

# Granabunnkit Kinaway

A visual art exhibition by the artists of the  
**EAST GIPPSLAND ABORIGINAL ARTS CO-OPERATIVE**

organised by the **City of Port Phillip, Indigenous Arts and Festivals Department** and  
 the **Alliance Française de Melbourne** for the Yalukit Wilam Ngargee People Place Gathering.

Proudly supported by 'Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs' and the Koorie Heritage Trust.

**Opening Thursday 29 January 2009, 6.30pm to 8.00pm**  
 Current till 19 February 2009

The East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Co-operative present a multi disciplinary exhibition by established and emerging Koorie artists being exhibited in the Yalukit Wilam Ngargee: People Place Gathering festival program.

The diversity of works within the exhibition, made by Aboriginal residents of the East Gippsland region of Victoria - Gunai/Kurnai traditional land, are unique, colourful, traditional, rich and beautiful. They represent a distinctive and original style incorporating traditional markings and contemporary design.

Founded in the early 1990's by a group of energised Koorie artists, East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Co-operative supports and enables the production of South East Victorian Aboriginal art, craft and performance with the guidance of local Elders to ensure an independent and self determined arts practice.

*"The Country we live in is unique. There are many people in the area from other country who bring their art and stories. Today it is a sharing thing and there is a great diversity of artist. It is important that the Traditional Owners are supporting young people in the development of their art work. We tell our artists they shouldn't do dots, it doesn't belong to this country. We need to carry on the tradition of fine line work."*  
 Respected Senior Gunai/Kurnai Elder Uncle Albert Mullet as quoted in 'Not Just Dots Aboriginal Artists from East Gippsland in South Eastern Victoria'.

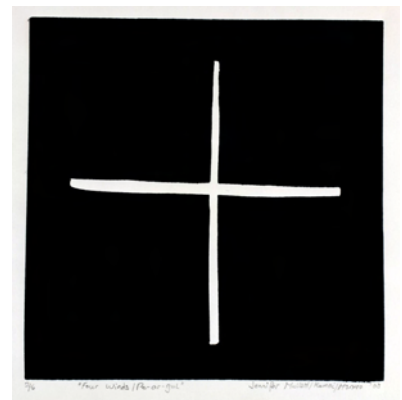
Artists' works are in the National Museum in Canberra, National Gallery of Victoria, Koorie Heritage Trust, Bunjilaka at the Melbourne Museum with artists having been represented in the Victorian Indigenous Art Awards, National Aboriginal Telstra Awards and National Indigenous Heritage Art Awards.

Based in Bairnsdale, East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Co-operatives gallery enables locals and tourists to view, appraise and purchase a range of works and enjoy a unique local cultural experience. The Gallery holds regular exhibitions featuring individual artists and group

shows. At times men gather to make artefacts and pass these skills onto the younger artists in the onsite studio.

As a successful Koorie enterprise in its second decade, East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Co-operative plays a crucial role in the development and promotion of the Victorian Aboriginal art industry. The Organisation has 130 Koorie members and is the only 100% Aboriginal owned and operated Aboriginal Artists Corporation in Victoria.

East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Co-operative premises are open business hours throughout the year; visitors can view work, buy or browse and enjoy a unique and informative cultural experience.



'Not Just Dots, Aboriginal Art and Artists from East Gippsland in South East Victoria' Published by East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Co-operative; \$29.99 Inc GST plus Postage and Handling. Available by contacting from East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Co-operative. <http://www.egaac.org.au/>



**Yalukit Wilam Ngargee: People Place Gathering**  
**29 Jan to 7 Feb 2009**

The Yalukit (Yellow-Kit) Wilam (Will-Am) Ngargee (Nar-Ghee) Euro (You-Row) Yuroke (You-Row-K) Bullarto (Bullart-Toe) Nyoweenth (Neo-Winth) is a stand alone Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural festival celebrating Indigenous bay culture within the St Kilda Festival program.

Events held over the course of the Yalukit Wilam Ngargee program include East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Co-operative Visual Arts Exhibition, Noel Tovey's acclaimed theatre production 'Little Black Bastard', an Indigenous Success Stories Forum, plus a huge outdoor Indigenous music festival on Saturday 31 January in O'Donnell Gardens featuring Market Stalls, children's activities and interactive public programs.

Yalukit Wilam Ngargee is a low carbon, low impact, good karma, waste wise festival promoting sustainable transport and proudly held on Boonwurrung Country. Website <http://www.stkildafestival.com.au/YalukitWilamNgargee>

