

## Media Release

Date: Wednesday 19 February, 2014

### REIMAGINING THE MURRUMBIDGEE

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery is delighted to welcome **Re-imagining the Murrumbidgee**, an exhibition presented by Western Riverina Arts examining the environmental state of the Murrumbidgee River as it passes through the towns of the Western Riverina region. Five artists from the region have created new work delving into the politics of water: its usage, our impact on the Murrumbidgee, and the health of the overall system.

Water is essential for survival and its use has the ability to polarise opinions. This exhibition offers the opportunity to rethink a much loved and important major waterway. The artists have researched varying perspectives on the Murrumbidgee River in order to add thoughtful dialogue to an existing conversation.

David Williams is an Aboriginal painter from Leeton. His finely coloured dot painting (using subtle shading to create topographical texture) is an overhead view of the Goelgedrie Weir area, depicting the way his home landscape has been altered by water management practice.

Sarah McEwan is an artist from Birego, a property outside of Narrandera. She works in many forms and mediums. Her piece for this exhibition is an installation utilising a single bed, material dyed by the waters of the Murrumbidgee, and other objects found on the riverbanks.

Hapé Kiddle is a sculptor and jewellery maker from Yenda, originally from New Zealand. His work is a collection of utensils made from local red gum and silver, exploring the 'utility' of the water while using the shape of the river for design inspiration.

Trent Light is a photographer born and raised in Narrandera. His work for this project is a series of portraits, local residents demonstrating their relationships with the Murrumbidgee, accompanied by audio interviews conducted during the portraiture sessions (available during the exhibition on an installed iPad).

Jason Richardson is a sound artist based in Leeton with a wide and varied list of professional releases. His work is a soundtrack to the exhibition, a soundscape developed by recording and remixing the sounds of the river (and its surrounds).

**Reimagining the Murrumbidgee** is open to the public from Saturday 22 February until Sunday 13 April, in the Links Gallery exhibition space at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery.

#### Exhibition Dates

**When:** Saturday 22 February – Sunday 13 April, 2014

**Where:** Links Gallery, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery