

Media Release

Date: 20 December 2012

Wuurran: Open, Doorway

Wagga Wagga Art Gallery is proud to be showcasing the revival of traditional cultural practices, in its newest exhibition, ***Wuurran: Open, Doorway***. This exhibition reveals a small part of the immense talent, sense of humour and depth within our Aboriginal community here in Wagga Wagga, a resettlement area for many families.

Through print, sculpture and fibre art, ***Wuurran*** gives a unique insight into our past, where our shared history connects us all. ***Wuurran*** allows the audience to see the importance of looking back and learning what is necessary to rebuild our cultural identity, our sense of belonging and our relationships with families and community.

Wuurran represents part of a continuum in the resurgence of traditionally based cultural craft and art practices in Wagga Wagga and the Riverina. It also showcases reconciliation at a local and personal level, featuring several recent migrants and non-Aboriginal artists who have assisted and collaborated together. At the heart of ***Wuurran*** is the idea of '*yalbalinya ngurra*', working side by side.

Many of the artists in this exhibition have been involved with the Hands on Weavers (HOW Group), and its predecessor, 'Wingadhan Waggadha Waybarra: Women of Wagga Weaving' (the WoWW Project), which was an outreach program facilitated by Wagga Wagga Art Gallery. As the members of the HOW Group and their extended families developed their arts practice, they have also embarked upon significant expansion throughout the community – from cultural practice in primary schools, to art programs in correctional facilities.

Curator Melanie Evans says that "***Wuurran*** is the Wiradjuri word for open or doorway. In bringing together this exhibition I have teased out further possibilities within this idea – to be receptive, to allow others to see into your world, or to be the active participant in walking through a doorway opening up to new opportunities."

Wuurran: Open, Doorway is open to the public throughout the summer, from Saturday 15 December, 2012, until Sunday 3 February, 2013. The exhibition will be launched on Friday 21 December, 2012, from 6:00pm until 8:00pm.

Exhibition Launch

When: Friday 21 December, 2012, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Where: Wagga Wagga Art Gallery
Cost: Free

Exhibition Dates

When: Saturday 15 December, 2012 – Sunday 3 February, 2013
Where: Wagga Wagga Art Gallery