops give information and opportunity for involvement in UMI Arts exhibitions and programs and other key public presentations such as Public Markets, Cairns Indigenous Art Fair and the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair.

Women's Well-being and Healing were very important in the September Side by Side Program and Coordinator Donna Busch was instrumental in supporting the connection between artistic/talented women through the sharing of culture, stories and personal journeys and how this has impacted and influenced them to take up Art and Craft.

A 3-day workshop for nine UMI Arts Member saw Professional Artists and Tutors Lynelle Flinders and Francoise Lane teach new art skills and techniques of lino block printing, screen and digital printing.

The Members who completed the Side by Side Program were:

Paulene Burns
Cheryl Busch
Cheryl Creed
Dorothy Edwards
Briana Enoch
Sandra McGuinness
Kara Savage
Shannon Shaw
Joyce Wallis

Paulene Burns, Cheryl Creed and Shannon Shaw were 'Exhibition Ready' at the completion of the Side by Side Program and went on to have their own exhibition showcasing their art in the "Carrying Our History" Exhibition in November.



THE TORRES STATESMEN EXHIBITION

UMI Arts had the pleasure of hosting the Torres Statesmen Exhibition during the Mabo 25th Anniversary Celebrations. Held in the Mclvor gallery from 25 May to 16 June the Torres Statesmen was an Exhibition by the 2016 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award Winner for Works on Paper and the 2017 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award Finalist for Works on Paper: Robert Tommy Pau.

The portraiture exhibition of significant Torres Strait Islanders across all fields of society was the initial start of a project to visually document significant Torres Strait Islanders who have contributed to Torres Strait and Australian society.

This was a powerful exhibition that showcased and educated on the histories and images of Torres Strait Islander statesmen and showing the journey they have taken from preserving the legacy of individuals, educating and inspiring youth to striving to excel in life and who now are recognised and honoured as Torres Strait Statesmen.

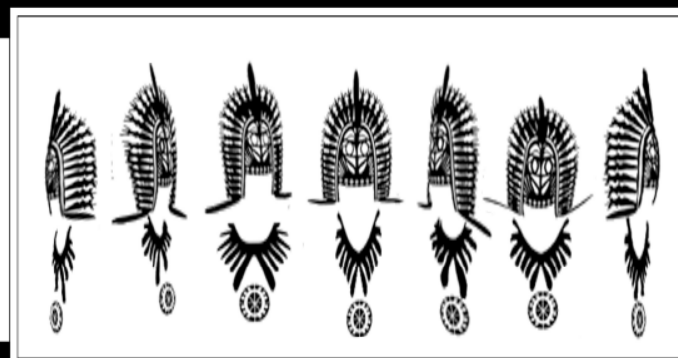
The Exhibition presented art as work in progress and the collection will continue to grow to include other significant Leaders, presenting a visual biography accompanied with a documented catalogue.

"As the collection grows so will the catalogue leaving behind everlasting stories for generations to come" said Artist and Curator of the exhibition: Robert Tommy Pau.

The exhibition included portraits of:

- Pedro Stephen – Chair: Torres Strait Regional Authority;
- Fred Gela- Mayor: Torres Strait Regional Council;
- Vonda Malone – Mayor: Torres Shire Council;
- Maluwap Nona – Chair: Malu Lamar
- George Mye, MBE, OAM;
- Ettie Pau, OAM;
- Getanto Lui Jnr;
- Danny Morseu;
- Bully Hayes Saylor; and
- Bernard Namock Snr.

TORRES STATESMEN



Portraits
in
Paint and Print



Freshwater Saltwater Exhibition 2017

This year's Freshwater Saltwater Exhibition, curated by Shannon Brett presented a number of new and emerging art works of established and professional Artists with selected pieces encompassing a wide range of mediums.

This year's theme was a story about self whereby Artists created dynamic work about personal space in or out of country and they were urged to explore identity and what mediums they must secure to produce this translation.

Exhibiting Artists in this year's Freshwater Saltwater Exhibition were:

Simone Arnol
Paul Bong
Harold Bowen
Henry Brim
Dora Deemal
Dorothy Edwards
Melanie Hava
Francoise Lane
Agnes Mark
Arone Meeks
Lisa Michl
Nerelle Nicol
Fiona Omeenyo
Taicee Pearson
Bernard Singleton Jnr
Delissa Walker



ARTIST FOCUS

PAUL BONG



From 300 Entries, 66 artists were selected for the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA), Australia's most prestigious and longest running Indigenous Art Award.

A finalist in the 34th Telstra NATSIAA Award, Paul is seen above with his shortlisted art entry for Works on Paper Award: 'Oblivion' etching on paper.

Paul Bong Artist and Cultural Practitioner was born in Cairns and is a Yidinyji man with the given tribal name of Bindur Bullin, after a great warrior.

Paul is a descendant of the Yidinyji tribe who occupied the fertile rainforest lands from Cairns in the north to Babinda in the south and west into the Atherton Tablelands as far as Kairi.

His ancestral history is rooted in this region. His great-grandparents were both tribal elders when all the lands were Yidinyji. His father, George, also knew the traditional ways of living and he spoke the Yidinyji language, though he wasn't allowed to speak it when he went to school.

Paul's father was forced to reject the traditional ways and to assimilate into the white society. This broke the continuity of culture, language and heritage that had been passed down through many generations.

Paul incorporates traditional designs with modern techniques into his art, and each design has a spiritual meaning. Traditionally every design has a different meaning associated with totems or inspired by legends.

Paul is an esteemed UMI Arts Artist and has a long and successful career and he has completed a print traineeship with Master Printer Theo Tremblay at Editions Tremblay in Cairns.

He has showcased his art at many group and solo exhibitions both in Australia and Overseas. An esteemed Elder, Paul is a great Leader and his art has been acquired by the National Museum and other Museums, Galleries and Collectors.

Healing, partnerships and stories

This year UMI Arts was involved with Queensland Mental Health Week 2017 which is held every year in October. This was an opportunity for UMI Arts to strengthen the journey the organisation has taken since its inception and express and communicate how arts and culture (as healing mediums) support the journey towards better health and wellbeing


The event was opened by Traditional Owner Henry Fourmile who delivered the Welcome to Country and the healing event showcased some of the wonderful ways that members are making a difference for themselves, others and in many instances for their communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultures is recognised for bringing culture and social and emotional wellbeing together in order to heal and allow people to live better with the challenges that present. UMI Arts engaged key leaders who shared their stories, their journeys and gave words of hope and wisdom in order to influence change.

Speakers and Advocates at the event included Jack Wilkie Jans, Deb Avery, Karen Reys, and Angela Aversch who came together with supporting organisations, including: Link-Up Queensland, Endeavour Foundation, Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service and Reconciliation Australia who partnered to deliver information on their services to those that attended.

Art for healing sessions was supported by Member Artists Donna Busch and Steve Tranby Murgha and Karen Reys created a healing circle and spoke of healing together on country.

Women's and Mens Healing circles were established to allow for personal spaces that delivered on important messages and the event was a great success as it allowed a diverse range of stories to be told that further influenced change across many areas including: encountered discrimination, racism, gender, physical or mental ability.



"When I paint,
it helps to calm my mind"

"I share my culture,
my pain, my love.....
all through my art"

"I've got stories to tell and
I tell them through my art,
I don't hide away anymore"

Healing partnerships and stories

UMI Arts Communications and Marketing Manager has commenced discussions with Members and Partners on the need for a Health and Wellbeing framework to guide this key program area.

If you are interested in working with the team to talk about UMI Arts promoting health through the design of a culturally appropriate framework: contact marketing@umairts.com.au

UMI Arts thank everyone that worked on delivering an inspiring program for the **UMI Arts Queensland Mental Health Week Event 2017** and recognises the support and new partnership with the **Queensland Mental Health Alliance Ltd.**



Art created during event by **Endeavour Foundation Clients**



Community Advocate and Arts Leader
Jack Wilkie Jans speaking at the
UMI Arts Queensland Mental Health Week Event



A glimpse of the beautiful healing space
created by Healer **Karen Reys**

EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

FROM FESTIVALS TO FAIRS, WE GROW AND SHARE THE CULTURE OF FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND.



UMI Arts Chair Leo Akee and the Hon, Leeanne Enoch Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Science and Arts Minister

The UMI Arts Big Talk One Fire festival is an annual Cairns event that celebrates arts and culture through traditional and contemporary dance, performance and music. Big Talk One Fire has built its reputation and brand recognition since 2008 and is now a largely recognised major Indigenous Cultural Festival event in Far North Queensland region.

For the past few years, the Festival has been held in tandem with the annual Cairns Indigenous Art Fair in order to maximise exposure of the key Far North Queensland Festival. In 2017 UMI Arts returned back to the festival's original home of Fogarty Park Cairns and the Big Talk One Fire event was themed to celebrate the 25 year anniversary of the High Court of Australia's decision in *Mabo v Queensland*).

UMI Arts and its members are honoured to have many partnerships that contribute to the delivery of Big Talk One Fire Festival including: the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Cairns Regional Council, Prime Minister and Cabinet and Worklink.

BIG TALK ONE FIRE FESTIVAL 2017

FROM FESTIVALS TO FAIRS, WE SHOWCASE AUTHENTIC FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND ARTS AND CULTURE.

UMI Arts thanks Seth Fourmile of the Gimuy Wallabarra Yidinji tribe for conducting the Welcome to Country and Cairns Regional Council Mayor Bob Manning, Craig Crawford MP and UMI Arts Director Mr Noel Zaro OAM for officiating and joining us to launch of the annual Big Talk One Fire Festival 2017.

William Blanco Festival Coordinator, Peter Lenoy, Deb Avery, Lisa Michl and Thelma Savage of the UMI Arts Team and Volunteers made this event possible together with funding partners and the Festival was a great success. About 1500 locals and visitors attended and enjoyed spending time listening and learning from members including Delissa Walker's basket weaving workshops. The Cape Create space supported by Cape York Natural Resource Management was popular as was The Kids Corner, with face painting and storytelling.

There was a strong host of fantastic local talent such as David Hudson and Rochelle Watson Pitt, who delivered the entertainment into the night. The Madjay (Shield) Project Performance was powerful as was The Injinoo Dancers who capped off a fabulous night of entertainment and brought a little bit of the Laura Festival dance off to Cairns.



UMI ARTS DELIVERS ON ITS ANNUAL CULTURAL EXPLOSION!

UMI Arts staged it's first ever annual signature event: Big Talk One Fire Cultural Festival, at Fogarty Park Cairns in 2007.

The Big Talk One Fire Festival has continued to deliver on opportunities for Members and celebrate in unity the whole of culture, including visual arts and crafts, dance, performance and music that is all proudly presented by UMI Arts and their Member Artists and Communities of Far North Queensland.

Right: UMI Arts Chair Leo Akee welcomes Country Music Performer Adam James to Big Talk One Fire 2017



The Madjay (Shield) Project Performance Group

EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

FROM FOCUS GROUPS TO WORKSHOPS, TO NITV VISITS AND MABO ANNIVERSARY AND NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS, WE WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR CULTURE STRONG



The Executive Officer (EO). Peter Lenoy who 'hit the ground running' as the new EO in March 2017 is seen above with his nephew Max Lenoy and sister Maureen Mossman at the 2017 Cairns NAIDOC Ball.



Above: Deb Avery UMI Arts, Ernie Dingo and Rima Tamou NITV continue to inspire and lead.



Above: Bernard Singleton UMI Arts, Thelma Savage UMI Arts, Roxanne Creed Member, Cheryl Creed Member with Ernie Dingo.



Left: Rob Pyne with Steve Tranby Murgha at the Launch of Steve's Exhibition 'Reflecting Totems' March 2017



UMI Arts Executive Officer Peter Lenoy with Member Artist Delissa Walker at the UMI Arts and CIAF Australian Curators and Collectors Event July 2017.



Attending a UMI Arts Event?

Tag us in your Facebook Posts: @UMIArts

Follow us on Instagram: @umiarts

#umiarts #umiartsgallery #umiartsevent



Left to Right: Paulene Burns, Cheryl Creed and Shannon Shaw at the Launch of their Exhibition 'Carrying our History'.



UMI Arts Director Robert Tommy Pau telling the UMI Arts story at Big Talk One Fire Festival 2017

MINISTER FURNER VISITS UMI ARTS

In May 2017 the State Minister for the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnership Mark Furner and Clare O'Connor the Director-General of the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships visited with the UMI Arts Executive Officer.

Through his portfolio Minister Furner travels quite frequently to many remote communities in Far North Queensland and during one of the visits the Minister managed to visit the UMI Arts office to discuss a range of issues including the opportunity for the Minister to now be a Champion of UMI Arts, Discussions also centred around the potential for the Minister and his Department to enter into a partnership with to deliver on the Big Talk-One Fire Cultural festival and other projects & new initiatives: including economic and community development business through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts and Cultural Agenda.

Following Minister Furner's visit, the UMI Arts Executive Officer reported to the Board of Directors that this visit and the subsequent discussions were successful in a new Partnership and new funding from the Department for the UMI Arts Big Talk One Fire festival.

The UMI Arts Executive Officer has committed to meeting regularly with the Minister and Senior Departmental representatives and reported that Minister Furner visited the UMI Arts Gallery at the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair in July and was impressed with the Members art being showcased and purchased art during the Opening night.



Right: Queensland Government Minister Mark Furner and Artist Karen Wallace at the UMI Arts Gallery at CIAF 2017

Artist: Karen Wallace

Karen Wallace (Mundejah) was born in Cairns, Far North Queensland and is a descendant of the Yirrganydji people, also known as Irukandji through her mother's father.

It was in 1995 when Mundejah was first introduced to acrylic painting and since then she has expressed herself on canvas. Mundejah has found through her art that she is able to express herself and explore her traditional heritage that she is very proud of.

Mundejah has been greatly influenced by the women who have passed down and taught her the stories of her clan.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Work beside and with us
at our major events

INTERESTED?

send your resume/CV to:
marketing@umiarts.com.au or;
call us today on 40416542



UMI Arts is supported by our Partners including the
the Australian Government through the Australia Council,
its arts funding and advisory body and the
Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

UMI Arts Board of Directors, Staff and Members
acknowledge and thank our funding partners for their ongoing support.



UMI Arts Shop and Galleries

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Opening Hours

UMI Arts Galleries and Shop open weekdays 10 am - 4 pm

Closed for lunch 1 - 1.30 pm

The UMI Arts Offices open weekdays 9 am - 5 pm

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Deb Avery UMI Arts.

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