

PRESENTED BY COCONUT STUDIOS AND  
BINDI MWERRE ANTHURRE ARTISTS

OPENING FRIDAY, 3RD MAY, 6:00PM  
3RD MAY TO 1ST JUNE 2024



# LOOKIN' AT COUNTRYSIDE

# LOOKIN' AT THAT PLANE

ADRIAN JANGALA ROBERTSON | CONWAY GINGER  
CHARLES INKAMALA | BILLY KENDA | LANCE JAMES

# LOOKIN' AT COUNTRYSIDE LOOKIN' AT THAT PLANE

8/18 CARYOTA COURT, COCONUT  
GROVE, GARRAMILLA/DARWIN

BINDIART.COM.AU  
COCONUTSTUDIOS.COM.AU

THURS - SAT / 10AM - 5PM  
OR BY APPOINTMENT

Left to Right

Billy Kenda *The Man Lookin' at Countryside, and he's lookin' At That Plane* 2023 acrylic on paper, 42 x 29.5 cm  
Billy Kenda *Helicopter Lookin' Countryside, 2 Malu (kangaroo) Sitin' there in Shade* 2024 acrylic on canvas 46 x 46 cm  
Adrian Jangala Robertson *Family in Yalpirakinu* 2023 acrylic on canvas, 40.5 x 30.5 cm  
Adrian Jangala Robertson *Family in Yalpirakinu* 2022 acrylic on canvas, 92 x 46 cm  
Conway Ginger *Lady Driving Truck* 2023 acrylic and ink on paper, 42 x 29.5cm  
Lance James *Stockman out at Uluru - Kata Tjuta* 2023 acrylic on canvas, 51 x 51cm  
Charles Inkamala *The Gap, Alice Springs* 2023 acrylic on canvas, 30.5 x 30.5cm

Coconut Studios is located on Larrakia Land. We pay our respects to Larrakia ancestors and Elders and extend that respect to Arrernte, Luritja, Pitjantjatjara and Warlpiri ancestors and Elders. Sovereignty has never been ceded.

**Bindi** | Mwerre  
Anthurre  
Artists  
Coconut  
Studios

# LOOKIN' AT COUNTRYSIDE LOOKIN' AT THAT PLANE

3 MAY - 1 JUNE 2024

PRESENTED BY COCONUT STUDIOS & BINDI MWERRE ANTHURRE ARTISTS  
ADRIAN JANGALA ROBERTSON, BILLY KENDA, CHARLES INKAMALA,  
CONWAY GINGER AND LANCE JAMES.

Lookin' at Countryside, Lookin' at That Plane features works by Adrian Jangala Robertson, Billy Kenda, Charles Inkamala, Conway Ginger, and Lance James. Skilfully playing with form and perspective, these artists convey relationships to place, both personal and interconnected. Disorienting and reorienting the viewer, each artist presents an alternative way of seeing in their own distinct style, shedding light on the very nature of looking.

Luritja/Pitjantjatjara artist Billy Kenda tells us that it was through the act of watching his sister paint that he came to be an artist.

"SHE WAS SITTING AND PAINTING, AND I SEE AND LEARN. I LEARN FROM MY SISTER. MY IDEAS COME FROM MY SISTER, I LOOK AT MY SISTER, ALWAYS SHE'S PAINTING. I LOOK AND LEARN. I DO PAINTING NOW."<sup>1</sup>

From the sky, Billy paints a helicopter lookin' down on us - or do we look up at it? As we become increasingly aware that we are "watched over by machines"<sup>2</sup>, Billy's play on perspectives might leave us wondering.

From his memory, the mind's eye, Warlpiri artist Adrian Jangala Robertson paints his mother's Country: Yalpirakinu, also known as Yuelamu, north-west of Mparntwe/Alice Springs. Trees and mountains lean as if desert winds draw them elsewhere as

do family portraits, tautly composed and psychological. With dynamism, Pitjantjatjara artist Lance James paints stockman riding high under clear blue skies, "out at Uluru - Kata Tjuta" - The Rock, "an icon of the tourist gaze".<sup>3</sup>

With warmth and immediacy, Pitjantjatjara artist Conway Ginger renders figures in action: a lady driving a truck, brothers embracing, a footballer in mid-air. In the freeness of his ink-wash strokes we see these characters through an open and honest eye.

Arrernte artist Charles Inkamala combines aerial and ground perspectives. Roads run across mountains and into the sky. The artist's bold line-work and colour amplifies our encounter with the significant cultural sites of Mt Sonder and Glen Helen Gorge. We see the countryside advancing and receding with rich intensity.

"THAT'S OUR DREAMING, BIG SNAKE, AND GLEN HELEN AND MOUNT SONDER. NTARIA, WE CALL HIM NTARIA (HERMANNSBURG). MY PLACE, MY COUNTRY, SNAKE DREAMINGS. BIG DREAMINGS, THEY'RE OLD DREAMINGS, MY GRANDMOTHERS, GRANDFATHERS AND FATHER."<sup>4</sup>

Through the interplay of the works in this exhibition, we are offered an insight into the worldviews and world-making of these artists who, while diverse in their style, share a tender and connected approach to painting a world in flux.

<sup>1</sup> Billy Kenda, interview with Bindi Mwerre Anthurre Artists staff, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Braughtigan, R. 1967, All Watched Over By Machines Of Loving Grace

<sup>3</sup> Paschen, J. A. 2010, Decolonizing the Gaze at Uluru (Ayers Rock), in Burns, P., Palmer, C., Lester J. A. (ed.) Tourism and Visual Culture Volume 1: Theories and Concepts, CABU, UK, chapter 5, pp. 64-75

<sup>4</sup> Charles Inkamala, interview with Bindi Mwerre Anthurre Artists staff, 2024

Written By  
Stephanie Martin, Coconut Studios gallery director.

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