



McCULLOCH'S ABORIGINAL ART @ COOLART

MEDIA RELEASE

70 + vibrant works for important Indigenous art exhibition at historic Mornington Peninsula Parks Victoria property

Opening
CUP
WEEKEND

LIVING THE LAND: AN EXHIBITION CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS ARTISTS CARE OF THE COUNTRY

COOLART WETLANDS & HOMESTEAD, SOMERS, VIC

OPENING SAT. OCTOBER 30TH 2 PM. TALK SUNDAY OCT. 31ST 3 PM. EXHIBITION TIL NOV 14, 11AM-5PM DAILY
ALL WORKS FOR SALE

MORE THAN 70 dynamic paintings, sculptures, works on paper, ochres, barks, fibre works, jewellery, carvings, fabrics, books, weavings and other items from around Australia will be on show and available for sale in a unique exhibition **Living the Land**, presented by Peninsula-based mother and daughter curators, writers and publishers Susan McCulloch and Emily McCulloch Childs. Authors and publishers of major reference works *McCulloch's Encyclopedia of Australian Art*; *McCulloch's Contemporary Aboriginal Art: the complete guide*; and other books on Australian art, Susan and Emily are also 'pop up' curators presenting exhibitions in Australia and internationally.

Works have been selected to celebrate Coolart's important role as a bird sanctuary, wetlands and indigenous flora and fauna park, to demonstrate Indigenous people's care of the land and how this is represented in art.

'**Care of the country is an ongoing and engaging process for Australia's Indigenous people,**' says Susan McCulloch. '**Many Indigenous people, especially those of an older generation and those who live on their lands through the holding of native title are ethno-botanists who know their country intimately and care for it in a very active way.**'

Integral also to Indigenous care of the land, she says, are the ceremonies, song cycles, and stories of creation ancestors responsible for creating the land and for replenishing the rain that sustains growth. It is the images of these ceremonies that are at the heart of contemporary Aboriginal art.

'**We've chosen works from around Australia to demonstrate the highly individual interpretations, unique to each artist and their country. This year the outback has burst into life following wonderful rains. This is reflected in art of particular vibrancy.** We've just come back from Darwin, Cairns and Alice Springs and have brought back some wonderful works from the Western and Eastern deserts, APY Lands, Torres Strait Islands, Arnhem Land, the Kimberley and the West and including classic new works by famous artists and some most exciting works by newer generations.'

Featured also is the work of Baluk Arts, Indigenous artists of Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula and a wide variety of smaller items. A talk, **Living the Land** will discuss the works and explore the relationship of art to country.'

'The range of works is imaginative and the quality impressive – whether in smaller works or those of top collectability. Through our long association with Indigenous artists, their representatives and communities, we're able to bring works to the Peninsula that are rarely available.'

Exhibition runs Oct 30-Nov 14. Enquiries and for images: Susan McCulloch. M: 0419 896473.

E: susan@mccullochandmcculloch.com.au



McCulloch & McCulloch
PO Box 375, Balnarring, Vic 3926. T: + 61 3 59 898282. F: 61 3 59 898276
E: info@mccullochandmcculloch.com.au
mccullochandmcculloch.com.au

FREE ENTRY to
Park &
Exhibition
Events

