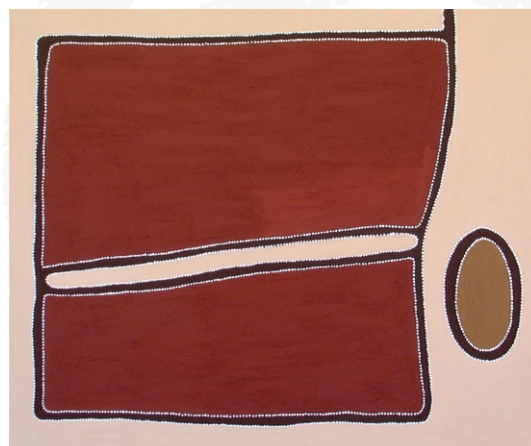


PRESS RELEASE

Jock Mosquito



Piccaniny Crater 120 x 150cm

Japingka Gallery is proud to announce the emergence of an exciting new talent from the East Kimberley region of W.A. Extraordinary ochre painter Jock Mosquito will be present at Japingka Gallery in Fremantle for his first solo exhibition in Western Australia, which opens on 21st July. Jock is a remarkable artist whose spare, beautiful, natural ochre pigment paintings of his country reflect and echo the vast open space of his Kimberley home.

Jock Mosquito is one of a rare breed of Kimberley artists who participated with the legendary Warmun artists Rover Thomas, Jack Britten, Hector Jandany and George Mung Mung, in painting the famous "Kuril Kuril" ceremonial boards for Rover Thomas's corroboree. These were created in the mid 1970's at Turkey Creek.

Jock Mosquito worked alongside Rover Thomas as a stockman. Even now, at age 62, Jock is still active in the cattle industry in the East Kimberley. He has spent all his life in the stock camps, becoming head stockman at Nicholson Station. Now he contracts for aerial mustering on the stations where he once worked on horseback.

Jock has an impressive memory for all the characters and events from his long working life on stations from the Kimberley through to Alice Springs. He now has 8 children and 32 grandchildren living in the Warmun and Halls Creek areas.

In early 2005 Jock Mosquito suffered a stroke that damaged his right side. As a consequence, he adapted his painting style towards a more minimal approach, focusing on landscape rather than some of the more intricate desert designs he executed previously. His large tactile canvases, painted using the rich bush ochres of the Kimberley, are extraordinary statements of country from this unique region of Western Australia.

Jock Mosquito clearly states that what he paints is his country - the country for which he is traditional Elder, and the country that he has lived and worked in all his life. These places are significant sites in the Artist's life and significant sites in the geography of the East Kimberley and adjacent desert country.

The opening of the Jock Mosquito Exhibition at Japingka Gallery at 6.30 pm on Friday, 21st July is a great opportunity to participate in the emergence of a major talent and to meet the artist.

The Exhibition runs until the 27th August and is open seven days a week. Admission is free to the public.

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INDIGENOUS FINE ART GALLERY