

4 Emerging Indigenous Photographers

Lyndy Delian + Jo Kamira + Tyrell Kamira Sams + Nic Radoll



Lyndy Delian, *The residence*



Jo Kamira, *Owen 1*



Tyrell Kamira Sams, *One day in the park 1*



Nic Radoll, *Campsite 2*

In 2009 PhotoAccess partnered with Billabong Aboriginal Corporation to provide skills and creative development opportunities for local Indigenous photographers. The project was supported by the ACT Government's Strategic Indigenous Arts Development Initiative. Jennifer Martiniello was the coordinator for Billabong Aboriginal Corporation and Ed Whalan was the teacher and coordinator for PhotoAccess.

4 Emerging Indigenous Photographers is an exhibition by participants in that project and our third NAIDOC Week exhibition by emerging Indigenous photographers. It continues the longer program of NAIDOC Week exhibitions, including projects leading to exhibitions of digital stories, begun in 2006 and assisted under the ACT component of the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy.

The most striking feature of this exhibition is the diversity of subject interests shown by the artists, perhaps unsurprising considering their ages and backgrounds. Nick Radoll and Tyrell Kamira Sams are 15 year old school boys. Lyndy Delian and Jo Kamira are mothers with successful careers in the arts, law enforcement and business. The unifying thread is the contemporary, fresh and adventurous approach they bring to making photographs and their obvious love of colour. Some images reflect subjects and colours generally associated with Indigenous places and issues, and many do not. The artists share thoughts on photography and their motivation in the brief statements that follow. I hope we will hear and see more work from them in future PhotoAccess members and other exhibitions.

PhotoAccess is proud to present *4 Emerging Indigenous Photographers* for NAIDOC Week 2010 and acknowledges the support of the ACT Government, Billabong Aboriginal Corporation and Stephen Best from Macquarie Editions in presenting this exhibition in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY at the Manuka Arts Centre.

David Chalker

Artist statements

Lyndy Delian

I am a Watharong woman and a founding member of ITAG, the ACT Indigenous Textile and Glass group of artists. I feel secure in the presence of the ancestors watching over new generations and I am motivated by personal stories and cultural survival. I work in glass and on textiles with paints and screen prints. Connections to the land and community have inspired this work. This time last year, I was coordinating the painting of a women's safe house at Wave Hill, with women and children of Daguragu and Kalkaringi, my Unsung Heroes to be celebrated during 2010 NAIDOC Week as are all our countrymen still ruled by the Interventions. The photographs show the artworks that beautify the Safe House—not even a house but four shipping containers under a tin roof surrounded by barbed wire fencing. For five days we painted bush foods and flowers, bubbles and bright colours to show strength and love for our sisters and their children. I am still discovering photography, the art of drawing with light, and look forward to combining photography with my printmaking and painting.



Lyndy Delian, *Clothesline*



Jo Kamira, *Samuel Jasper 3*



Jo Kamira, *Aroha*



Jo Kamira, *Ngioka Kahukiwa 2*



Jo Kamira, *Owen 2N*

I love any type of portrait photography. As a First Nations woman and mother of two children who themselves are of Aboriginal, Maori, Chinese, Jewish and Italian descent, I am fascinated with the diversity of children in our community. Especially their acceptance of each other first and foremost as children and their absolute ability to be 'colour' blind. I am yet to find an unattractive child to photograph! As an emerging artist, I am experimenting with portrait photography that 'captures' an inner essence of the subject—no mean feat when kids think they have to look at the camera and smile! I have been taking photos for a few years but after undertaking a PhotoAccess course I was able to produce these portraits of Indigenous and non-Indigenous children. They show the future of the ACT and diversity of the Canberra community.

Tyrell Kamira Sams

(Wodi Wodi, Te Rarawa, Te Aupouri, Chinese)

Tyrell has been taking photos since he was given a Kodak Instamatic at the age of four. Now aged 15, Tyrell enjoys landscape photography. These photographs are his first foray into fashion photography featuring friends, Mathilda, Grace and Maddie. Tyrell likes to challenge typical notions of what is 'Indigenous'. This body of work was inspired, in part, by iconic pictures of Sid Vicious and Nancy Spungen.

Tyrell attends the Orana School at Weston where he is also studying print photography. Tyrell is grateful to PhotoAccess for the opportunity to represent upcoming Indigenous artists



Tyrell Kamira Sams, *One day in the park 4*



Tyrell Kamira Sams, *One day in the park 5*

Nic Radoll



Nic Radoll, *Pond 3*



Nic Radoll, *Sunset 1*



Nic Radoll, *Bike 2*



Nic Radoll, *Sunset 5*

A 15 year old HSC student, Nic started taking photographs about two years ago. He began by experimenting with light and fast moving objects and, enthused by the results, he decided to learn more about photography by attending the PhotoAccess course. He is inspired by nature, including rock formations, landscapes, weather, and human impacts on nature.

The photos in this exhibition were taken at Uluru Kata-Tjuta National Park in the Northern Territory, and between Bungendore and Braidwood, NSW.

List of works

All works are Inkjet prints on A3+ Canson Infinity Rag Photographique printed by Stephen Best of Macquarie Editions

Lyndy Delian

- 1 *The residence*
- 2 *Come to the safe house*
- 3 *Secret garden*
- 4 *A new dawn*
- 5 *Clothesline*
- 6 *Going hunting*
- 7 *Happy feet*
- 8 *Paint pots*



Lyndy Delian, *A new dawn*

Jo Kamira

- 9 *Samuel Jasper 1*
- 10 *Ngioka Kahukiwa 1*
- 11 *Samuel Jasper 2*
- 12 *Owen 1*
- 13 *Aroha*
- 14 *Owen 2*
- 15 *Samuel Jasper 3*
- 16 *Ngioka Kahukiwa 2*

Tyrell Kamira Sams

- 17 *One day in the park 1*
- 18 *One day in the park 2*
- 19 *One day in the park 3*
- 20 *One day in the park 4*
- 21 *One day in the park 5*
- 22 *One day in the park 6*
- 23 *One day in the park 7*
- 24 *One day in the park 8*



Tyrell Kamira Sams, *One day in the park*

Nic Radoll

- 25 *Pond 3*
- 26 *Campsite 2*
- 27 *Barbed wire*
- 28 *Bike 2*
- 29 *Sunset 1*
- 30 *Sunset 3*
- 31 *Sunset 4*
- 32 *Sunset 5*