

Laurel Nannup

I wanted to tell of when I was a young kid, of how we used to live on the Pinjarra Reserve. There was about eight families living on the Reserve, three of the houses were built of wooden boards and the rest of them were tin shacks or tents. The Reserve was about two miles out of the township of Pinjarra. This is my memory of the Pinjarra Reserve in the 1950s.
Laurel Nannup 2012

About the artist

Noongar artist, Laurel Nannup was born in 1943 at the Carrolup Native Settlement near Katanning of Western Australia. Born into a large family as the eldest of seventeen children, Nannup grew up in Pinjarra Reserve. Nannup became a member of the Stolen Generation when she was taken away from her family on the reserve at the age of eight along with her six-year-old sister. She and her sister were removed to the Wandering Mission where they lived and worked until the age of sixteen. Nannup later became a domestic servant for a family in Kalgarin, Western Australia.

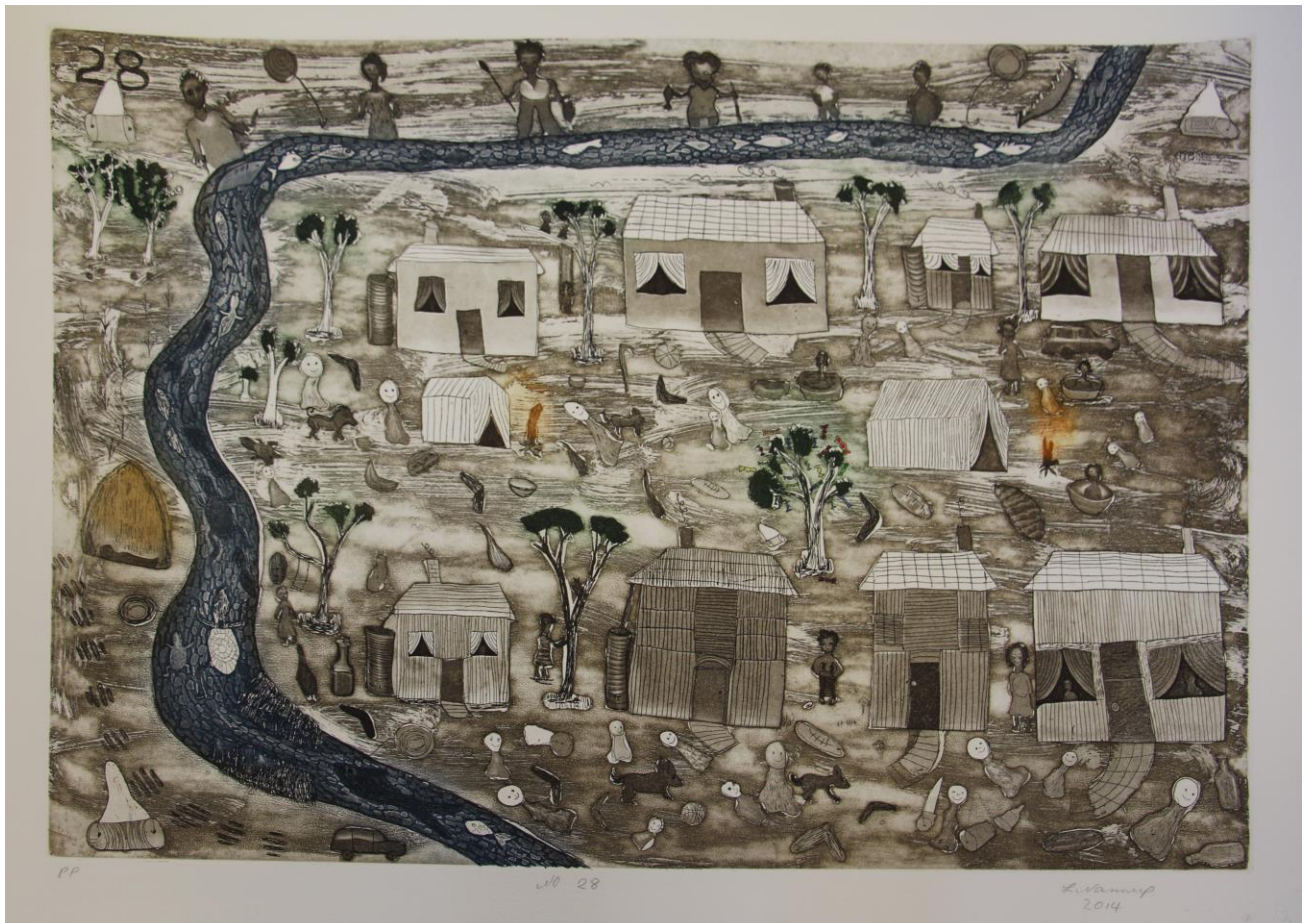
In the 1990s after years of working and raising her son and two nephews, Nannup became interested in visual arts and enrolled into Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2000 and completed her Honours two years later. Through her studies and professional development as an artist, Nannup specializes her practice in printmaking. She produces prints through etchings and woodcuts that share stories of her childhood memories and upbringing.

Nannup has been recognized nationally with her work being represented in the collections of several institutions including the National Gallery of Australia, Queensland Art Gallery, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Berndt Museum of Anthropology and the Museum of Contemporary Aboriginal Art in The Netherlands..

Short Biography

Born, 1943, Carrolup Native Settlement, Carrolup, WA. Nannup has lived and worked Carrolup Native Settlement, WA Wandering Mission, WA
Pinjarra Reserve, Albany, WA
Hyden, WA
Perth, WA
Country: Pinjarra, WA
Language: Binjarib

About the artwork: "No 28", 2014



Laurel Nannup's seemingly idyllic etching of the Wandering Mission Western Australia, where she and her sister were taken from their family as young children and trained as domestic servants is undercut by its title No 28 -a reference to the numbers authorities substituted for the childrens' given names. Nannup has placed the Aboriginal world she was denied by the policies of child removal out of reach across a river teeming with fish and turtles.
Dr Vivien Johnson 2016

In 2012, Laurel Nannup participated in the Annual Indigenous Print Workshop held at Cicada Press, UNSW Art & Design. Through this workshop, Nannup worked alongside other nationally recognized artists who all produced a body of work supported by Michael Kempson, director of Cicada Press. This workshop allowed Nannup to demonstrate her knowledge and skills in printmaking and it was a chance to recount some of her childhood memories and life experiences through a creative practice.

Her work titled No. 28 is an etching that she produced in the workshop in which she used technical processes of etching, blocking and inking into a zinc plate. As a great form of sharing her stories, Laurel Nannup explores the ways in which colour and tone plays an important role of portraying her stories and it is demonstrated in No. 28 where the trees and campfires are brought to life with colour. Nannup expands her creative ideas in this work which also show the number 28 several times within the etching. To her, it is a distinctive number (also the title of the work) which she recalls from her childhood memories living in the Pinjarra Reserve.

The "lolly tree" appears, the treat for children after adults returned from town.

Other relevant works



Lolly trees, sliding Sisters, campfire tales and the 'Big Black Car'... it's with warm and affectionate humour that Nannup shares with us her stories. Nannup's ease and joy with the craft of printmaking beautifully highlights these wonderful stories.



"First Contact", Laurel Nannup's drawing transformed into a large public sculpture telling how the local Noongar people believed the first settler's ships were their past ancestors returning from the sea. [702 ABC photo Emma Wynne]

file:///C:/Users/jennifer/Downloads/Black%20Prints_Reading%20Order.compressed.pdf

<http://museum.wa.gov.au/whats-on/story-tell>

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-08-13/laurel-nannup-among-aboriginal-artists-joining-public-art-arena/7722108>

<https://cicadapress.wordpress.com/author/binya666/>

<http://news.aboriginalartdirectory.com/2009/02/a-story-to-tell.php>

Videos

A story to Tell Part 1 2 and 3

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZU5UvOmtOs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jx-rnJikF0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkwMiA9bvuy>