

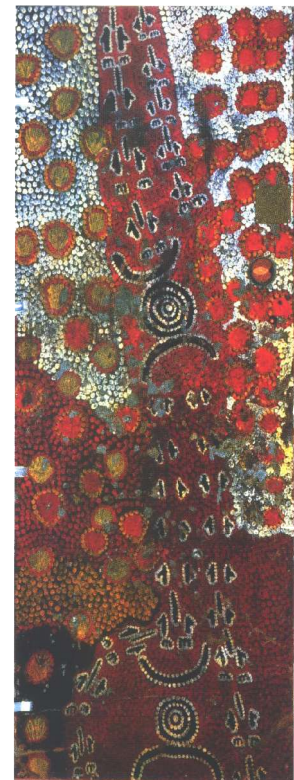
**ABORIGINAL ART MUSEUM
UTRECHT**

OPENING DOORS; culture – art – celebration!

24 January until 27 August 2006

2006 is a year of celebrations! The Aboriginal Art Museum celebrates its 5th anniversary. From 24 January until 27 August 2006 the museum presents the international exhibition OPENING DOORS; culture – art-

celebration! OPENING DOORS literally opens the doors to another world; the world of contemporary Australian Aboriginal art. The exhibition follows the development of the art from the Australian desert community of Yuendumu. The highlights are twelve doors from the Yuendumu school. Painted in 1984, these doors mark a new era in contemporary Indigenous art. It is the first time that the doors will be on display outside Australia. The 5th anniversary of the museum coincides with the 400th anniversary of Australian-Dutch relations.



*Two Kangaroos Dreaming,
Paddy Japaljarri Stewart ,1984*

culture

The twelve doors of the school from Yuendumu constitute the highlights of the exhibition OPENING DOORS. In 1984 Aboriginal elders painted the doors in order to pass on their culture to their children. These school doors convey an entire set of strong Aboriginal cultural values. In them, knowledge about Aboriginal culture, their land, food, Dreamings, myths and even social relationships between clans is contained. The school doors literally opened the gate to the world of contemporary art. The result is so astonishing that the Museum devotes its jubilee exhibition to this achievement.

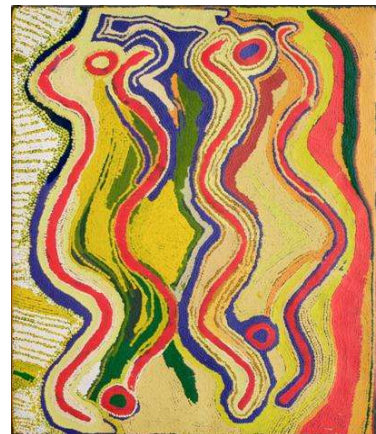
art

Contemporary Aboriginal art finds its roots in the interaction between ancient Aboriginal art and Western culture. The Western art world stimulates this art and provides material such as canvas and acrylic paint. With these materials Aboriginal artists create an art which is made to last. Characteristically, the palette of colours in Yuendumu art comprises, next to fluorescent pinks and oranges, pastel-like tones. Painting is often carried out on large canvases resulting in monumental works of art. The exhibition OPENING DOORS focuses on the work of six leading artists from the desert community of Yuendumu, but also includes photographs and videos from Yuendumu, it's school and the artists. The exhibition came about in cooperation with the Warlukurlangu Artist Association of Yuendumu, the South Australian Museum of Adelaide in Australia and the Frankfurt Völkerkunde Museum in Germany, and with loans from many other collections.

celebration!

Contemporary Aboriginal art offers Europeans a new perspective on art, Aboriginal culture and their land. The exhibition OPENING DOORS; culture – art – celebration! shows the development of Yuendumu art. This art is rapidly evolving, greatly as a result of growing Western demand. The new Warlukurlangu Artists art centre was opened on 15 October 2005.

Art from important artists, e.g. Maggie Watson, set records prices at major art auctions. After the Aboriginal Art Museum in Utrecht OPENING DOORS will travel to the Sprengel Museum in Hanover, Germany.



Maggie Napangardi Watson,

Women's Dreaming, 1998

NOOT voor de REDACTIE

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