

ART BY SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL ARTISTS

*our*

MOBB

2021

Artspace Gallery  
Adelaide Festival Centre



**LEGEND**

*Key language groups*

● Communities and towns

REGIONS

## ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE

Welcome to OUR MOB 2021, bringing together artists, industry partners, audiences, buyers, and arts organisations in a celebration of country and creativity.

OUR MOB began in 2006 and is held in the spirit of reconciliation to demonstrate the power of art in bringing together diverse peoples in harmony with a common goal.

The OUR MOB exhibition is the culmination of artistic activities throughout the state that bring Aboriginal artists together in a unique and outstanding exhibition of Aboriginal art across a diverse range of media.

OUR YOUNG MOB runs alongside OUR MOB and is open for artists under 18 years of age.

Enjoy.



**Douglas Gautier AM**

CEO & Artistic Director

Adelaide Festival Centre

Adelaide Festival Centrerrlu tampinhi, ngadlu Kurna yartangka panpapanpalyarninhi (inparrinhi). Kurna miyurna yaitya mathanya Wama Tarntanyaku.

Parnaku yailtya, parnuka tapa purruna, parnuka yarta ngadlu tampinhi yalaka Kurna miyurnarlu iitu yailtya, tapa purruna, yarta kuma puru martinhi, puru warriapinhi, puru tangka martulyainhi.

Kumarta yaitya miyurna iyangka yalaka ngadlu tampinhi.

Adelaide Festival Centre is located on the traditional lands of the Kurna people. We pay respect to ancestors and elders past, present, and emerging as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains. We honour their spiritual relationship with their Country and we do so in the spirit of reconciliation.

## KU ARTS

### STRONG ARTS, STRONG CULTURE, STRONG COMMUNITIES

Ku Arts is the South Australian support organisation for Aboriginal art centres and artists, with art centre membership in the APY Lands and Ceduna. We also deliver the Statewide Indigenous Community Arts Development (SICAD) program to support artists outside of the APY Lands where there are typically no community owned Aboriginal art centres.

The annual SICAD artistic workshops and professional development program offers artists the opportunity to explore new methods and mediums to invigorate their creative practice, and develop longer term, community driven projects. We partner with local community organisations, local government, and artists to create the workshops and activities, and invite each region to collaborate with us.

The diversity and talent showcased through the OUR YOUNG MOB entries is always a highlight and delight. Once again, our founding Director Inawinytji Williamson found it hard to choose just one winner and congratulates all the artists for their entries.

Ku Arts is proud to be an enduring sponsor of OUR YOUNG MOB Award which encourages creative practice and cultural expression from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists aged 18 and under.

We are proud of every OUR YOUNG MOB artist who has chosen to share their work with us.

#### **Gwen Gaff**

Chief Executive Officer

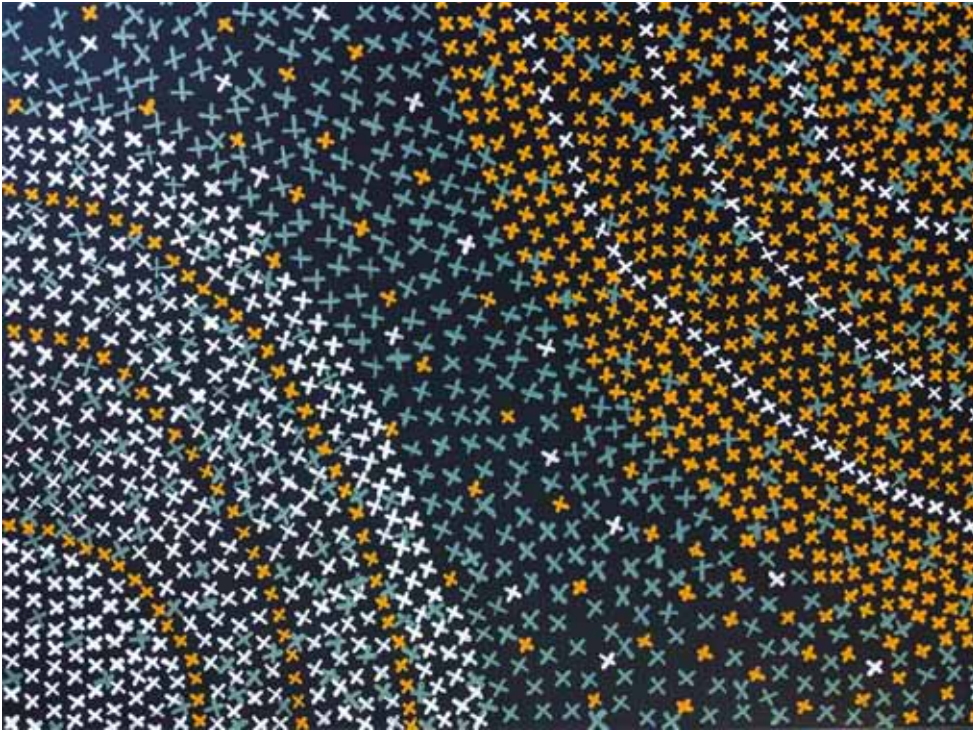
Ku Arts (An̄anguku Arts and Cultural Aboriginal Corporation)



**Rushaun Henry**

*Desert Yam*, acrylic on canvas, 2021

© Courtesy of the artist



**Nathaniel Hirschausen-Burk**  
*X*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

**Dawn Likouresis**  
*Sandhill Frogs and Surviving in the Bush*,  
acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

## COUNTRY ARTS SA

At Country Arts SA we live and create on the lands of the First Nations peoples of South Australia. We embrace the principle of 'First Nations First' and are committed to working together to celebrate and present the art of First Nations cultures.

Country Arts SA is proud to have been part of the OUR MOB exhibition and associated events since its inception and to have supported developing artists further in their careers in the arts.

We are delighted to continue to offer the Country Arts SA Regional OUR MOB Emerging Artist Professional Development Award, providing regional artists with opportunities to further their artistic practice.

We are honoured to work together with Adelaide Festival Centre, Ananguku Arts and the Statewide Indigenous Community Arts Development program to plan and develop the exhibition and related events to ensure OUR MOB achieves great outcomes for First Nations artists.

We look forward to continuing our involvement in supporting regional First Nations artists through OUR MOB.

### **Anthony Peluso**

Chief Executive / RAP Champion  
Country Arts SA



**Lawrie Thomas**  
*Clapping Boomerangs*, woodcarving, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist



**Summer Retallick-Blackberry**  
*All Sides*, lino print on paper, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist



**Temaana Sanderson-Bromley**  
*Going Out Bush*, ceramic dish, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist



**Mia Makuch**  
*Talia Caves*, acrylic on paper, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

## 2019 DON DUNSTAN FOUNDATION AWARD WINNER SONYA RANKINE

The Don Dunstan Award is a \$5000 prize from the Don Dunstan Foundation, presented to an up-and-coming artist to develop their arts career, and for their artworks and stories to gain exposure to a national audience.

Sonya Rankine is a Ngarrindjeri, Ngadjuri, Narungga and Wirangu weaver and artist.

Sonya learnt the Ngarrindjeri tradition of weaving from master Aboriginal weaver and Elder Aunty Ellen Trevorrow over twenty years ago. Since then, weaving has been a constant in her life, a vehicle connecting her to her culture, as well as being an outlet that has nurtured her wellbeing through challenging times. Sonya's history of being fostered and raised away from her family and culture is what pushes her to keep learning and creating. She has worked hard to connect back to her family and culture. Her art and business are both a testament to this.

Sonya's weaving passion grew into a business in 2019 and *Lakun Mara* meaning 'Weaving Hand' in Ngarrindjeri language was launched. *Lakun Mara* is about weaving + culture and is at the heart of all Sonya does, being strongly linked to cultural maintenance, survival and revival. *Lakun Mara* embraces the different ways Sonya shares her art and weaving, centering around workshops, handmade bespoke jewellery and commissioned baskets and wall-hangings. *Lakun Mara* woven creations are created using the traditional Ngarrindjeri/Ngadjuri weaving technique as well as utilising various other weaving stitches and techniques which are unique to *Lakun Mara*.

Sonya's unique style and expression of art was recognised when she was awarded the 2019 OUR MOB exhibition Don Dunstan Foundation Emerging Artist Prize. This enabled her to invest in *Lakun Mara* and grow the business, solidifying her passion and confidence in her art. This pinnacle part in her journey has fostered enormous growth over the last two years, which has enabled her to make the transition to working part-time and provide the opportunity to focus more time on *Lakun Mara*.

Sonya would like to acknowledge her family's support, particularly her two daughters Soraya and Carron, who assist with *Lakun Mara's* online social media presence and workshops. Sonya says, "I could not have got where I am without them. They give me the space to focus on my art, to weave and create. I love being able to share the practice of weaving with my daughters and their support at workshops is invaluable. I love everything about *Lakun Mara* as it is about my family, culture, creativity, art and sharing."

This year Sonya was awarded the 2021 NAIDOC SA Artist of the Year Award, which provided continued motivation to do what she loves best – weaving and connecting to culture. Her passion for her culture and people shines and is always at the forefront of her weaving. Her deep respect for Elders and those who have taught her the traditional weaving technique is always given credit and adoration.



**Sonya Rankine** photographed with her daughters Soraya and Carron accepting the 2021 NAIDOC Artist of the Year Award

*The Don Dunstan Foundation is very proud to support Aboriginal artists like Sonya Rankine. We recognise our many talented South Australian Aboriginal artists and the power of their stories which is why we choose to be involved in the annual OUR MOB exhibition.*





**Sonya Rankine**  
*Nunga Pride*, weaving, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

**Sonya Rankine**  
*Tjeldi Series 1*, weaving, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

Photograph of **Sonya Rankine's** new business  
*WARNDU*, woven creations that are custom  
made to order

**Sonya Rankine**  
*OUR MOB Lakun Mara 32-34*, weaving, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

# TREVOR NICKOLLS ART PRIZES FOR OUR MOB AND OUR YOUNG MOB

## THROUGH THE ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE FOUNDATION

2021 marks the inaugural year of the Trevor Nickolls Art Prizes for OUR MOB and OUR YOUNG MOB. These prizes have been established due to the generosity of the artist Trevor Nickolls, whose intention after his death was to provide support to Aboriginal artists - particularly emerging artists - to encourage them to develop their art and practice further.

The \$2,000 OUR MOB Trevor Nickolls Art Prize is for an OUR MOB artist over 18 years of age based on artistic merit.

The OUR YOUNG MOB Trevor Nickolls Art Prize for an artist under 18 years of age based on artistic merit is a \$250 art supplies voucher.

### TREVOR NICKOLLS

Trevor Nickolls was born in Adelaide, South Australia, in 1949 and went on to become one of the most significant Aboriginal artists in Australia. In the 1970s he began working, exhibiting, and inspiring artists.

*"Trevor Nickolls participated in many international exhibitions, including being the first Aboriginal artist, alongside Rover Thomas, to exhibit at the Venice Biennale in 1990. Exhibitions such as these have had a significant effect in the promotion of Aboriginal Australian art internationally, resulting in an acknowledgement that it is among the greatest major contemporary art traditions of the world." - Wally Caruana, 2010*

Trevor Nickolls' art expresses the spirituality of many Aboriginal people and their connections to land, sea, sky and the cosmos; where people are integrated within nature rather than separated. A major theme in his art is 'Dreamtime to Machinetime' which refers to the cultural transition many Aboriginal people have made from their

traditional cultural heritage of living in the Dreamtime, into the world of mechanisation and technology. Trevor Nickoll's work often expresses the interactions between these two worlds and the complexity of living in both.

Trevor Nickolls' art is represented in the collections of all the major art galleries and museums within Australia and in public and private collections in Europe and North America.

Two significant works by Trevor Nickolls will be featured in this year's OUR MOB exhibition.

Trevor Nickolls' last exhibition at the Murray Bridge Regional Gallery was for him a return to the land of his ancestors, the Ngarrindjeri people of the River Murray, hence the exhibition title: *When the lost spirits meet.*

### Angelika Tyrone

Director AIARTS – Australian and International Arts



**Trevor Nickolls**  
*Metamorphosis*, 2011, 91 x 91 cm, acrylic on linen  
 © Courtesy of the Trevor Nickolls Estate

The painting *Metamorphosis* represents the transformation of the physical being into the spiritual after death. An Aboriginal man has transformed into a butterfly spirit on his way to the spiritual realm. He has grown wings to enable him to fly there and his head has transformed into that of a Wundjina spirit. He is carrying the head of a young Aboriginal woman, his daughter, which he knows he cannot bring with him, however he is still attached to her. Trevor said about this painting: "I have included elements that are both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal like the peace doves. This represents me - I am Aboriginal and also have other ancestry."



**Trevor Nickolls**  
*Birds at the Billabong: Peace in the World*,  
 2008, 135 x 182 cm, acrylic on linen  
 © Courtesy of the Trevor Nickolls Estate

*Birds at the Billabong: Peace in the World* gives the concept of a peaceful world with people united and holding hands around the billabong in the centre of the painting. The circle of doves, a symbol of peace, reinforces this unity. On the top of the painting is an Aboriginal spirit figure, a feature in many of Trevor Nickolls' paintings, that hovers among the stars observing, reassuring.



**Kunyi June Anne McInerney**  
*Colourful Clothes*,  
acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

**Jesse Retallick**  
*Stairways*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist





**Fah-Fah Walsh**  
*Old Man*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist



**Atlas Coleman**  
*Bird in Paradise*, acrylic, watercolour and markers on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

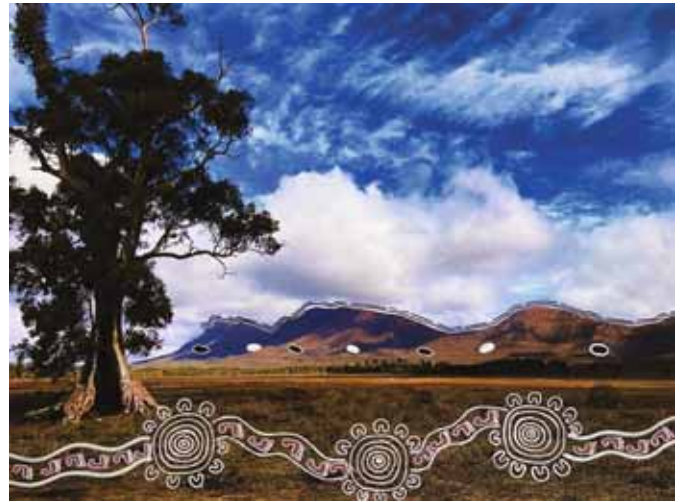
**Brooke Goyne**  
*Yulubirrngiin (Rainbow)*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist



**Bailey Gibb**  
*Cave of History*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
 © Courtesy of the artist

**Juanella McKenzie** photographed with her  
 artwork *Storylines Songlines*, burned kangaroo  
 skin/fur, emu fat and ochre, 2020  
 © Courtesy of the artist

**Tony Wilson**  
*Journey on Country*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
 © Courtesy of the artist



**Iteka Sanderson-Bromley**  
*Wida, Ngatyu Yarta, Awi Ildya & Yartanga Ngukandha,*  
acrylic on photograph, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist



**Kat Bell**

*Gathering on the Mighty Murray River,*  
Textile - embroidery with mixed media, 2020  
© Courtesy of the artist

**Linda Bromley**

*Genesis Dreaming,* acrylic, alcohol inks  
and pen on paper, 2020  
© Courtesy of the artist







**Portrait Paintings from Ernabella Kungka Tjuta (Ernabella Anangu School)**

Left to right top to bottom:

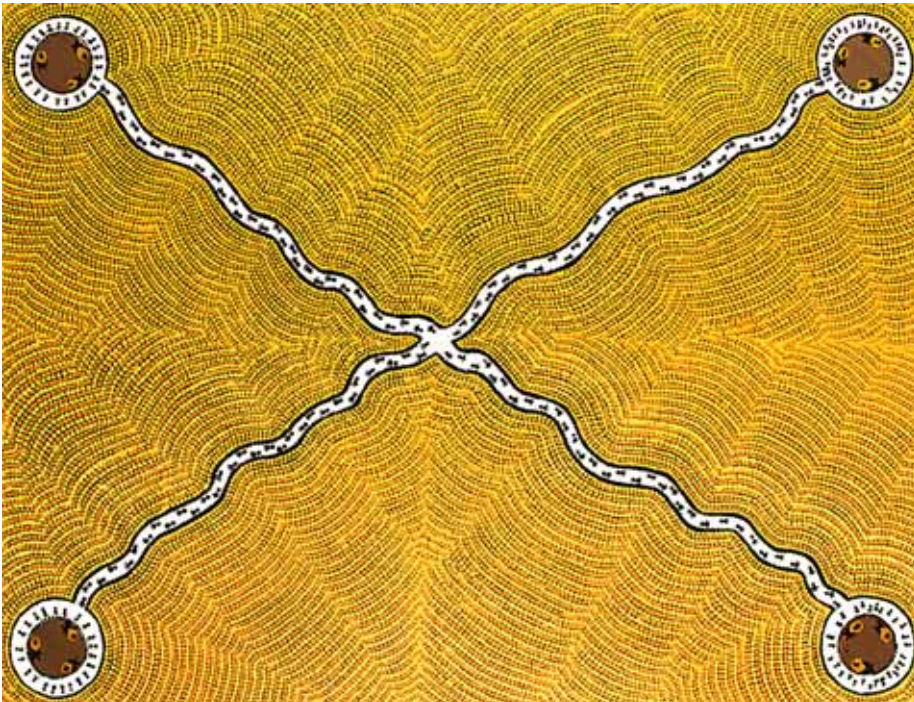
Jermima Evans, Sabina Stewart, Shakira Lewis,  
Sabina Stewart, Lorna Armstrong, Sabina Stewart,  
Sharona Minutjukur-Coolley, Tenisha Lewis

*Kunpu Tjitja Tjuta Irititja*

© Courtesy of the artists and Ernabella Anangu School



Maude Parker  
*Birds and Butterflies*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist



**Mali Isabel**  
*Spirituality*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

**Zachary O'Donnell**  
*Honey Ants*, acrylic on canvas, 2021  
© Courtesy of the artist

## PARTICIPATING ARTISTS & LIST OF WORKS

### OUR MOB 2020/21

Artists are listed here in alphabetical order by first name. Where possible, and if provided, information about the artist is given in this order: name, date of birth, language groups, and current community or art centre affiliations. Language groups are spelt according to the wishes of the artists.

### DON DUNSTAN ADELAIDE AWARD WINNER 2019

**Sonya Rankine** b.1970  
Ngarrindjeri/Narungga/Ngadjeri  
Moonta Bay

### OUR MOB 2020/21

**Brooke Goyne** b.1984  
Wiradjuri  
*Yulubirringiin (Rainbow)*  
*Yurruga (Sun)*

**Dawn Likouresis** b.1962  
Adnyamathna, Arrabunna  
*Protecting the Ocean and Habitats*  
*Sandhill Frogs and Surviving in the Bush*  
Port Augusta

**Donna Larkins** b.1967  
Dieri/Kokatha  
*Mobile*  
Whyalla

**Ellen Macumba** b.1955  
Eastern Arrente/Kurintji  
*The Milky Way and Beyond*  
Port Augusta

**Fah-Fah Walsh** b.1957  
Wemba Wemba  
*Old Man*  
*Three Elders*  
Murray Bridge

**Heather Shearer** b.1959  
Western Arrarnte/Kamarra  
*Sacred Elements (Earth, Water, Air & Fire)*  
Port Augusta

**Ian Harradine** b.1963  
Narungga  
*Mixed Artefacts*  
Point Pearce

**Iteka Sanderson-Bromley** b.2000  
Adnyamathanha/Narungga/Yarluyandi  
*Awil Idya*  
*Ikara*  
*Ngatyu Yarta*  
*Wida*  
*Yartanga Ngukandha*  
*Yartanga Ngukandha*  
Adelaide

**Janet (Jay) Milera** b.1971  
Kurna/Narungga  
*Land Meets Sea*  
Adelaide

**Jasmine Matthews** b.1994  
Ngunawal  
*Crashing Waves*  
*Nangawooka*  
Wilay Designs

**Juanella McKenzie** b.1990  
Adnyamathanha/Luritja  
*Storylines Songlines*  
Port Augusta

**Kat Bell** b.1975  
Gudjula/Girramay  
*The Birthing Pod*  
*Gathering on the Mighty Murray River*  
Berri

**Kath Moore** b.1977  
Ngarrindjeri  
*Sister's Story*  
*Weaving (Lakun)*  
Adelaide

**Kristal Matthews** b.1995  
Ngunawal  
*Yular (Waves)*  
Wilay Designs

**Kunyi June Anne McInerney** b.1951  
Yankunyatjara  
*Colourful Clothes*  
*Three Women Sitting on a Log Yarning*  
Adelaide

**Lawrie Thomas** b.1951  
Nukunu  
*Clapping Boomerangs*  
Adelaide

**Linda Bromley** b.1975  
Wangkangurru/Yarluyandi  
*Genesis Dreaming*  
*Vale Uncle*  
Adelaide

**Mali Isabel** b.1999  
Arabana/Kokatha  
*Spirituality*  
Adelaide

**Marli Macumba** b.1978  
Pitjantjara/Arrente/Gurindji/Yankuntjara  
*Desert Flowers Drawn in the Sand*  
Port Augusta

**Maude Parker** b.1956  
Kokotha  
*Australian Natives*  
*Birds and Butterflies*  
Adelaide

**Michael Donovan** b.1979  
Southern Gumbaynggirr  
*Medicine Trees*  
Port Augusta

**Nikki Carabetta** b.1964

Yamaji/Malak-Malak  
*Circle of Life*  
*Lizard Dreaming*  
Adelaide

**Sandy Gibb** b.1972

Wonnarua  
*Thriving in the Desert*  
Roxby Downs

**Tony Wilson** b.1980

Kaurna/Ngarrindjeri/Narrunga  
*Journey on Country*  
*Nirdiana (Nephew, Sister's Son)*  
Adelaide

## OUR YOUNG MOB 2020/21

**Ashur Miller-Pickett** b.2005

Balardang/Yued/Wirangu/Kokatha  
*Night Sky 2*  
Port Lincoln High School

**Atlas Coleman** b.2003

Kokatha/Mirning  
*Bird in Paradise*  
Adelaide

**Bailey Gibb** b.2005

Wonnarua  
*Cave of History*  
Roxby Downs

**Callista Likouresis** b.2012

Adyamathanha/Arrabana/Antakirinja/Wonnarua  
*Family Gathering*  
Port Augusta

**Jermima Evans** b.2007

Pitjantjatjara  
*Kunpu titja tjuta irititja*  
Ernabella Anangu School

**Jesse Retallick** b.2006

Bungandij  
*Stairways*  
Port Lincoln High School

**Joseph Saunders** b.2004

Ngarrindjeri  
*Sunset of Uluru*  
Adelaide

**Latrell Miller** b.2005

Wirangu/Mirning/Barkindj/Kokatha  
/Nyarrindjeri  
*Ancestors Language*  
Port Lincoln High School

**Lorna Armstrong** b.2006

Yankuntjatjara  
*Kunpu titja tjuta irititja*  
Ernabella Anangu School

**Mia Makuch** b.2005

Kaurna  
*My Journey*  
*Talia Caves*  
Port Lincoln High School

**Nadine Richards** b.2005

Barngarla/Adymyathamtha  
*Flowing Memories*  
Port Lincoln High School

**Nathaniel Hirschhausen-Burk** b.2005

Wirangu/Kaurna  
X  
Port Lincoln High School

**Rushaun Henry** b.2005

Noongar/Wirangu/Kokatha  
*Desert Yam*  
Port Lincoln High School

**Sabina Stewart** b.2007

Pitjantjatjara  
*Kunpu titja tjuta irititja*  
Ernabella Anangu School

**Shakira Lewis** b.2007

Pitjantjatjara  
*Kunpu titja tjuta irititja*  
Ernabella Anangu School

**Sharona Minutjukur-Cooley** b.2004

Pitjantjatjara  
*Kunpu titja tjuta irititja*  
Ernabella Anangu School

**Summer Retallick-Blackberry** b.2005

Bungandij  
*All Sides*  
Port Lincoln High School

**Temaana Sanderson-Bromley** b.2004

Adnyamathanha/Narungga/Yarluyandi  
*Going Bush*  
*Going Out Bush*  
*Unsettled*  
*Wida Apinha*  
Adelaide

**Tenisha Lewis** b.2007

Pitjantjatjara  
*Kunpu titja tjuta irititja*  
Ernabella Anangu School

**Ulani Williams-Psorakis** b.2007

Wiradjuri  
*Knowledge Handed Down from the*  
*Dreamtime*  
*Rainbow Dreaming*  
Adelaide

**Zachary O'Donnell** b.2005

Kamilaroi  
*Honey Ants*  
Adelaide

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Adelaide Festival Centre gratefully acknowledges our ongoing partnerships with Ku Arts and Culture Aboriginal Corporation and its SICAD (Statewide Indigenous Community Arts Development), Country Arts SA and in particular their regional arts officers, and the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community art and culture centre managers and coordinators across South Australia.

We also acknowledge and thank First Nations artists throughout South Australia for their faith and enthusiasm for the continuation of OUR MOB into its 15th year. Your creative vision allows Australians to share in cultural understanding through the arts.

Adelaide Festival Centre is indebted to the artists and all the people who work to make OUR MOB a reality. We thank you for your commitment, faith and dedicated efforts bringing the project to fruition.

### OUR MOB 2021:

#### Art by South Australian Aboriginal Artists

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**Government of  
South Australia**

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ARTSPACE GALLERY

ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE





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