

THE HEART OF EVERYTHING

The art and artists of Mornington & Bentinck Islands

Nicholas Evans, Louise Martin-Chew & Paul Memmott

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THE HEART OF EVERYTHING: THE ART AND ARTISTS OF MORNINGTON & BENTINCK ISLANDS is the first major book to profile the art and artists of Mornington and Bentinck Islands in Queensland's far north. Lavishly illustrated with more than 200 images, authors Louise Martin-Chew, Dr Paul Memmott and Dr Nicholas Evans discuss the art of this extraordinary region which ranges from totem designs used for body paint-up to sweeps of brilliant colour on canvas.

The book opens with a dazzling four page gatefold of the six-metre long painting *Dulka Warngiid (Land of All)* by the elderly Kaiadilt woman, Sally Gabori and her six sisters. In 2004 Gabori was living a restricted life in an aged care facility on Mornington Island, but now she is one of Australia's most collectible artists. Sally Gabori's meteoric artistic rise is only one of the many stories of the culture, lives and extraordinary contemporary artistic journeys explored in THE HEART OF EVERYTHING.

There are thirty or more artists who today work at Mornington Island Arts and Craft whose art movement began with the famed Dick Roughsey and his brother Lindsay in the 1940s. The indigenous art of Queensland has, to date, largely been overshadowed by that of the desert and western regions of Australia. Now, as this book attests, it is in strong upsurge.

THE HEART OF EVERYTHING is not only an in-depth exploration of the vibrant contemporary art of this fascinating region, but an insight into the lives of the last of Australia's coastal dwellers to have lived a fully traditional life as well as the regenerative power of art.

Truly a major achievement
Anna Bligh, Premier of Queensland

For more information, high res images or an interview with Louise Martin-Chew or Paul Memmott contact:

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