



KARLA DICKENS

HUNG, STRUNG AND QUARTERED

WARRIOR WOMAN

Turning the washing basket
upside down, inside out
looking for Reg Gundies
resilient and well made

No frills
no pastel flowers
or see-through lace
no crutchless g-strings

Hardened undergarments
big girls' undies
protective covers
personal security guards

The world needs facing
wearing raw pain, old pain
shared and naked pain
standing up, showing up

Being heard and being counted
holding courage tight
ready to love and be loved
to be real, to be hurt, to be brave

Big-girl underwear
big-girl knickers
tough and ready
until the time allows
then the cheeks will shake

Run, dance, fart and sing
as the nakedness is unleashed
on the darkest of nights
glowing under moons of glory

Warrior women play again
butts blowing in the breeze
gracefully relaxed
in empowered freedom



WARRIOR WOMAN I 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)

\$55,000 (set of ten)



WARRIOR WOMAN II 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN III 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN IV 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN V 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN VI 2017
Mixed media
30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN VII 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN VIII 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN IX 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN X 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)

The second set of *Warrior women* follows



WARRIOR WOMAN XI 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)

\$55,000 (set of ten)



WARRIOR WOMAN XII 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN XIV 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN XV 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN XVI 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN XVII 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN XVIII 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN IXX 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



WARRIOR WOMAN XX 2017

Mixed media

30 × 18 × 10 cm (undies)



HUNG, STRUNG AND QUARTERED 2016

Mixed media

87 × 175 cm

\$22,000

WHO'S LUCKY?

The phrase 'lucky country' is the base-point from which these works grew. I was grateful and relieved to find that Donald Horne, the man who first coined this famous phrase in 1964, was ironically condemning Australia for its complacency and failure to acknowledge its history.

The work comprises two parts:

- The first part, entitled 'Unlucky bastard', consists of a black straight-jacket adorned with embroidered patches and inscribed text. Each of the three embroidered patches contains an upward-facing white horse-shoe imprinted with the word 'lucky' and a downward-facing red, black and yellow horse-shoe imprinted with the word 'bastard'. My playful and straight-forward observation is that you are lucky in Australia if you are white and a bastard if you are Aboriginal. I have hand-painted a number of quotes from Horne's book 'The Lucky Country' onto the strait-jacket. They are there to remind those who still literally believe in the phrase—of the author's original intension.
- The second part, collages using rusty oil- and petrol-cans I found abandoned in the bush, are adorned in white lettering with the title 'Unlucky'. While digging through the old dump near a closed mission-camp, I played the role of anthropologist; studying repurposed oil-cans like treasured artefacts. Hard-rust tells many stories. As I interpreted the artefacts, they spoke to me of fortunes made from this country—on the backs of its traditional owners. Buckets of money made by mining and pastoral businesses with government blessings; but at the cost of great suffering and hardship by those who will never, ever get a lucky break.



UNLUCKY BASTARD 2017

Mixed media
 150 × 60 × 25 cm
 \$6,600

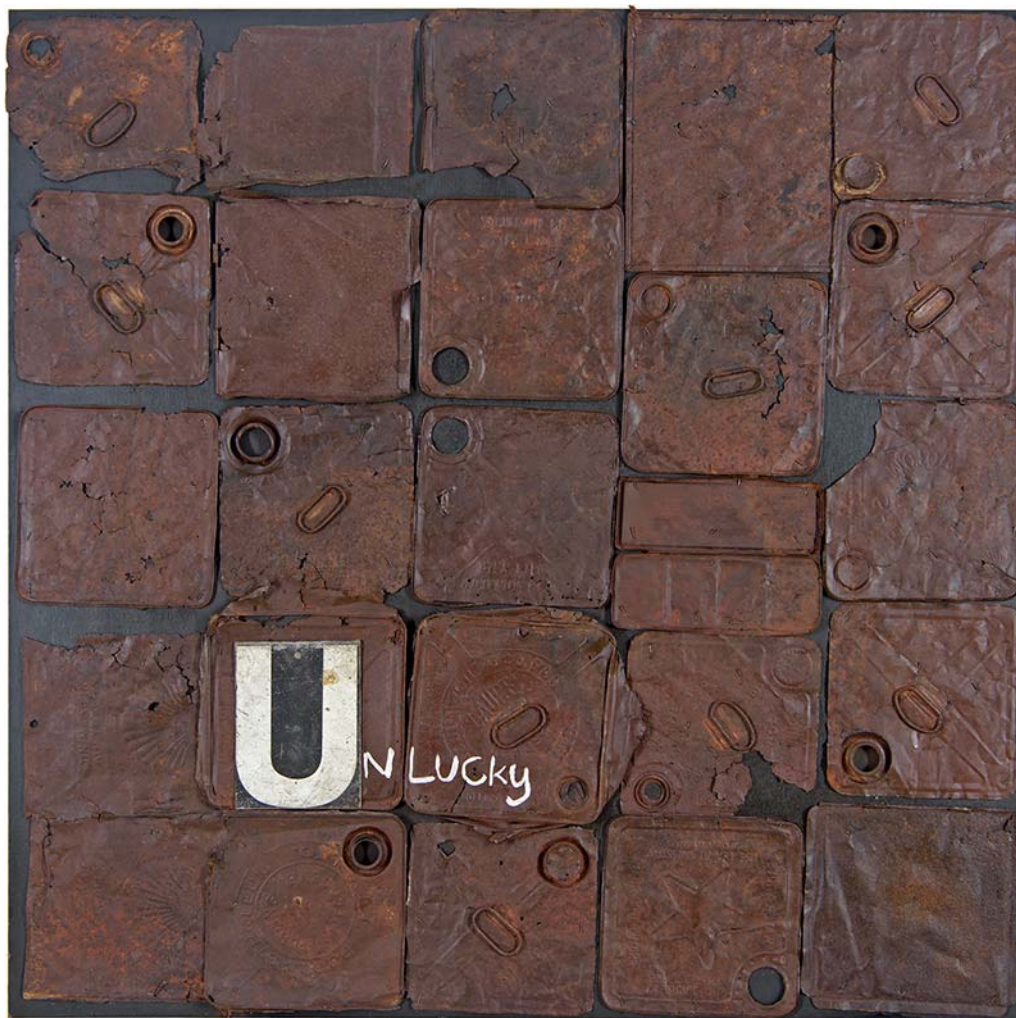


UNLUCKY I 2017

Mixed media

110 × 110 cm

\$11,000



UNLUCKY II 2017

Mixed media

110 × 110 cm

\$11,000



UNLUCKY III 2017

Mixed media
110 × 110 cm
\$11,000



UNLUCKY IV 2017

Mixed media

110 × 110 cm

\$11,000



QUARTERED 2017

Mixed media

60 × 18 × 12 cm (each)

\$11,000 (set of six)



QUARTERED I 2017

Mixed media

60 × 18 × 12 cm



QUARTERED II 2017

Mixed media

60 × 18 × 12 cm



QUARTERED III 2017

Mixed media

60 × 18 × 12 cm



QUARTERED IV 2017

Mixed media

60 × 18 × 12 cm



QUARTERED V 2017

Mixed media

60 × 18 × 12 cm



QUARTERED VI 2017

Mixed media

60 × 18 × 12 cm



HUNG 2017
Mixed media
55 × 10 cm (each)
\$6,600 (set of six)



HUNG I 2017
Mixed media
55 × 10 cm



HUNG II 2017

Mixed media

55 × 10 cm



HUNG III 2017
Mixed media
55 × 10 cm



HUNG IV 2017
Mixed media
55 × 10 cm



HUNG V2017
Mixed media
55 × 10 cm



HUNG VI 2017
Mixed media
55 × 10 cm

KARLA DICKENS

BIOGRAPHY

Born 1967, Sydney
Heritage Wiradjuri

EDUCATION

2000 Bachelor of Fine Arts, National Art School, Sydney
1993 Diploma of Fine Arts, National Art School, Sydney

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2016 *Black and Blue*, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
Focus on the Collection: Karla Dickens, Artspace Mackay, Queensland
2016–17 *King-hit by a life-like liquid*, Allens, Sydney
2015 *Black Dogs, Love and Crutches*, Andrew Baker Art Dealer, Brisbane
You Winesome you lose some, Glasshouse Port Macquarie, New South Wales
On This Site, Verge Gallery, University of Sydney Union, New South Wales
2012 *Field and Game*, The Hughes Gallery, Sydney
2011 *Home is Where the Rabbits Live*, Firstdraft, Sydney
2010 *The Black Madonna*, Casula Powerhouse, Sydney; Grafton Regional Gallery, New South Wales
Beloved Mother, Dacou, Alstonville, New South Wales
2009 *In Loving Memory I Found the Black Madonna*, Museum of Brisbane, Queensland
2008 *Karla Dickens*, Iain Dawson Gallery, Sydney
Loving Memory, Lismore Regional Gallery, New South Wales
2005 *Home*, Next Contemporary Art Space, Southern Cross University, Lismore, New South Wales
2004 *Our Lady of Triana*, Black Fellas Dreaming, Sydney
Urban Aboriginals, Black Fellas Dreaming, Bangalow, New South Wales
2003 *Love, Luck & Lust*, A-Space on Cleveland, Sydney
2002 *Sheilas Downunder*, Pine Street Gallery, Sydney
2001 *Unwind*, A-Space on Cleveland, Sydney
2000 *Now Nowhere Here*, DQ Gallery, Sydney
1998 *Cross Works*, Guardella, Italy
No Limits, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney

JOINT EXHIBITIONS

2014 *The Honey and the Bunny* (with Monica Oppens), Southern Cross University Library, Lismore, New South Wales
2011 *Mother of All* (with Ishta Wilson), Tweed River Art Gallery, Murwillumbah, New South Wales

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Defying Empire: 3rd National Indigenous Art Triennial*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
The National 2017: new Australian art, Carriageworks, Sydney
Everyone Has a History: Part One: Plain Speak, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
Grounded: Contemporary Australian Art, National Art School, Sydney
- 2016 *Lighting the Sails: Songlines* (part of *Vivid LIVE*), Sydney Opera House, New South Wales
Darkness on the Edge of Town, Artbank, Sydney
Sixth Sense, National Art School, Sydney
At the Junction of Two Rivers: the Wellington exchange project, Old Western Stores Building, Wellington, NSW
Old Land, New Marks, Dubbo Regional Gallery, New South Wales
2017 NSW Visual Artist Fellowship Exhibition, Artbank, Sydney
All dressed up: the culture, drama and play of clothing, costume and disguise, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor, New South Wales
- 2015 *Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards 2015*, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
The Colour of the Sky Today: Prague Quadrennial of Space and Design (PQ), Collorodo Mansfeld Palace, Prague, Czech Republic
Bungaree's Farm, The Tanks/Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney
Blak Nite Screen 2015, City of Melbourne, Treasury Gardens, Melbourne
Cementa 15: Biennial Contemporary Arts Festival, Kandos, New South Wales
Wiradjuri Ngurambangu, Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA), New South Wales
C3West Blacktown Native Institution Corroboree, Blacktown Arts Centre/Museum of Contemporary Art Australia/UrbanGrowth NSW, Sydney
Talk the change//Change the talk: An exhibition of Aboriginal self-determination, Fairfield City Museum & Gallery, New South Wales
Rough Medicine: Life & Death in the Age of Sail, Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney
- 2014 *TarraWarra Biennial 2014: Whisper in My Mask*, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Healesville, Victoria
Hereby Make Protest, Carriageworks, Sydney
- 2013 *The Art of Sound*, Grafton Regional Gallery, New South Wales
The Native Institute, Blacktown Arts Centre, New South Wales
Parliament of New South Wales Aboriginal Art Prize, Parliament House, Sydney
- 2012–15 *Bungaree: The First Australian*, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney; Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, New South Wales; The Glasshouse, Port Macquarie, New South Wales
- 2012 *Home*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Feminage: The Logic of Feminist Collage, The Cross Art Projects, Sydney

2011 *People We Know—Places We've Been*, Goulburn Regional Gallery, New South Wales
Thank you for the days: My Teenage Years, Lismore Regional Gallery, New South Wales
Pink Sunrise, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney
Freedom Riders, University Art Gallery, The University of Sydney, New South Wales
Fairytales in Fairyland, Grafton Regional Gallery, New South Wales

2010 *Safari: Biennale of Sydney Fringe*, MOP, Sydney
Parliament of New South Wales Indigenous Art Award, Parliament House, Sydney
Articles of Interest, SCI Next Art Gallery, Lismore, New South Wales
Lest We Forget, Dacou, Alstonville, New South Wales

2009 *Parliament of New South Wales Indigenous Art Award*, Parliament House, Sydney (touring New South Wales regional galleries)
Connections, NPWS Art, Northern Rivers Community Gallery, Ballina, New South Wales

2008 *Messages of Peace*, Gallery XX, Settembre, Italy
Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown City Art Centre, New South Wales
Confidential Business Project, Casula Powerhouse, Sydney
Australian Values, Next Art Gallery, Southern Cross University, Lismore, New South Wales
Premier State, Campbelltown City Art Centre, New South Wales
Identity, Grafton Regional Gallery, New South Wales
The Year of the Apology, Northern Rivers Community Gallery, Ballina, New South Wales

2007 *Parliament of New South Wales Indigenous Art Award*, Parliament House, Sydney (touring New South Wales regional galleries)
Past, Present, Future, Grafton Regional Gallery, New South Wales
3 in 10, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney

2006 *Chrysalis: The Emergence of Northern Rivers Artists*, Lismore Regional Gallery, New South Wales
The Pink, The Black and the Beautiful, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney
Our Spirit Our Country, *Bungjalung Art Award*, Lismore Regional Gallery, New South Wales

2005 *Group of Eleven Artists—NAIDOC Week*, Waverley Library, Sydney

2004 *Nice Coloured Dolls*, 24HR Art Northern Territory Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin

2003 *Hung, Drawn and Quartered*, Tin Sheds Gallery, University of Sydney, New South Wales

2001 *Aboriginal Ways of Knowing*, Macy Gallery, Columbia University, New York, NY, USA

1999 *Perspecta: Love Magic*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
Arone Meeks & Co., Cooe Aboriginal Gallery, Sydney

1998 *National Indigenous Heritage Art Award*, Old Parliament House, Canberra
Co-existence—Sorry, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney

- 1997 *Stars on the Net*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 1996 *Never the Less*, John Paynter Gallery, Newcastle, New South Wales
- 1995 *Portia Geach Memorial Award*, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Sydney
- 1994 *Festival of Fisher's Ghost*, Campbelltown City Art Gallery, New South Wales
- Recognising the Republic*, Michael Nagy Fine Art Gallery, Sydney

AWARDS

- 2013 Winner, *New South Wales Parliament Art Prize*, NSW Parliament, Sydney
- 2009 Runner-up, *NPWS Northern Rivers Region Aboriginal Art Award*, Northern Rivers Community Gallery, Ballina, New South Wales
- 2007 Winner, *NPWS Northern Rivers Region Aboriginal Art Award*, Northern Rivers Community Gallery, Ballina, New South Wales
- 2006 Winner, *NPWS Northern Rivers Region Aboriginal Art Award*, Northern Rivers Community Gallery, Ballina, New South Wales

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Anon. 'Freedom Riders', *Sydney University Museums News*, Art and Aboriginal Rights Special Feature, Sydney, June 2011
- Anon. 'Remembering 'Humanity Lost': Karla Dickens and Aris Prabawa', *Art Monthly Australia*, Issue 244, October 2011, pp. 66–67
- Anon. 'The medicine of creation', *GPSpeak*, October 2011
- Balodis, Janis. 'The healing art of transformation', *Health Speak*, Summer 2015
- Behrendt, Larissa. 'Hereby Make Protest review—a historical reflection on Aboriginal activism', *The Guardian*, 18 June 2014
- Dow, Steve. 'The National: New Australian Art 2017', *Art Guide Australia*, 30 March 2017
- Encalada, Javier. 'Local artists 'paint' the Opera House with light', *The Northern Star*, 17 March 2016
- Finegan, Ann. 'Retro Black: Interpellating History', *Sturgeon*, Issue 5, 2016
- Flemming, Robyn (editor). *Wiradjuri Ngurambanggu* [ex. cat.], Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales, 2015
- Fraser, Virginia. 'Bungaree, the First Australian interrupted', *Art Monthly Australia*, Issue 262, August 2013, pp. 9–12
- Fraser, Virginia. 'Karla Dickens', in French, Blair, et al. *The National: New Australian Art*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Carriageworks, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney, 2017
- Geczy, Adam. 'The Native Institute', *Art Monthly Australia*, Issue 263 September 2014, p. 56
- Grishin, Sasha. 'The National: New Australian Art in Sydney shows works at three venues', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 April 2017

King, Natalie, Mundine, Djon and Cruikshank, Alan. 'Whisper in my mask', *Contemporary Visual Art+Culture Broadsheet*, Issue 43.2, 2014

Leane, Jeanine. 'Karla Dickens: Continuing the Dialogue', *Art and Australia*, May 2104, 51.4

McDonald, John. 'Using art to making sense of the past at MAMA and Bathurst regional galleries', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 November 2015

Mandryk, Chloe, 'Sixth Sense', *Art Almanac*. September 2016

Mundine, Professor Djon OAM (editor). *Bungaree: The First Australian* [ex.cat.], Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney; Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, New South Wales, 2012, p. 11 and pp. 38–39

Mundine, Professor Djon OAM. 'Conversations with a Crow', *Art Monthly Australia*, Issue 212, August 2008, pp. 40–42

Mundine, Professor Djon OAM, in Poulos, Maria (editor). 'The Wounded – The Scar – The Gifted', *16 Karla Dickens*, Allens, Sydney, 2016

Nahlous, Lena (editor). *Talk the change//Change the talk: An exhibition of Aboriginal self-determination*, Fairfield City Museum & Gallery, Smithfield, 2015

Nicoll, Fiona. 'Comparative Reflections on Indigenous Gambling: Sovereignty, Race and Epistemology', *Aboriginal Policy Studies*, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2016, University of Alberta, Faculty of Native Studies, Edmonton, pp. 63–89

O'Riordan, Maurice. 'Where Eagles Hover', *Artlink*, Volume 18 Number 1, March 1999

O'Riordan, Maurice. 'What's up, Karla', *Karla Dickens: Home is Where the Rabbit Lives* [ex. cat.], Firstdraft/Arts NSW, Sydney, 2011

O'Riordan, Maurice. 'In My Painting, At My Window', *Karla Dickens: Loving Memory* [ex. cat.], Lismore Regional Gallery, 2008

Parker, Luke and Stephen, Ann (editors). *Freedom Riders: Art and Activism 1960s to Now*, University Art Gallery, The University of Sydney, Sydney, 2011

Poulos, Maria. 'King hit by life-like liquid', *16 Karla Dickens*, Allens, Sydney, 2016

Taffel, Jacqui. 'Story of Bungaree explored on the site that was once his', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 February 2015

Taylor, Andrew. 'Wrapped in colours of denial: Finalists in an Aboriginal art prize aren't afraid of controversy', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 October 2013

Zafiriou, Yiorgos. 'Karla Dickens: It's Not Bloody Art—It's Work!', *Artlink*, Issue 35:2 Artlink Indigenous Global, June 2015

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

National Museum of Australia, Canberra

Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney

Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth

Artbank, Sydney

Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences, Sydney
Artspace Mackay, Queensland
Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria
Black Fellas Dreaming Museum, Sydney
Campbelltown City Art Centre, New South Wales
City of Sydney Civic Collection, New South Wales
Grafton Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
Griffith University, Queensland
International Education Services Indigenous Art Collection, Brisbane
Lismore Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
Northern Rivers Performing Arts, Lismore, New South Wales
University of Technology, Sydney
UBS Warburg Collection, Sydney

Andrew Baker Art Dealer

26 Brookes Street • Bowen Hills Qld 4006
07 3252 2292 • 0412 990 356
info@andrew-baker.com • www.andrew-baker.com

