



**Artback NT**

**Annual Report**  
2018





Website visits	15,448		Facebook likes	4,062	Twitter followers	819	Instagram followers	1,225
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# Artback NT 2018

## Audience

NT	19,426
National	90,930
International	1,478
<b>Total</b>	<b>111,834</b>



## Performances

NT	32
National	25
International	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>



## Workshops

NT	236
National	13
International	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>254</b>



## Venue by Location

NT	59
National	42
International	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>



## Kilometres travelled: exhibition/event

221,671



## Kilometres travelled: people

1,375,033

## Artists/arts workers engaged

NT	457*
National	23
International	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>506</b>



## School events

51

## Schools visited

17



## Indigenous artists/ arts workers

394



## Media activity (interviews, articles)

69



\*68% of NT artists and arts workers engaged were from remote or very remote locations throughout the Northern Territory (this figure excludes Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs).



Northern Territory Activity

Total number of NT events by location and attendance 2018

NT regions	Total venues	Total events	Total audience
Darwin	11	16	3,165
Tiwi Islands	0	0	0
Palmerston	2	6	35
Katherine	5	7	2,815
Barkly Shire	6	10	541
Roper Gulf	12	66	7,453
East Arnhem Land	4	18	497
West Arnhem Land	5	105	680
Victoria Daly Shire	1	2	45
Central Desert Shire	13	44	4,195
TOTAL	59	274	19,426

Artback NT delivered 274 performances, exhibitions and workshops in 59 venues to an audience of 19,426 people across the Northern Territory during 2018.

Outside of the Northern Territory, Artback NT toured 46 performances, exhibitions and workshops to 42 venues around Australia, presenting a high-quality program to 90,930 people. Internationally, Artback NT delivered eight events to an audience of 1,478 people in 6 venues as part of the Taiwan Residency Opportunity for an Indigenous artist from the Northern Territory.

Arts activity across the organisation included:

**Performing Arts:** 48 performances and 20 related workshops in 54 venues locally and nationally

**Visual Arts:** 4 major touring exhibitions with 10 associated public programs in 13 galleries across Australia

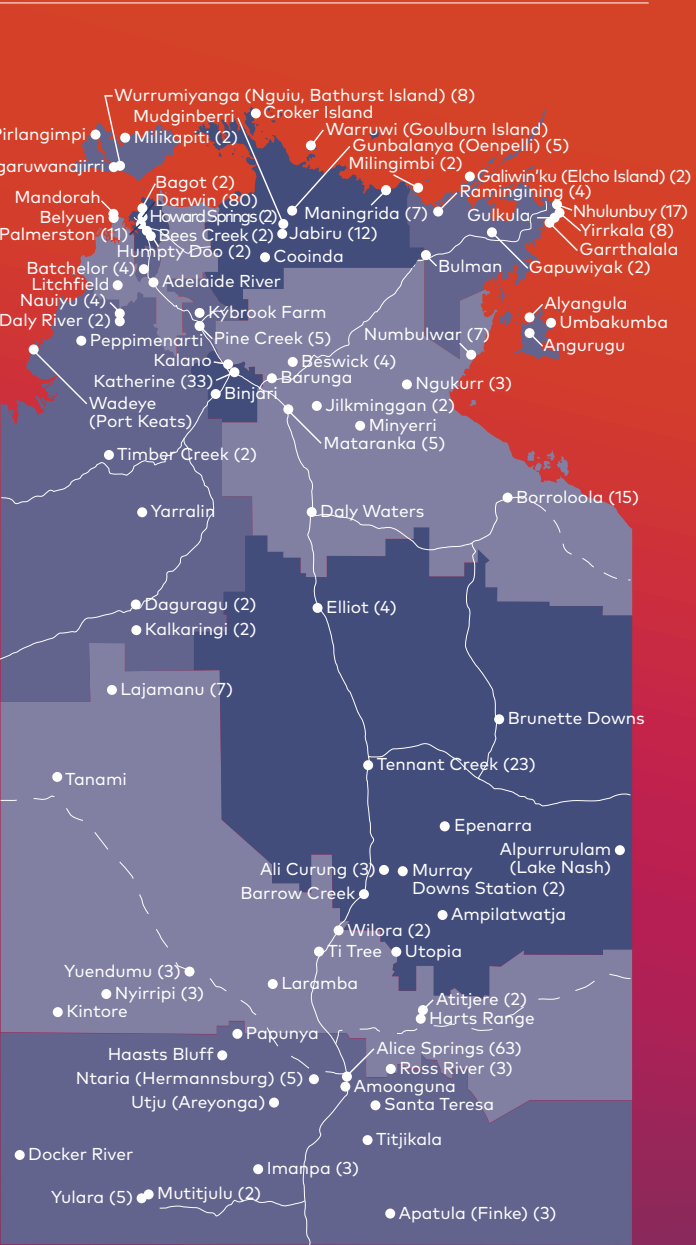
**Indigenous Traditional Dance:** 2 major community festivals in Borroloola and Numbulwar, including 52 workshops and related events

**Artists on Tour:** 172 artists workshop to Northern Territory schools and community groups in 18 urban, regional and remote venues

**International Projects:** 20 performances and workshops were delivered within the Northern Territory and Taiwan across 15 venues

During 2018 Artback NT:

- presented the first exhibition from the SPARK NT Curator Program, *Fecund: Fertile Worlds*, despite the hurdles of Cyclone Marcus. This was followed by an educative and highly successful SPARK NT Symposium, *Curatorial Practice Unpacked*, at GYRACC, Katherine in July
- toured the thought-provoking *Letters to Lindy* throughout the Territory, hosted Lindy Chamberlain at the Darwin Festival performance and delivered the accompanying Words and Ideas panel discussion for *Women in the Spotlight*



Map of the Northern Territory showing the scope of Artback NT's delivery across five municipalities and eleven government shires from 1996 – 2018.\* Bracketed numbers indicate the number of venues Artback NT has delivered to within a location. \* 1994 – 1995 location information is not available.

- worked with new artists through the Artists on Tour program reaching 1,275 participants across the breadth of the Territory
- selected extraordinary artists and delivered memorable outcomes from the first year of the Taiwan – Australia: Indigenous Artist in Residency Project
- facilitated two wonderful Festivals as part of the Indigenous Traditional Dance program, Malandarri Festival in Borroloola and Numburindi Festival in Numbulwar, which over 95% of the communities attended



Touring Venue by Location (817) 1996 - 2018

Map of Australia showing the scope of Artback NT's delivery across six states and two territories from 1996 – 2018. \* Bracketed numbers indicate the number of venues Artback NT has delivered to within a location. \* 1994 – 1995 location information is not available.



## Artback NT

Artback NT is the Northern Territory’s visual and performing arts touring agency. The organisation works with individuals, groups and arts based organisations to present and tour a dynamic and exciting range of arts experiences across the Territory, nationally and internationally.

### Mission

Connecting people and place through arts development and touring.

### Values

- We conduct our business with integrity and respect
- We are committed to creative excellence and capacity building
- We embrace the diverse environment of the Northern Territory
- We believe investment in arts and culture is fundamental to a rich life and the wellbeing of communities.

### Outcomes

- Territory artists and the arts industry flourishes
- Territory communities and audiences access and produce arts and cultural experiences
- Territory arts and artists are celebrated locally and renowned nationally and internationally
- Artback NT is a strong and adventurous organisation

Artback NT acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country on which we work and travel.



Numburindi Festival. Photographer: Benjamin Walngundu Bayliss

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Chair and Executive Officer's Report

2018 was another huge year for Artback NT. We had a diverse and exceptionally exciting range of projects which were delivered locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. We engaged 506 artists throughout the year and 68%, or 348 of the artists engaged, were from remote or very remote locations throughout the Northern Territory (this figure excluded Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs).

This could not have been achieved without the strong operational support Artback NT receives from the Australia Council for the Arts and Arts NT, Department of Tourism and Culture, Northern Territory Government. The organisation also utilised the second year of multi-year funding from Catalyst to deliver *Beyond: Artback NT's multi-artform regional and remote delivery program* which is designed to support Northern Territory based visual and performing artists to develop their work beyond initial ideas and productions, ready to tour to diverse audiences Territory wide.

Artback NT was very pleased to welcome a key new sponsor, the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, whose multi-year support for the program, *Numburindi – Strengthening Culture and Country 2018 – 2020*, is an initiative focusing on intergenerational learning and exchange in Numbulwar and surrounding homelands. This exciting partnership will enable our relationships with the community to strengthen and grow whilst delivering a broad range of outcomes.

**"Out in community the kids are very strong and they are born dancers ... [with] training they will be leaders in the arts sector, dance and music and in the health sector."**

**Jinu Mathew, educator, psychologist, dancer and choreographer, Artists on Tour workshop facilitator**

The development of B2M's new touring show, *Mamanta*, followed by a Playing Australia funded national tour, was a huge and successful undertaking for the organisation. Fans around Australia soaked up the electrifying atmosphere of the shows, as did family members, friends and the local arts industry at their final show in Darwin. The evening was highly emotional featuring as it does the ethos of B2M's commitment to the Tiwi people and Indigenous and national issues.

In 2018 we were very excited to deliver the first year of the *Taiwan – Australia: Indigenous Artist in Residency Project*. Two exceptional artists, Rachael Wallis from Yirrkala and Paiwan singer Sang Mei-Chuan, spent six weeks in Taiwan and the Northern Territory respectively. This two year program presents a unique opportunity for cultural exchange between First Nations' artists and is generously supported by the Northern Territory Government, Taiwan's Council of Indigenous Peoples and the Australian Office in Taipei.

Artback NT's 2016–2020 Strategic Plan acknowledges that we work within the broader Asian region and outlines our wish to create networks and partnerships that ensure that Australia – Asia relationships are supported and celebrated through arts and cultural activities. To this end it was beneficial that the Executive Officer, Louise Partos, was awarded an Asialink Global Exchange which enabled her to travel to Singapore for five weeks and be based at their national performing arts centre, Esplanade –Theatres on the Bay. While in residence, Louise explored culturally diverse approaches to programming audience development within a Singaporean context and took the opportunity to investigate potential artistic and economic opportunities for Northern Territory artists and audiences within our broader region.

Two new Board Members, Sarah Pringle and Marlene Chisholm, joined the team bringing a wealth of experience to the Artback NT Board which continues to provide the critical governance required to ensure the organisation's vision, financial resilience and robustness.

Succession planning and seamless staff turnover is critical to the success of Artback NT. Kate Rendell, our Communications Manager, left late in 2018 and we welcomed Rebecca Renshaw into the position. Kate built a strong communications role across the programs and Rebecca hit the ground running with two major Visual Arts exhibition openings in her first month. We welcomed first Alicia Scobie to the Administrator's role and then Jocelyn Tribe who managed our relocation with great humour and aplomb. Her patience with Telstra was extraordinary!

With the strong core team of Eve, Marlene, Neridah, Jo, Liz and Martin, Artback NT continued to deliver over and above expectations in 2018. The organisation achieved the following significant highlights across programs:

- Presented the first exhibition from the SPARK NT Curator Program, *Fecund: Fertile Worlds*, on time, despite the best efforts of Cyclone Marcus to stop us! This was followed by an exciting and highly successful Spark NT Symposium, *Curatorial Practice Unpacked*, at GYRACC, Katherine in July
- Delivered 27 shows, 16 public programs/workshops and scored rave reviews from the public across 5 States and 1 Territory for our *B2M: Mamanta* tour



B2M with Denise Salvestro, Chair, Artback NT Board at *B2M: Mamanta* at the Riverside Theatre, Parramatta, NSW. L-R Damien Narul, Daniel Cunningham, Gregory Orsto, Denise Salvestro, Jeffrey Simon and Shelton Murray. Photographer: Neil Lanceley



Malandarri Festival Team, L-R Pete Coulatti, Dwight Raggett, Josh Grant, Mervin Simon, Louise Partos, Marlene Timothy, Eve Pawlik, Kate Rendell and Leon Timothy. Photographer: Benjamin WarIngundu Bayliss



- Worked with new artists through our Artists on Tour program which brought 172 workshops delivered by Northern Territory artists to a total of 18 locations, reaching 1,275 participants across the breadth of the Territory
- Selected extraordinary artists and delivered exciting outcomes from the first year of our *Taiwan – Australia: Indigenous Artist in Residency Project*
- Facilitated two enthusiastically received Festivals in our ITDP communities, Mandalari 15–16 June (Borroloola) and Numburindi 13–15 September (Numbulwar), with over 95% community attendance
- *Pupuku Tjukurpa* returned home to Central Australia with an emotional opening at the Araluen Arts Centre, followed by extensive public programs. Artback NT and Visions of Australia supported 39 artists and 5 staff to travel from Mutitjulu to attend
- Toured the thought-provoking *Letters to Lindy* throughout the Territory, hosted Lindy Chamberlain at the Darwin Festival performance and delivered the accompanying Words and Ideas panel discussion for *Women in the Spotlight*

In 2018, Artback NT’s staff and artists travelled an extraordinary 1,375,033 kilometres, to deliver a total of 60 performances and 254 workshops including 51 school events to a total of 107 venues reaching audiences of 111,834 locally, nationally and internationally.

Considering the distances we cover, arts development and touring would be even more difficult, if it were not for the valued support of our partnerships. Artback NT would like to acknowledge its major funding bodies:

- Arts NT, Arts and Museums, Department of Tourism and Culture
- Australia Council for the Arts
- Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund

Staffing is critical to the success of Artback NT and the organisation has a strong regional base with offices in Darwin, Alice Springs and Borroloola. We continue to support and advocate for promotion, opportunities and resources to service artists and cultural practice in regional, remote and very remote areas. Our dedicated and passionate staff enable us to achieve and deliver at an extremely high level. We would like to thank and acknowledge all the hard work of the team throughout the year: Martin Douglas, Jo Foster, Isabelle Kirkbride, Kate Rendell, Eve Pawlik, Rebecca Renshaw, Liz Rogers, Alicia Scobie, Neridah Stockley, Marlene Timothy and Jocelyn Tribe. The organisation was fortunate to continue working with some wonderful contractors and supporters who are part of the strength of the organisation including Ella Geia, Oscar Waugh and Josh Grant. We were also delighted to have the services of Mia Tinkler, an Aurora intern, who made a much appreciated contribution to the organisation and was highly resourceful in assisting with our relocation.

Thank you to all our stakeholders and to all the individuals, communities and audiences we met along the road and who supported us in the regions.

Thank you to the Board for your time, guidance and good governance.

Finally, to our audiences – wherever you are in Australia – check out our website to see when we are presenting an exciting event at a venue near you!

**Chair Dr. Denise Salvestro and Executive Officer Louise Partos, February 2019**

### Treasurer’s Report

Artback NT continues to deliver a high quality program of performances, exhibitions, artists’ talks and workshops across the country. Our impact on the Northern Territory art scene has been considerable. Well done team!!!

Artback NT has continued to grow from strength to strength over the past ten years, despite a changing funding landscape and a down turn in the economy. The Catalyst – Australian Arts and Cultural Fund provided a welcome injection of project funding but is now coming to an end. The Board and staff are acutely aware that Artback NT must focus on income generation if it is to maintain its current level of programming as evidenced by the increase from 2017 in self-generated income as a percentage of total income. We also welcomed the Tim Fairfax Foundation to our list of valued funders.

The current contract for Australia Council for the Arts four-year operational funding is at the halfway mark and Artback NT is gearing up to submit an application for the next round and present its new four-year strategic plan with the aim to be funded again through this program. The competition for this funding will be stiff but as an organisation we are well prepared and have an excellent track record of service delivery.

We are also grateful for the ongoing support of the NT Government, which has contributed operational funding, the subsidised office and storage spaces and project funding.

Thanks to the meticulous financial stewardship of staff, the accounts are in excellent order and we continue to gradually build up our reserves where possible.

**Treasurer Dr. Susan Congreve, February 2019**



Constantina Bush presenting to APAM delegates, Brisbane, Queensland. Photographer: Elizabeth Rogers





# Artists on Tour

*"... an opportunity for the young people, community members and youth workers to gain knowledge on a diverse range of skills and techniques ... and continue to use this knowledge in the future ..."*

Anna Doyle and Jake Sellers, WYDAC,  
Nyirpi Artists on Tour workshop  
facilitated by Kamahi Djordon King

Workshops

172



Venues

18

NT artists/  
workers engaged

12



Audience

1,275

Artists on Tour, young people participating in a sculpture workshop, Nyirpi, with artist Kamahi Djordon King. Photographer: Kamahi Djordon King



## Artists on Tour

The 2018 Artists on Tour program built upon the successes of 2017 and continued to deliver unique arts opportunities for young people across the Northern Territory. The program engaged eight independent artists from the Territory: director, writer and actor Gail Evans; multi-disciplinary visual artist and educator Linda Joy; performer, choreographer and director Mel Kerl; visual artist, actor and singer Kamahi Djordon King; b\*boy Aaron Lim; educator, psychologist, dancer and choreographer Jinu Mathew; dancer and animateur Bryn Wackett; and visual artist and educator Hannah van der Wal. Workshop programs in dance, printmaking, theatre, sculpture, visual arts and cabaret were offered and delivered to urban, regional and remote locations.

In its third year, the Artists on Tour program officially ran from March through to December, however programs began in January to cater for school holiday programs. 2018 saw increased periods of engagement with repeat visits to communities and the phasing out of one-off style workshops. A large proportion of the program was delivered through the Remote Sports Voucher Scheme which enabled Artback NT to broaden the artistic pool and consolidate programming.

Artback NT thanks artists Kyle Shilling, Sarah Hope, Kelly Beneforti, Baykali Ganambarr, Rhys de la Cruz, John Rigas, Caleena Sansbury and Andrea Cooper for collaborating on a number of workshops throughout the year.

**Linda [Joy's] ... approach to involving my class has been the best ... Her expertise is obvious ... her passion to inspire the students [and] a very laid back approach ... allowed students to engage at their own pace.**

Hayley Walker, secondary teacher, Jilkminggan School

## Touring

Gail Evans ran programs focussing on theatre improvisation and Anne Bogart's *Viewpoints*. She worked with all levels at Wanguri Primary School to develop and build towards their annual musical.

Linda Joy continued the printmaking project that started in 2017 with Jilkminggan School. Artworks were submitted and exhibited at the Katherine Art Prize and sold at the Never Never Festival, Mataranka.

Kamahi Djordon King ran a range of sculpture and painting workshop streams throughout the year. In the communities of Nyirrpipi and Murray Downs, he explored the creation of curious and cheeky camp dog sculptures. With Dripstone Middle School, Darwin, Kamahi explored painting with students resulting in the creation of a large scale mural for the school.

Aaron Lim continued to work with Artback NT for the 2018 program and facilitated dynamic hip hop workshops in Yirrkala, Ramingining and Gunbalanya supporting the East Arnhem and West Arnhem Regional Council and West Arnhem Regional Council school holiday programs in January, April and July.

Jinu Mathew officially joined the program team in 2018, having hosted a number of one-off workshops during 2017. Her vibrant dance workshop program explored contemporary dance, yoga, Indian classical and Zumba styles. Jinu ran short term and long term workshops in Ramingining, Maningrida, Jabiru and Daly River. A program highlight was working with John Rigas in Jabiru running dance workshops and choreographing youth performances for the 2018 Mahbilil Festival.

Hannah van der Wal joined the 2018 Artists on Tour team, delivering a sculpture workshop that offered a unique and playful way of interpreting, designing and making bird and bee plaster sculptures. This program ran over two weeks with Lajamanu, Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation in July.



Aaron Lim in Yirrkala.



Hannah van der Wal in Lajamanu.



Gail Evans theatre workshop at Wanguri Primary School.



Jinu Mathew in Jabiru.



Kamahi Djordon King painting workshop at Dripstone Middle School.



Linda Joy printmaking workshop in process.





Workshops

NT Locations	Sessions	Artform
Atitjere	1	Theatre
Daly River	1	Dance
Darwin	2	Theatre / Visual Arts
Gunbalanya	1	Dance
Jabiru	2	Dance
Jilkminggan	1	Visuals Arts
Lajamanu	1	Visual Arts
Maningrida	2	Dance
Murray Downs	1	Visual Arts
Nyirrpi	1	Visual Arts
Palmerston	2	Theatre
Ramingining	1	Dance
Wilora	1	Theatre
Yirrkala	1	Dance

Projects

Voices of Palmerston

The initial concept for the *Voices of Palmerston* began with a simple idea, the City of Palmerston wanted to capture and share local stories of everyday people living, working and playing in the municipality. The Council invited Artback NT to engage with local artists from the Artists on Tour program to connect with the community and find the diverse and rich voices of the Palmerston town.

The continuation of the project for 2018 saw the development of the next edition of the *Memory Archive* project with playwright Sarah Hope from Salt Story Studio, an intimate storytelling and photography series. Sarah returned to Terrace Gardens Aged Care, Palmerston, and ran a series of workshops using music to jog memory and story. She created beautiful snapshots of the lives of individuals through audio and photographic portraits.

This year Sarah worked with new individuals – a special thanks to participants James Cooper, Engelbert Lex, Hendrikus Nykamp, Brian Thomson and John Preston.

Artists on Tour filming workshop with Sarah Hope, Salt Story Studio, in Atitjere. Photographer: Eve Pawlik

"I've been really impressed with their [Artback NT's] approach both in terms of consultation with the community and ensuring ... project ... consultation before it's delivered."

Sarah Hope, Salt Story Studio, Artists on Tour workshop facilitator

Video projects

In Atitjere and Wilora, Sarah Hope, Salt Story Studio, Eve Pawlik, Artback NT and artist Andrea Cooper ran a series of storytelling and filmmaking workshops during the school holidays and for the out-of-school care program. This resulted in three short films being created, *Atitjere Fashion Parade*, *Wilora Super Kids* and *Desert Zombies*. Quirky and hilarious, these films provide a snapshot into the creative minds of the young people in Atitjere and Wilora.

*This program was funded by the Northern Territory Government's Remote Sports Voucher Scheme and hosted by the Central Desert Regional Council.*



Sarah Hope, Salt Story Studio photographic shoot for the *Memory Archive* at Terrace Gardens Aged Care, Palmerston. Photographer: Eve Pawlik





# Performing Arts

*"To hear this music, was inspirational ...  
The whole show made me feel proud to  
be Australian, and proud of this group as  
global ambassadors ..."*

Gail Brown, audience member,  
The Art House, Wyong



Performances

48

Workshops

20



Venues

54

NT artists/  
workers engaged

51



Audience

8,703

B2M performing *Mamanta*, Barossa Arts and  
Convention Centre, 2018. Photographer: Sam Lecons



Performing Arts

2018 was an incredible year for Performing Arts at Artback NT with 29 Northern Territory delegates supported to attend and showcase their artistic practice at the Australian Performing Arts Market (APAM) in February. The year also saw the coordination of three tours through the Territory, and a three-month national tour spanning five states and one territory.

Touring

Hillbilly Horror

*Something's rotten in the Cooter's backwoods cabin – and it's not just Granma's guts!*

Performed with no set and minimal props, Ciella Williams, Gail Evans, Nicola Fearn, Tania Lieman and Yoris Wilson played over 30 characters. The talented musical support of Angus Robson and Carol Palmer and production manager Josh Grant added to this fast-paced musical comedy of horrible hilarity.

Despite Cyclone Marcus' appearance mid-way through the tour, audiences in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs were delighted by the talents brought to them by The Royal National Theatre of Jingili and were heard quoting from the show months later! Local musicians from Katherine and Tennant Creek added to the festivities of the shows in their towns by providing pre- and post-show entertainment.

*This project was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund, Katherine Regional Arts and Barkly Regional Arts.*

**Tour: 14–25 March, 2018**  
**Performances: 6**  
**Venues: 4**  
**Audience: 443**



Hillbilly Horror, dress rehearsal. Photographer: Elizabeth Rogers

Divas on Tour

Artback NT toured *Divas on Tour* through the Northern Territory. Through an Eol application process, four women from Music NT's Divas' program were selected to tour. Music NT funded the development period and mentoring of the artists prior to launching their first tour together. Artists Lynette Lewis Hubbard, Shana Ray, Donna Velia and Kirra Voller were supported by Teghan Hughes on sound and Annie Pfeiffer as tour manager. *Divas on Tour* travelled from Darwin and Alice Springs to share their songs with the Malandarri Festival in Borroloola and communities in Ali Curung, Elliott, Yirrkala, Katherine, Darwin and Tennant Creek.

This tour was a cultural fusion of voices, lyrics and music from remote Northern Territory artists, covering a gamut of musical expression from country to electric to rock. An all-female contemporary Indigenous music tour that was nine years in the making, *Divas on Tour* was soulful, relatable and unique.

Audience Engagement

Song writing and technical performance workshops were offered at Ali Curung and a three-day workshop at Borroloola School in preparation for choir performances at the Malandarri Festival.

*This project was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund, Indigenous Languages and Arts, APRA/AMCOS.*

**Tour: 11 June – 1 July, 2018**  
**Performances: 7**  
**Workshops: 5**  
**Venues: 8**  
**Audience: 1,360**



Divas on Tour, show development. Photographer: Annie Pfeiffer

Letters to Lindy

Filled with warmth, humour and heartbreak, this work by award-winning playwright Alana Valentine explored our fascination with Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton, one of Australia's most iconic figures from the 20th Century. Cast and crew toured play readings to Gove and Tennant Creek, with full performances offered at the Darwin Festival, Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Cultural Centre, Katherine and Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs.

Audience Engagement

To accompany the tour Artback NT presented post-show Q&A's with the cast and Alana Valentine in Darwin, Katherine and Tennant Creek. To a full house in Darwin and sell-out show, the opening night Q&A saw Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton joined by the cast, Producer Leland Kean and Director Darren Yap to discuss the work and Chamberlain-Creighton's experiences.

To audience acclaim, Artback NT facilitated *Women in the Spotlight*, a panel discussion hosted by ABC presenter, Jess Ong with playwright Alana Valentine, former Chief Minister Clare Martin and former Chief Investigator of the Peter Falconio case, Colleen Gwynne as part of the Darwin Festival *Words and Ideas* program.

*This project was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund, Merrigong Theatre Company and Create New South Wales.*

**Tour: 9–25 August, 2018**  
**Performances: 7**  
**Workshops: 3**  
**Venues: 6**  
**Audience: 1,862**



*Letters to Lindy*, Q&A, Darwin Festival Opening Night, L-R Darren Yap, Phillip Hinton, Leland Kean, Alana Valentine, Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton, Glenn Hazeldine, Jeanette Cronin and Jane Phegan. Photographer: Elizabeth Rogers

B2M Mamanta

From March to August 2018, Jeffrey 'Yello' Simon from B2M, Artback NT and Skinnyfish Music worked together to produce a new theatre show. The creation of B2M's show, *Mamanta*, meaning friend in Tiwi, provided an alternative interpretation of B2M's music and resulted in a national tour of theatres around Australia.

The production focused on the history of the Tiwi Islands and how contemporary life has been influenced by past and current relationships. In a historic show of support from the Tiwi Elders, B2M gained permission to use traditional Tiwi chants and blend them with their modern music style. Filming for the audio visual elements of the show was shot at Milikapiti and Wurrumiyanga with Caro Macdonald and members of B2M. Yello and Daniel Cunningham with James Mangohig from Skinnyfish Music consolidated the flow, storytelling and sounds of *Mamanta*. Final week rehearsals brought the full band together with the creative team Gail Evans, Director, Stephen Hawker, Lighting Design, Elizabeth Rogers, Producer and Costume Designer and Charlotte Kirby, Sound Engineer.

*B2M Mamanta* delivered performances and workshops in five states and one territory around Australia, including Port Pirie, Whyalla, Tanunda, Cairns, Mt Isa, Byron Bay, Penrith, Parramatta, Orange, Wyong, Coffs Harbour, Cessnock, Tamworth, Mandurah, Carnarvon, Merredin, Kalgoorlie, Norseman, Albany, Alice Springs, Horsham, Shepparton, Castlemaine, Upwey, Healesville and Darwin. The performance in Darwin was a special event saying goodbye to B2M as they announced their retirement following this highly successful tour, with family joining them on stage for the finale.



Audience Engagement

Music and song writing workshops were held throughout Australia. B2M further engaged with the communities of Whyalla, performing with children they had conducted workshops with at the local show and Cessnock Performing Arts Centre hosted a community BBQ and introduced B2M to the Elders. In Upwey, a lunch was hosted by the Dandenong Ranges Music Council with secondary students and the Mayor.

*This project was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, Playing Australia and the Regional Arts Fund. Key partner Skinnyfish Music.*

**Tour: 16 August – 18 November, 2018**  
**Performances: 26**  
**Workshops: 13**  
**Venues: 32**  
**Audience: 4,873**



Cinematographer Cara Macdonald filming for the show development, *B2M Mamanta*, Tiwi Islands.  
Photographer: Elizabeth Rogers



Show development for *B2M Mamanta*, Tiwi Islands.  
Photographer: Elizabeth Rogers

Sector Support

Artback NT supported professional development opportunities for arts practitioners, including a delegation to attend APAM in Brisbane.

Australian Performing Arts Market, Brisbane

The Northern Territory Government provided significant strategic support to enable the sending of a delegation of artists from the Northern Territory to APAM, 19–23 February, 2018. The key purpose of APAM is to increase international and national touring opportunities for Australian contemporary performing arts groups and artists by providing a platform for them to showcase their work. Networking enabled critical conversations with people from around the world and connections in person.

Artback NT facilitated the showcase of *Skinnyfish Sound System* and *Constantina Bush and Friends* at APAM and arranged for 29 Northern Territory artists to attend as performers or delegates for a week of networking and inspiration. Of those who attended, 62% of the delegation were from remote areas (i.e. outside of Darwin including Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek, Numbulwar and the Tiwi Islands). The delegation was inspired by the performances of artists around the world and made 644 networking opportunities and connections. There was international interest in works represented by the delegation including confirmation of a subsequent tour to Mexico!

*Supported by the Northern Territory Government.*



Frankie Snowdon (centre), GUTS Dance//Central Australia at APAM, Brisbane. Photographer: Elizabeth Rogers

Performing Arts Exchange, Karratha

The Performing Arts Exchange was held in the new arts centre, Red Earth Arts Precinct, Karratha, 2–4 September, 2018. This event provided a national platform for presenters, producers and artists to meet, network, make a pitch and create ongoing connections. Sarah Hope, Creative Director, Salt Story Studio and playwright of *Dog Dog* and *Coal Face* attended this event with Elizabeth Rogers, Performing Arts Manager. This was an invaluable insight into the behind-the-scenes world of 'sales' and provided an educative experience on speaking about artistic practice and pitching work to new audiences.

Borak Art Series at OzAsia Festival, Adelaide

Poet and playwright Sandra Thibodeaux attended the Borak Arts Series conference for Asian-Australian arts workers. The Series ran 1–3 November 2018 and included panels, breakout discussions, plenaries, showcases, pitches and networking sessions.

Arts Front Under 30, Newcastle

Arts Front Under 30 was a three-day gathering from 25–27 September of 100 diverse young people from across Australia as a preamble to This is Not Art Festival. Attending Arts Front was an impactful and timely experience for Tiwi Sistergirl Shaniquá Kerinaiaua, as she was able to continue her networking and advocacy role at national events.

**"The [Borak Art] Series was a great opportunity to meet other people who work in the arts across this Australasian region, particularly those who collaborate across borders ... I learnt a lot about current developments ... As someone who primarily works in Indonesia, it was interesting to learn more about Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Japan."**

**Sandra Thibodeaux, poet and playwright, Borak Art Series at OzAsia Festival, Adelaide**





# Visual Arts

"Great [exhibition] ... new insight into an important part of our history."

Visitor comment, *Still in my mind: Gurindji location, experience and visibility*, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery



Major touring exhibitions



4

Workshops

2



Venues

13

NT artists/  
workers engaged

194



Audience

91,716

Exhibition opening *Still in my mind: Gurindji location, experience and visibility*, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery. Photographer: Fiona Morrison



Visual Arts

Three major exhibitions toured to four states and two territories during 2018 and extensive consultations were conducted to produce a suite of public programs and education kits to support their audience engagement. Artback NT worked to identify and develop new creative and professional partnerships with artists, curators and organisations locally and interstate which resulted in the initial phases of development for three new exhibitions.

Touring

Puṇuku Tjukurpa

*Puṇuku Tjukurpa* celebrates the stories and Law of Anangu culture through intricate carvings and artefacts. This was the first touring exhibition of artworks from the Maṛuku Arts archive based at Muṭitjulu near Uluru in the Northern Territory. *Puṇuku Tjukurpa* showcased a rich and sacred history to audiences over four years touring to four states and two territories.

This major exhibition opened at the South Australian Museum in March 2015. The 2018 leg of the tour included three West Australian Museum venues in Kalgoorlie, Geraldton and Albany and one Northern Territory venue, the Araluen Arts Centre in Alice Springs. This was the final venue concluding the tour, which saw many artists travel from the APY Lands for the opening night and weekend of public programs. A poignant moment at the exhibition opening saw video footage of past generations performing *Inma* in the background while their descendants performed *Inma* at the opening in acknowledgement of *Puṇuku Tjukurpa* returning home.

*This project was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, Visions of Australia and the Regional Arts Fund. Sponsorship provided by Grace Fine Art and key partner Maṛuku Arts.*

**Tour: March 2015 – February 2019**  
**Curator, artist talks, public programs: 8**  
**Venues: 4**  
**Audience: 31,367**

“Walking up the stairs you can feel the energy from these amazing works. The community should feel very proud for these works to cover the country. This is the oldest living culture in the world and I am proud to live in such a country, thank you.”

Visitor comment, Puṇuku Tjukurpa, West Australian Museum, Albany

Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression

In the far Eastern corner of Arnhem Land sits Yirrkala Print Space, where, for over twenty years, the art of printmaking has prospered. *Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression* celebrates this space with works from 50 artists, providing a privileged insight into the nuanced world of Yolngu people of Northeast Arnhem Land.

The national tour of *Balnhdhurr* commenced in Castlemaine, Victoria, 2017. A comprehensive education kit and mobile phone app were developed to accompany the exhibition, with funding secured for artists to travel for the delivery of public programs through four states. In 2018 the exhibition travelled to four venues, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Griffith Regional Art Gallery, NSW, Bega Regional Art Gallery, NSW and Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, Qld. During the year printmaking workshops and floor talks were conducted by Artback NT Chair Dr. Denise Salvestro and Yolngu artist Ruby Alderton.

*This project was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund and Visions of Australia. Key partners Buku-Larrnggay Mulka and the Yirrkala Print Space.*

**Tour: 2017 - 2019**  
**Curator, artist talks, public programs: 4**  
**Venues: 5**  
**Audience: 55,804**



Installation view, Puṇuku Tjukurpa, Melbourne Museum. Image courtesy of Melbourne Museum



Children's workshops, Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression, Bayside Arts and Cultural Centre. Image courtesy of Bayside Arts and Cultural Centre



## The app is good because people can look at the designs and understand clearly the Yolŋu matha words, so we are sharing our stories.

**Munuy'ŋu (Rebecca) Marika, Yolngu artist**

### Still in my mind: Gurindji location, experience and visibility

Inspired by the words of revered Indigenous leader and Gurindji elder Vincent Lingiari, 'that land ... I still got it on my mind', *Still in my mind: Gurindji location, experience and visibility* began its national tour at Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre, Katherine this year. *Still in my mind* is an exhibition that reflects upon events preceding and following the Walk-Off at Wave Hill cattle station in protest over poor wages and living conditions.

Exploring notions of home, community and country connected to the Walk-Off, *Still in my mind* is curated by renowned Indigenous Artist, Curator and Researcher Brenda L. Croft, in collaboration with the Kalkaringi community. Lingiari's statement is the exhibition's touchstone, with the story retold from diverse yet interlinked Indigenous perspectives through photographs, digital platforms, paintings and archives.

Public programs in the Northern Territory at Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Cultural Centre, Katherine and Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Darwin enabled audiences to explore events of historical and cultural significance to all Australians. The exhibition presents a multi-layered picture telling the story of the Gurindji people and those part of the diaspora through interwoven Indigenous standpoints. This acted as a counterpoint to the public programs with Brenda L. Croft, Karungkarni artists, family members and friends from Darwin and Kalkarindji who entered a discourse into the legacy of the Walk-Off, the impact of colonisation and the inter-generational trauma as a result of government policies and the effect this has had on the Stolen Generations and their descendants.

*This project was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund and Visions of Australia. Key partners Brenda L. Croft, UNSW Galleries, UQ Art Museum and Karungkarni Art and Culture Aboriginal Corporation. Supported by the Australian Research Council Discovery Indigenous Award, National Institute for Experimental Arts and ARC Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of Language.*

**Tour: Oct 2018 – October 2021**

**Curator, artist talks, public programs: 2**

**Venues: 2**

**Audience: 1,076**

### Fecund: Fertile Worlds

SPARK: NT Curator Program's inaugural exhibition *Fecund: Fertile Worlds*, curated by Clare Armitage, toured the Northern Territory to three venues in 2018. Based in Katherine, Armitage curated an exhibition highlighting contemporary Australian art and "... the deep relationship between humans and the natural world". The exhibition toured to SPARK venue partners across the Territory to the Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin, Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Cultural Centre, Katherine and Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs.

*This project was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body and Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund.*

**Tour: March 218 – March 2019**

**Curator, artist talks, public programs: 2**

**Venues: 3**

**Audience: 2,609**



Clare Armitage, inaugural SPARK NT Curator, *Fecund: Fertile Worlds* exhibition opening. Photographer: Jocelyn Tribe

## Exhibition Development

### A Secular View: Neridah Stockley

Curated by Gillean Shaw at the University of Newcastle, *A Secular View: Neridah Stockley* acknowledges twenty-five years of sustained practice by Alice Springs based artist Neridah Stockley. Stockley's practice has an ongoing engagement to varied places and environments, drawing on urban, rural, outback and coastal locations, both in Australia and overseas.

*Key partner University of Newcastle.*

### Artists in Museums

To coincide with the Australian Museums and Galleries Association National Conference in 2019, to be held in Alice Springs, Artback NT has partnered with the National Women's Pioneer Hall of Fame to develop a series of pop-up exhibition *Artists in Museums*. This project will showcase Alice Springs based visual artists in response to local museum collections.

**... a professional turning point for me. I learnt so much in the process. This program provides a platform for Northern Territory arts to connect with the rest of Australia, and for NT arts professionals to have opportunities equal to those being offered in other states. It is the only program of its kind ... touring has given me project management experience I can absolutely demonstrate, and has ... led to other professional opportunities ... selected as a part of the Australia Council's 2019 Venice Biennale Emerging Arts Professional cohort ...**

**Clare Armitage, Inaugural SPARK: NT Curator Program recipient**

## Sector Development

### SPARK NT Symposium: Curatorial Practice Unpacked

In July 2018, in partnership with Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts & Culture Centre, Artback NT presented *SPARK NT Symposium: Curatorial Practice Unpacked*. This two-day symposium engendered industry dialogue from leading curators, artists and arts practitioners to consider the current state of curatorial practice within the Northern Territory. The symposium focussed on "unpacking" the role of the curator, sharing professional experiences, exploring future pathways and networking opportunities amongst arts peers.

Program topics included exhibition development and curating, collections and keeping places, conservation and caring for objects. Panel discussions provided unique insights into curatorship.

*This program was funded by the Northern Territory Government, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund and the Regional Arts Fund.*

### We Eat We Are

The SPARK: NT Curator Program's second recipient is Darwin based Curator and Artist Sarah Pirrie, who is developing an exhibition for tour in 2019, *We Eat We Are*. Spark is part of a three-year initiative designed to foster critical thinking in art and curatorial practice within the Northern Territory. The program also provides artists from the Territory with opportunities to showcase their work within a curated touring exhibition.



Conservator Carolyn McLennan shares conservation tips with SPARK NT Symposium participants. Photographer: Jocelyn Tribe



Senior Maruku artist, Rene Kulitja, sharing her knowledge on how to carve timpilypa music stick with the Alice Springs community as part of the opening weekend public programming for *Puŋuku Tjukurpa*. Photographer: Rebecca Renshaw





# Indigenous Traditional Dance Program

*"The kids were the highlight ...  
seeing that contemporary connection  
to skin group through the dance."*  
Marlene Timothy, Milpirri Festival Exchange




Major community  
festivals

2

Days

5





Workshops

52

NT artists/  
workers engaged

204





Audience

3,500

Youth Wungubul, Ngalmi performing  
Gudarrgu (Brolga), Numburindi Festival, 2018.  
Photographer: Benjamin WarIngundu Bayliss



## Indigenous Traditional Dance Program

In 2018, the Indigenous Traditional Dance Program (ITDP) continued its simultaneous engagement with the remote Northern Territory communities of Borroloola and Numbulwar. ITDP was established to support the Territory’s artistic and cultural practices through inter-generational learning, the strengthening of relationships between Elders and young people and encouraging cultural leadership. The two festival events, Numburindi Festival in Numbulwar and Malandarri Festival in Borroloola are vibrant showcases of the diverse communities and cultures within the Gulf region. In addition to the festival events, a range of workshop and creative activities were offered throughout the year.

### Borroloola

The focus for Borroloola in 2018 was the development of opportunities within the arts and cultural sector for local artists and arts workers and the delivery of the annual Malandarri Festival.

#### Malandarri Festival

The Malandarri Festival celebrates both traditional and contemporary arts and cultural practices from the four clan groups living in Borroloola, the Yanyuwa, Garrwa, Gurdanji and Mara peoples. The festival, formerly known as DanceSite, is part of a range of ongoing artistic and professional development opportunities offered throughout the year based in Borroloola and the wider Gulf of Carpentaria region.

The 2018 Malandarri Festival built upon the community driven part of the event, with pre-festival workshop programs, greater lead participation from local organisations and the engagement of a local production crew in a two week training program and employment throughout the event. The Festival ran between the 15–16 June, a vibrant celebration of arts and cultural practices with performances from local clans, visiting dance groups, bands, school choirs and international guests.

The creation of a new pop-up exhibition space at the festival site was established for the opening evening and key works were exhibited from Waralungku Arts. Artists represented were Marjorie Keighran, Peggy Mawson, Jemima Miller, Danny Riley, Myra Rory and Marlene Timothy. The Borroloola School senior classes launched a pop-up Op Shop at the festival site, a fantastic success.

Visiting performers for 2018 were musical groups Suming Rupi, an Amis singer from Taiwan, Divas on Tour (Kirra Voller, Donna Velia, Shana Ray and Lynette Lewis Hubbard) and dance group Laginda Sandalwood Dancers from Doomadgee.

#### Printmaking Program

Tim Growcott, from Top End Textiles, conducted dynamic printmaking workshops from 30 April – 11 May in the community of Borroloola. The programs were delivered in the Mabunji workshop space, and engaged the CDP Women’s Group, Sea Rangers, early childhood group, art centre artists and Mabunji staff. The workshops positively impacted the community members and reinvigorated screen printing practices. Of the 45–60 workshop participants, many had little or no experience with printmaking. The program generated a range of new designs and product for sale at the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair in August.

#### Photography Program

Borroloola based photographer Benjamin WarIngundu Bayliss ran photography skills workshops in the lead-up to the festival and with the Borroloola School senior class during second semester. Workshops targeted young adults aged 16 to 35 years. The success of the school program has seen Bayliss continuing to mentor students and be incorporated into the education program.

#### Production Training

In the lead-up and throughout the 2018 Malandarri Festival, Joshua Grant, Technical Manager for the Festival ran production training from 4 to 16 June. The participants were provided with on-the-job training which included the management of pre-festival rehearsal spaces, sound checks, site planning, live sound engineering and tech support. During the Festival participants worked alongside the technical team and live engineered the event.



Dwight, Scott and Mervin from the production training crew, Malandarri Festival. Photographer: Benjamin WarIngundu Bayliss

This opportunity was an important element of Artback NT’s engagement with community skills development projects. Community member Barnabas Timothy had one of the main roles in the training program, coordinating participants and being the lead technician. A refresher course was run from 10–14 December in Borroloola. The intention is to host three future intensives each subsequent year to build upon the festival training program.

#### Funding

The ITDP team is thrilled to be receiving multi-year funding until 2020 from McArthur River Mines Community Benefits Trust to extend the incredibly successful art and cultural activity programs in the Borroloola and Robinson River region. This will enable the continued employment and mentorship of Marlene Timothy, Malandarri Festival Director and Cultural Events Officer and Barnabas Timothy as a Support Officer during delivery periods. Artback NT would like to acknowledge the exciting inclusion of Marlene Timothy in the First Circles Leadership Program for 2018.

*This program was funded by the Northern Territory Government, Festivals NT, Waralungku Arts, McArthur River Mine Community Benefits Trust, Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Centre, Roper Gulf Regional Council and Mawurli Wirriwangkuma Aboriginal Corporation.*

**Festival days 2**  
**Workshops and arts activities 44**  
**Venues 5**  
**Audience 2,250**

**"... strengthening and holding up culture is important for young people in terms of the fabric of communities ... our kinship systems, the cultural ties, connection to country ... interwoven ... you can't pick at a single thread without the rest of it unravelling."**

**Selena Uibo, Bush Camps, Numburindi**

## Numbulwar

2018 was the first year of activity with multi-year funding security for the Numburindi Festival and the launch of the *Numburindi: strengthening culture and country* program.

#### Numburindi: strengthening culture and country

Artback NT was successful in securing multi-year funding for the period 2018 to 2020 from the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation Fund for the culture camp program. Two camps were hosted in 2018 with Nundhirribala and Murrungun clan groups. This enabled concentrated time connected to country and facilitated community aims to support the clan groups in areas they wished to consolidate with their young people. During the camp Clan Leaders taught artefact making, dancing, singing, language and delivered storytelling.



Grant Nundhirribala and Henry Nunggunajbarr teaching Jumaleo and Clancy Nundhirribala how to cut up turtle meat at Numbulwar Bush Camp. Photographer: Eve Pawlik

#### Numburindi Festival

The Numburindi Festival is a unique community driven event for local audiences celebrating traditional and contemporary arts and cultural practices from the remote Arnhem Land community of Numbulwar on the western coast of the Gulf of Carpentaria. The Festival at its core aims to support community capacity development and cross cultural exchange between Indigenous clan groups across the Northern Territory.

This years' Festival was held over three days from 13–15 September and focused on intergenerational exchange with clan Elders supporting and empowering youth arts practice. This saw incredible attendance from visiting music and dance groups travelling from Bickerton Island, Groote Eylandt, Ngukurr, Katherine, Beswick and Darwin. The program celebrated growth in the young peoples' programming with a greater number of performing groups and strong young peoples' Wungubul performances on the opening night.





*This program was funded and supported by the Northern Territory Government, Arts NT, Roper Gulf Regional Council, Selena Uibo-MLA, Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, Numbulwar Homelands, Numburindi Store, Yulgul Mangi Aboriginal Corporation and Numbulwar School.*

**Festival days 3**

**Workshops and arts activities 8**

**Venues 4**

**Audience 1,250**

**"The old people been making these songs long time ago, when we were nothing and they bin teach us before they were gone, they were singing for us."**

**Jemima Miller, Borroloola**

## Sector Development

### Community Festivals in Dialogue: Numburindi and Milpirri Festivals

New sector development opportunities commenced in 2018 with the successful attainment of a Strategic Initiatives grant from Arts NT. This grant allowed Indigenous Festival Directors to participate in an exchange program across the communities of Milingimbi, Numbulwar, Borroloola and Lajamanu.

### Australian Performing Arts Market (APAM)

Numburindi Festival Director and Project Coordinator Ella Geia travelled with the Northern Territory delegation to Brisbane for the 2018 APAM. This experience was invaluable providing access to a broad range of arts practices and making connections with First Nations arts industry both nationally and internationally. Geia participated in a First Nations Market Readiness Workshop prior to the main APAM program.

### SPARK Curatorial Practice Unplugged

Marlene Timothy, Malandarri Festival Director and Cultural Events Officer travelled with artists Thelma Dixon and Peggy Mawson to Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre, Katherine for the symposium Curatorial Practice Unpacked as part of Artback NT's *SPARK: NT Curator Program*. Timothy presented on the first day, *Malandarri Festival – keeping culture strong through song and dance*, sharing her experience and learnings of the Festival from a local, regional to national audience.



Bradwyn Murrungun dancing with Yilila Band, Numburindi Festival. Photographer: Benjamin Warlangu Bayliss

Yanyuwa dancers performing, Malandarri Festival. Photographer: Benjamin Warlangu Bayliss





# International Projects

*"... share more and more stories about Indigenous [peoples] that help us think more [about the] situation for Indigenous [culture] in Taiwan ..."*

Steven, Suming's photographer, Burunga Festival, 2018



Performances

12

Workshops

8



Venues

15

NT artists/  
workers engaged

26



Audience

6,604

Suming performing for the Elders, Malandarri Festival, 2018. Photographer: Benjamin Warlungundu Bayliss



Taiwan 2018

Building upon the touring relationships developed in 2016 and 2017, Artback NT partnered with a number of Taiwanese artists and organisations during 2018 to deliver a range of extraordinary collaborations and exchanges throughout the Northern Territory and Taiwan.

On the road!

Louise Partos, Executive Officer, hit the road with the new Chair of Regional Arts Australia, Tasmania based Simon Spain and his wife Victoria, taking them to one of the Territory's major events, the Barunga Festival. This was also a special year as the Bunun Children's Choir from Taiwan performed and collaborated with B2M following Artback NT and Skinnyfish Music's successful Taiwan tour. Visitors were enraptured by the collaborations with this being the highlight of the Festival for many of those fortunate enough to watch the shows. Barunga Festival was the perfect event to showcase the diversity, exhilaration and richness of regional arts, including international collaborations to key national stakeholders.

From Taiwan to Borroloola!

The Executive Officer hit the road – again! – with Indigenous Taiwanese superstar Suming, his translator and assistant Nunung and photographer, Steven. They travelled 1000kms each way to the remote community of Borroloola where Suming performed at the Malandarri Festival. He was extremely well received by the Elders and his performance was a joyous sharing of cultures, culminating in Suming presenting his Amis tribal flag to Marlene Timothy, Artistic Director, Malandarri Festival. Returning to Darwin, the group stopped at the iconic Mataranka Hot Springs where Suming was immediately recognised by Taiwanese tourists and the obligatory selfies ensued!



On the road to Borroloola with Amis singer, Suming. Photgrahper: Louise Partos



Bunun Children's Choir arrive at Darwin International Airport. Barunga here we come! Photographer: Louise Partos



Suming presenting the Amis flag to Marlene Timothy, Malandarri Festival Director. Photographer: Benjamin WarIngundu Bayliss



Yanyuwa dancers performing, Malandarri Festival. Photographer: Benjamin WarIngundu Bayliss



## Extraordinary artists and outcomes from the first year of our Taiwan – Australia: Indigenous Artist in Residency Project

The exciting Taiwan – Australia: Indigenous Artist in Residency Project is a unique opportunity for cultural exchange between First Nations artists and is generously supported by the Northern Territory Government, Taiwan's Council of Indigenous Peoples and the Australian Office in Taipei. In 2018, following a rigorous selection process, the successful artists were dancer and choreographer Rachael Wallis, Yirrkala, Northern Territory and from Taiwan, Paiwanese singer, Sang Mei-Chuan.

Rachael Wallis was based in the community of Rinari, Pingtung County, south Taiwan for six weeks. Wallis travelled extensively, performed with Taiwan's Tjimur Dance Theatre, delivered workshops, visited exhibitions, performed in Taipei for the NAIDOC celebrations and the showing of Warwick Thornton's 'Sweet Country', performed at the Naluwan Theatre at the Indigenous Peoples Culture Park and participated in many traditional Taiwan feasts!

Living in a small community of north-east Arnhem Land, where Yolgnu history is passed down through story, song and dance as way of life, Rachael understands the importance of dance for culture and community.

**"Dance includes all peoples. It brings joy and hope and benefits everyone. Dance is in my blood I've been dancing since I could walk. This exchange opportunity allows me to share my skills and knowledge with other First Nations Peoples and learn their stories and crafts to share with my family and community."**

Rachael Wallis, Taiwan – Australia: Indigenous Artist in Residency Project

As part of the exchange, Artback NT was incredibly privileged to host the first Taiwan Indigenous artist to come to the Northern Territory, the wonderful singer Sang Mei-Chuan who was based in both Darwin and Alice Springs. Sang Mei-Chuan visited regional locations including Jabiru, Kakadu National Park and Central Australia where she performed and collaborated with international artists during the Alice Springs Desert Song Festival.

**"Music plays the same importance to the Taiwan Indigenous Peoples, especially to the Paiwan tribe, who love to sing. To us, music and songs not only record our daily lifestyles and express emotions, but they also record our histories, beliefs, and cultural identity. Tribal Music / Songs are like 'Roots' that absorb the nutrients from the Land in Taiwan, for those Indigenous groups that do not have writing systems, music and songs are one of the most important mediums in passing down their cultural identity. When I was performing [in Alice Springs] I really felt that I was home. Because when I am in Taiwan I often create music next to a creek. The landscape, the water there was very similar. "**

Sang Mei-Chuan, Taiwan – Australia: Indigenous Artist in Residency Project

Artback NT was extremely happy with the outcomes from the first year of the residency and can't wait for 2019's exchange!



Rachael Wallis performing with Sang Mei-Chuan and Labaka Taru, Artback NT Indigenous Artist in Residence, Taiwan, June to July 2018. Photography Remix Beauty and Image Studio



Sang Mei-Chuan, Artback NT Indigenous Artist in Residence with Quetzal Guerrero, Stuart Town Gaol, Desert Song Festival, September 2018. Photographer: Louise Partos



# Disability Action Plan

Drums, Numburindi Festival,  
2018. Photographer: Benjamin  
WarlIngundu Bayliss

GOAL ONE: To show leadership by promoting excellence in arts and disability practice		
Action	Measurable Target	Achievements against targets
To continue to provide opportunities for visual artists with disability to develop new partnerships, develop and tour their work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Source funding for new exhibitions</li><li>• Build relationships</li><li>• Facilitate the development of new work</li><li>• Link artists and organisations</li><li>• Respond in a timely manner to requests for additional information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Artists and audiences with disability are a part of our current nationally touring shows</li><li>• Relationships are ongoing</li><li>• No funding specifically sourced for new disability projects however current touring shows include artists with disability</li><li>• Access organisations in exhibition venues contacted to ensure they are aware of Artback NT audio description opportunities</li><li>• Access organisations approached to submit exhibition development and touring proposals</li><li>• All requests responded to within a timely manner</li></ul>
To continue to provide opportunities for Northern Territory performing artists with disability to tour their work in the Territory and nationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A minimum of 1 show development/ tour to include artists with disability</li><li>• Engage with a minimum of 2 disability orgs in the tours</li><li>• Disseminate information, support artists and audiences and facilitate relationships</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Malandarrri and Numburindi Festivals worked with and presented to those with disability within the community</li><li>• Activity in Borroloola and Numbulwar included artists with disability</li><li>• Development and touring of Northern Territory works in the performing program included artists with disability</li><li>• Artists on Tour presented outcomes from the <i>Memory Archive</i> and held follow-on workshops for Season 2. This project works with individuals living with disabilities and/or Alzheimers' in an aged care facility</li><li>• Artists on Tour ran art workshops in remote Indigenous communities with youth participants who live with disabilities</li><li>• Whilst on tour mental health and well-being was taken into account for artists and crew</li><li>• Program delivery to regional arts organisations were the interface with access organisations within their region</li><li>• Information disseminated</li></ul>



To continue to explore ways of increasing access to visual arts exhibitions for people who are blind, have low vision, limited access to the visual arts or who have literacy issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Audio descriptions available for Artback NT nationally touring exhibitions, <i>Puṇuku Tjukurpa</i> and <i>Balnhdhurr</i></li><li>• Deliver ‘story tour’ audio guides to assist access to exhibition content for visually impaired and illiterate audiences</li><li>• Continue to explore ways to best increase access to our travelling exhibitions such as digital records post-tour which become part of the archive but allows access via technology for those unable to physically attend exhibitions in situ</li><li>• Contact disability service providers in venue regions to ensure that they are aware of the opportunities provided through Artback NT’s exhibitions</li><li>• Connect with the venue staff regarding their access programs and develop suggestions to be included in Venue Packs</li><li>• Commit to research around dementia programs being offered in gallery situations and apply to our touring shows</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Audio descriptions delivered as part of two existing national tours for <i>Puṇuku Tjukurpa</i> and <i>Balnhdhurr</i> and available for download through the Artback NT website</li><li>• Audio descriptions are also available through <i>Puṇuku Tjukurpa</i> and <i>Balnhdhurr</i> mobile phone apps (google play and iTunes)</li><li>• 1 local language speaker hired to provide teaching aids regarding language for the mobile phone apps</li><li>• Story tour audio guides downloadable through the Artback NT website for <i>Balnhdhurr</i></li><li>• Access issues are a key part of visual arts funding submissions for 2018 programs and beyond</li><li>• Dementia research deferred to 2019</li></ul>
Assisting in audience development for people with disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work locally, regionally and nationally with presenting partners to ensure venue access</li><li>• Ensure access considerations are always a part of risk management and audience development strategies</li><li>• Ensure Artback NT manages access during the delivery of its remote festivals in Borroloola and Numbulwar</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ongoing across all of the organisations programs</li><li>• Risk management documentation updated annually</li><li>• Attendance at risk management training provided through Festivals NT for key staff</li></ul>
Support a national commitment to good mental health in the performing arts industry which has higher than normal records of anxiety, depression and suicide attempts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure good practices within the workplace</li><li>• Look out for staff and colleagues</li><li>• Disseminate information</li><li>• Encourage attendance at relevant forums</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conversations maintained with colleagues at national forums, particularly with touring organisations</li><li>• Quick responses to individual circumstances whilst touring that warranted additional discretion and care</li><li>• All schedules were created around the support of good mental health while on the road, this included breaking up longer tours with rest time with families every 4–6 weeks</li></ul>

GOAL TWO : To increase awareness of arts and disability issues within the organisation		
Action	Measurable Target	Achievements against targets
To actively encourage applicants with a disability to apply for positions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Equip interview panels with up-to-date equal opportunity employer responsibilities</li><li>• Provide information to interested applicants regarding wage subsidies and support services available for employees with disability</li><li>• Make sure staff are familiar with the National Arts and Disability Strategy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achieved and ongoing</li><li>• Achieved and ongoing</li><li>• Achieved and ongoing</li></ul>
Work with Arts NT and the NT Government to ensure that any access issues are raised and resolved for the proposed relocation to Harbour View Plaza. Ensure access issues remain on the agenda for the visual arts office in Alice Springs. Artback NT remote offices to improve access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure access issues are raised and responded to regarding the proposed relocation of Artback NT/ Frog Hollow tenants</li><li>• Identify the best method to maintain access to the Artback NT office at Red Hot Arts</li><li>• Access issues to remote offices continue to be managed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achieved</li><li>• Relocation successfully occurred from Frog Hollow to Harbour View Plaza</li><li>• Increased wheelchair access to Artback NT office at the new site</li><li>• Improvements to continue in 2019 with the front office doors to be replaced</li><li>• Achieved and ongoing</li><li>• Achieved and ongoing</li></ul>
Continue assisting in the dissemination of information regarding opportunities empowering people with disability to participate in or gain access to the arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to share information and opportunities between organisations regarding arts and disabilities</li><li>• Establish opportunities to access and/or participate in the arts in the Northern Territory through Artback NT programs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achieved and ongoing</li><li>• Access organisations in exhibition venue locations are contacted to ensure awareness of Artback NT's audio description opportunities</li><li>• Attendance supported at a national forum in Darwin on the subject of mental health in the Entertainment Industry</li></ul>
GOAL THREE: Tracking progress and reporting		
Action	Measurable Target	Achievements against targets
DAP Board sign-off	Disability Action Plan endorsed by the Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achieved</li></ul>
DAP review	Reviewed and endorsed by the Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achieved</li></ul>
Successful projects, tours and events	KPIs as in strategic plan; yearly program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achieved</li></ul>



# Reconciliation Action Plan

Artback NT strives to operate ethically in its dealings with all staff, artists, audience members and program participants regardless of cultural, religious, ethnic, gender or other differences. We understand that the context in which we work demands a practice that is both inclusive and flexible.

Our Vision for Reconciliation is embedded in everything Artback NT delivers ranging from skills development to touring activities. Artback NT supports and promotes the cultural life of the Territory and engages with many Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities throughout the Territory and nationally. All staff operate from a community cultural development background and are committed to skills development, governance mentorship and training for Indigenous artists and audiences. The organisation's programming is reflective of Indigenous and non-Indigenous talent and expression and ATSI people are encouraged to apply for any position available.

Governance throughout all of Artback NT's activities		
Action	Measurable Target	Results
Indigenous representation on the Board	• A minimum of two Indigenous Board members at all times	• Achieved and ongoing
Respect for Indigenous cultural protocols	• Welcome to Country and other protocols where appropriate • Artback NT touring guidelines incorporate protocols • Touring parties to be inducted by Artback NT tour managers	• Achieved and ongoing across all offices • Achieved and ongoing • Achieved and ongoing
Respect for Indigenous intellectual property	• Contracts to have culturally appropriate clauses regarding documentation • Adherence to the Indigenous Art Code • Website to have appropriate acknowledgements including statements about traditional knowledge and recognition of Traditional Owners in tour itineraries • Comprehensive and culturally secure image and other release forms	• Achieved and ongoing • Achieved and ongoing • Achieved and ongoing • Achieved and ongoing
Ochre cards and all requirements completed before entering Indigenous communities	• All tours have up-to-date governance requirements • Adherence regarding requirements for appropriate permits through Land Councils/Community permissions	• Achieved and ongoing across all our tours • Achieved and ongoing across all our programs

Relationships	Tell us why respectful relationships between Indigenous and non- Indigenous people are important to your organisation and its core business activities.	
Focus area: Respectful relationships are essential to enable the organisation to operate ethically and to enable it to truly build partnerships for maximum access to audiences and to increase our development and delivery potential. Indigenous people make up over 30% of the Territory's population. Respectful relationships are always important and more than 50% of our activity involves Indigenous performers and audiences.		
Action	Measurable Target	Results
Strategic Planning	• New 2016 – 2020 Strategic Plan is recognised and used by all staff as a guide in their day-to-day work	• 2016 – 2020 strategic plan focused, respectful and inclusive of appropriate cultural protocols
Vision/Capacity Statement	• Vision statement links communities, empowers artists and facilitates quality cultural experiences for remote and regional audiences	• Capacity statement delivered with appropriate cultural protocols • Vision ongoing across all of the organisation's programs
Arts Development and Touring Program exhibitions, events and workshops	• Touring program has content that includes, responds to and promotes Indigenous visual arts, performance and music	• Achieved and ongoing across all of the organisation's programs • See 2018 touring map for details
Staffing	• Attract, support and retain Indigenous staff, volunteers and interns	• Achieved and ongoing (details below for our programs)



Respect		
Tell us why respect for Indigenous people, culture, land, history etc is important to your organisation and its core business activities.		
Focus area: Artback NT is not just a touring organisation and respect is evidenced by the organisation's values and mission to leave something behind in the communities we visit. In addition, whilst the primary objective is to build arts practice and deliver touring experiences, equally a key role is the mentoring and the professional development of Northern Territory visual and performing artists in the requirements for touring. Training through workshops and/or the delivery of accredited programs by qualified Artback NT staff or our Artist on Tour program will offer development and employment opportunities.		
Action	Measurable Target	Results
Indigenous Traditional Dance Program (ITDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Indigenous employment: on-going position of Festival Director and a minimum of one other position (Project Assistant) at key times throughout the year at Borroloola</li><li>Indigenous employment: Festival Director and Artistic/Cultural Director to oversee Festival and workshop delivery throughout the year at Numbulwar</li><li>Indigenous crews document Festivals including photography and video</li><li>Appropriate professional development offered and mentoring support available if and when required</li><li>Support ITDP and CCD activity in 2 communities, Borroloola and Numbulwar</li><li>Deliver skills development workshops and training in 2 communities, Borroloola and Numbulwar</li><li>Offer national networking opportunities for a minimum of one remote Indigenous arts worker at APAM</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Marlene Timothy, Artistic Director Malandarri Festival and Cultural Engagement Officer, Borroloola employed since 2013</li><li>Employment and mentorship of Numburindi Festival's Artistic Director Grant Nundhirribala and Festival Director Ella Geia</li><li>Benjamin Bayliss employed for Malandarri Festival and Numburindi Festival as official photographer and ran school and community photography workshop programs</li><li>AiRemote provided video documentation of Numburindi Festival using local crew</li><li>Trainee employment and mentoring of Barnabas Timothy, Project Officer</li><li>ITDP supported Marlene to attend the NIMAs (National Indigenous Music Awards) and for Ella to attend APAM in Brisbane</li><li>ITDP activity delivered throughout the year at both Borroloola and Numbulwar</li><li>Skills development workshops and training delivered in Borroloola included Josh Grant (production training), Tim Growcott (printmaking), Benjamin Bayliss (photography).</li><li>Skills development workshops and training delivered in Numbulwar included Josh Grant (production training)</li><li>Secured multi-year philanthropic funding for the program <i>Numburindi – Strengthening Culture and Country</i>, an initiative focusing on intergenerational learning and exchange in Numbulwar and surrounding homelands</li></ul>
ITDP Workshops acknowledge opportunities for cultural maintenance, intergenerational training and professional development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recognition of cultural knowledge</li><li>Intergenerational teaching</li><li>Cultural maintenance</li><li>Offer a minimum of 3 mentoring experiences</li><li>Conduct minimum of 4 workshops per year</li><li>Participation in remote Indigenous Festivals</li><li>Participation in other national events if appropriate</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Achieved and ongoing</li><li>Achieved and ongoing</li><li>5 workshops delivered across Numbulwar and Borroloola</li><li>8 mentoring and professional development opportunities offered for Numbulwar and Borroloola arts workers and staff</li><li>Participation in a remote Indigenous Festival exchange with key team members from Borroloola and Numbulwar attending Numburindi Festival and Milpirri Festival</li></ul>

Action	Measurable Target	Results
Performance Development and Touring (includes theatre/dance / music) ensures cultural practice is acknowledged and recognised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minimum of 2 tours developed with Indigenous artists, producers or companies</li><li>Tour to a minimum of 4 remote Indigenous communities affected by a lack of resources</li><li>A minimum of \$250,000 secured for Indigenous and cross cultural projects and development</li><li>Local, regional and national recognition of Northern Territory Indigenous artists' work</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Secured over \$260K of funding through Playing Australia, Regional Arts Fund and Australia Council for <i>B2M: Mamanta</i></li><li>Developed a new theatre show <i>B2M: Mamanta</i> featuring 6 remote Indigenous artists which toured to 5 States and 1 Territory</li><li>Supported the development of 4 emerging Indigenous female musicians in partnership with Music NT's Sista Sounds program (<i>Desert Divas</i>)</li><li><i>Desert Divas</i> toured to 7 locations including 3 remote Indigenous communities</li><li>Supported 10 Indigenous artists as part of a 29 strong delegation of Northern Territory artists to APAM</li><li>Supported the presentation of</li><li>2 Indigenous acts at APAM, Constantina Bush &amp; the Bushettes and Skinnyfish Sound System</li></ul>
Performing Arts Workshops (includes theatre/ dance/music)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>30 workshops run by B2M over their national tour in metropolitan and remote venues, ranging from 1.5hrs to full day engagements</li><li><i>Desert Divas</i> workshops offered in remote Indigenous communities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Delivered 5 <i>Desert Divas</i> workshops</li><li><i>B2M: Mamanta</i> delivered 16 workshops/public programs and were a resounding success across the country</li></ul>
Artists on Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Program includes Indigenous artists</li><li>Offers employment opportunities throughout the Territory</li><li>Enables Indigenous audiences to access skills and development opportunities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Successful delivery of 172 workshops by Northern Territory Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists to 18 locations, reaching 1,275 participants in Indigenous communities</li></ul>
Visual Arts Development and Touring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Education kits to accompany touring exhibitions incorporating input from Indigenous artists and curators where possible/appropriate</li><li>Room brochures and text panels which illustrate and promote Indigenous content in a culturally appropriate manner</li><li>Support the facilitation and touring of public programs to ensure meaningful engagement with local and national audiences</li><li>Continue to work on the development of major new Indigenous visual arts exhibitions in conjunction with community stakeholders</li><li>Open up possibilities for emerging curators through the SPARK NT Curator program and SPARK NT Symposium</li><li>Further curatorial experience, future training and employment opportunities for artists as a result of the Balnhdhurr exhibition</li><li>Develop partnerships and engage in a professional dialogue with Indigenous peak bodies such as Desart and ANKA</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All nationally touring exhibitions have extensive education kits with appropriate cultural protocols</li><li>Two national touring shows, <i>Puṇuku Tjukurpa</i> and <i>Balnhdhurr</i>, continue to inspire audiences across the country</li><li>Launched the national tour of exhibition <i>Still in My Mind</i> curated by Brenda L Croft</li><li>Delivered 15 workshops/public programs nationally across the visual arts program including speaking opportunities for Indigenous artists</li><li>Education and employment opportunities for remote Indigenous artists to date at each <i>Balnhdhurr</i> venue artists have been employed for gallery talks and workshops</li><li>Delivered the Spark NT Symposium, <i>Curatorial Practice Unpacked</i>, at GYRACC, Katherine in July with the first day focused on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and artists</li><li>On-going regular consultation with peak bodies</li></ul>



Opportunities	Tell us why opportunities for Indigenous people, organisations and communities are important to your organisation and its core business activities.	
Focus area: The Artback NT program incorporates significant activity in the Northern Territory's Indigenous Visual Arts and Performance Sectors including Dance, Music and Theatre. This is important to the organisation as it allows Artback NT to work with individuals, groups and arts based organisations to present and tour a dynamic and exciting range of arts experiences across the Territory and nationally.		
Action	Measurable Target	Results
Festivals presentation and showcasing of Traditional Indigenous Dance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Malandarri Festival, Borroloola, 15–16 June</li><li>• Numburindi Festival, Numbulwar, 13–15 September</li><li>• Local event management committee formed in both locations</li><li>• Hold a minimum of 3 meetings throughout the year to establish correct cultural protocols, select participants and oversee production process</li><li>• Ensure debrief consultations are conducted after each event</li><li>• Cultural liaison personnel for artistic governance</li><li>• Over 250 Indigenous performers participating</li><li>• Placement of local Indigenous event management trainees and mentors</li><li>• Employment opportunities for community across a range of capacity building or cultural enterprises</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Highly successful Malandarri Festival event saw<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 4 meetings held</li><li>- 10 Committee Members</li><li>- 167 artists engaged</li><li>- 1,013 audience members</li></ul></li><li>• Event performers/staff<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 114 dancers</li><li>- 53 musicians</li><li>- 20 production staff</li><li>- 44 contractors</li><li>- 6 volunteers</li></ul></li><li>• Facilitated an exchange between a remote Indigenous community festival and one of Taiwan's leading Amis Singers</li><li>• Very successful Numburindi Festival event saw<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 3 meetings held</li><li>- 8 Committee Members</li><li>- 271 artists engaged</li><li>- 1,000 audience members</li></ul></li><li>• Event staff<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 271 performers</li><li>- 12 production</li><li>- 22 contractors</li><li>- 4 volunteers</li></ul></li></ul>
Performance Development and Touring (includes theatre/dance / music) capacity building and succession planning throughout the Northern Territory, nationally and internationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A minimum of 30 national performance outcomes for Indigenous artists</li><li>• Offer national showcase opportunities, Skinnyfish Sound System and Constantina Bush @ APAM</li><li>• Tour 1 Indigenous program, <i>Desert Divas</i> to a remote community within the Northern Territory</li><li>• A minimum of one international collaboration and/or artistic exchange</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developed and delivered 2 new Indigenous works, <i>Desert Divas</i>, NT tour and B2M, national tour</li><li>• B2M delivered 27 performances and 2 performance opportunities at APAM for SFSS and Constantina Bush</li><li>• Skinnyfish Sound System and Constantina Bush @ APAM, national showcase opportunities</li><li>• <i>Desert Divas</i> toured to 3 remote Indigenous communities and another 5 venues throughout the Territory</li><li>• Over \$50,000 secured for Indigenous/ cross cultural projects</li><li>• Delivered the first year of the Taiwan – Australia: Indigenous Artist in Residency Project, a collaboration and exchange between Indigenous artists throughout the Territory and Taiwan</li><li>• Outcomes of the residency were 12 performances, 8 workshops and supported a wide range of collaborations within the Desert Song Festival between Australian and International Indigenous artists</li></ul>

Action	Measurable Target	Results	
Artists on Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A minimum of two tours developed with Indigenous artists</li><li>• Delivery of skills development opportunities to a minimum of 10 remote and 5 very remote Indigenous communities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 8 placements delivered by an Indigenous artist through the program</li><li>• Delivered to 11 remote Indigenous communities and 3 regional hubs throughout the Territory</li></ul>	
Visual Arts Development and Touring of significant Indigenous exhibitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Puṇuku Tjukurpa</i> touring, 100% Indigenous content</li><li>• <i>Balnhdhurr</i> touring, 100% Indigenous content</li><li>• <i>Still in My Mind</i> touring, 100% Indigenous content</li><li>• <i>Fecund: Fertile Worlds</i> touring, 33% Indigenous content</li><li>• SPARK NT Curator program open to anyone based in the Northern Territory</li><li>• SPARK NT Symposium to be held at GYRACC in Katherine to encourage and support Indigenous applicants to apply</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delivered <i>Puṇuku Tjukurpa</i> to 2 national venues, including opening weekend public programs at all venues with 4 artists from Maruku Arts</li><li>• <i>Puṇuku Tjukurpa</i> returned “home” to Central Australia where it is being showcased at the Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs with an opening supported by extensive public programs including 39 artists and 5 staff who travelled from Mutitjulu to attend</li><li>• Delivered <i>Balnhdhurr</i> public programs at 3 venues with Ruby Alderton from Buku Larrngay Mulka Art Centre, Yirrkala</li><li>• Launched <i>Still in my Mind</i> on its national tour delivering to 2 venues with 6 Kalkarindji Artists funded for GYRACC Public Programs and 4 Kalkarindji Artists funded for CDU Public Programs</li></ul>	
Tracking progress and reporting			
Action	Responsibility	Timeline	Measurable Target
RAP Review	EO/all staff/Board	Every 12 months	Activities as listed above
Successful projects, tours and events	EO/all staff/Board	Every 12 months	KPIs as in strategic plan; approved yearly programs



## Audited Financial Statements

### ARTBACK NT INCORPORATED STATEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In our opinion

- a) the accompanying financial report as set out on the following pages, being a special purpose financial statement, is drawn up so as to present fairly the state of affairs of the Association as at 31 December 2018 and the results of the Association for the year ended on that date;
- b) the accounts of the Association have been properly prepared and are in accordance with the books of account of the Association; and
- c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

We confirm as follows:

- (a) The names of each committee member of the association during the relevant financial year were:

Dr Denise Salvestro – Chairperson  
Dr Susan Congreve – Vice-Chair, Treasurer  
Francine Chinn – Secretary  
Gary Single – Public Officer  
John Wright – Committee Member  
Liam Campbell – Committee Member  
Juliette Hubbard – Committee Member  
Dennis Stokes – Committee Member  
Sarah Pringle – Committee Member  
Marlene Christolm – Committee Member

- (b) The principal activities of the association during the relevant financial year were:

- To develop and tour arts programs and activities that demonstrates a commitment to quality, diversity and equity across the Northern Territory.
- To work collegially and co-operatively with artists, art organisations, communities and Government to develop audiences, professional practice and presentation opportunities for the touring of all artforms within the Northern Territory.
- To network locally, regionally, nationally and internationally for the touring promotion and presentation of works by Northern Territory artists, communities and arts organisations.

- (c) The net profit of the association for the relevant financial year was:  
\$ 19,309.52

  
Francine Chinn (Secretary)

22/2/19  
DATED

  
John Wright  
TREASURER

22.2.19  
DATED



# JKY & CO.

CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANT

PO Box 38233  
48 Albatross Street  
WINNELLIE NT 0821  
Ph: 08 8947 7030  
Fax: 08 8947 7032

JOHN YOUSEF FCPA, CA

Commissioner for Oaths

## ARTBACK NT INCORPORATED

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

#### SCOPE

We have audited the financial report of Artback NT Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018, the statement of comprehensive income then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible entities declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of Artback NT Incorporated has been prepared in accordance with the Associations Act, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 31 December 2018 and of its financial performance for the year 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018 then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and the Association's Act.

We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the Associations Act and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the registered entity's financial reporting responsibilities under the Associations Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Report

The Committee of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Act (and the needs of the members). The responsible entities' responsibility also includes such internal control as the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the responsible entities are responsible for assessing the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concerns and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible entities either intend to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

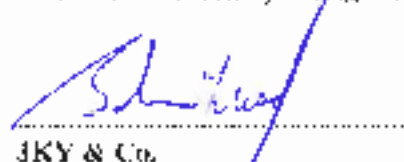
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of responsible entities' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our (my) opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

  
JKY & Co.

01/03/19  
DATED



**ARTBACK NT INCORPORATED ABN 72 598 610 340****Detailed Profit and Loss Statement****For the year ended 31 December 2018**

	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Sales	406,643.54	160,723.30
Grants (Com) Operating Revenue	342,000.00	300,000.00
Grants (Com) Projects Non Recurrent	210,746.70	717,272.50
Grants (State) Operating Recurrent	281,428.00	279,515.50
Grants (State) Projects Non Recurrent	381,774.32	494,726.12
In-Kind Support	347,508.91	312,112.26
Arthack NT Support	288,819.68	201,132.64
Sponsorship / Donations	157,904.53	114,869.16
Unexpended Grants	812,343.28	349,897.54
Interest received	24,767.27	15,098.02
Recompments	20,282.64	50,810.53
Profit on sale of property, plant, equip		(231.58)
<b>Total income</b>	<b>3,274,118.87</b>	<b>2,995,955.99</b>

**Expenses**

Anchor Tenant	36,524.37	50,274.46
Annual Report	3,995.00	2,870.00
Anspice Fees		4,562.50
Audit fees	4,043.18	4,020.00
Bank Fees And Charges	1,617.60	1,511.95
Board Expenses	7,156.43	9,092.75
Computer Expenses	6,842.68	16,216.33
Depreciation - plant	5,591.00	4,647.00
Design work	60.00	
Email, Internet and Website	1,085.57	669.98
Other Operational Expenses	2,822.19	7,474.38
Insurance	27,918.25	30,332.22
In-Kind Support	159,544.00	158,343.76
Management Support		17,982.07
M/V car - Fuel & oil	465.23	517.56
M/V car - Repairs	8,888.82	5,809.14
Postage	689.63	1,531.60
Printing	4,059.86	4,338.64
Promotional expenses	5,771.56	27,931.37

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**ARTBACK NT INCORPORATED ABN 72 598 610 340****Detailed Profit and Loss Statement****For the year ended 31 December 2018**

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Program - Visual Arts	260,399.08	195,269.86
Program - Performing Arts	1,147,039.04	715,601.65
Program - Development	290,609.28	139,151.94
Provision for annual leave	68,575.15	28,532.60
Provision for LSL	3,831.86	3,833.44
Relocation Expenses	7,903.04	
Staff Related Costs	9,153.59	59,391.25
Subscriptions	2,139.09	2,116.35
Sundry expenses	1,299.66	438.84
Superannuation	86,356.87	62,012.13
Telephone	7,352.64	8,807.57
Tenant Levy	5,924.00	9,812.72
Unexpended Grants - Current Year	449,162.98	824,306.89
Wages	635,582.95	565,201.17
Web Design & Ongoing Support	2,104.45	6,167.15
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>3,254,809.35</b>	<b>2,968,772.97</b>
<b>Profit from Ordinary Activities before income tax</b>	<b>19,309.52</b>	<b>27,183.02</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**ARTBACK NT INCORPORATED ABN 72 598 610 340**  
**Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2018**

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash Assets</b>			
NAB - General Cheque Account		56,563.28	31,176.91
NAB Term Deposit 9249		15,000.00	15,000.00
NAB Investment Acc 769		216,208.63	320,801.61
NAB Investment Acc 4221		300,000.00	300,000.00
Artback NT Roco Fund 0348		5,597.32	5,597.32
NAB Investment Acc 8563		400,000.00	400,000.00
NAB Investment Acc 4186			303,836.96
Load and Go Prepaid Card 2		843.57	611.35
Load and Go Prepaid Card 3		882.98	662.69
Load and Go Prepaid Card 4		233.61	768.12
Load and Go Prepaid Card 5		338.35	910.28
Load and Go Prepaid Card 6		344.44	
Party Cash - Darwin		178.20	257.80
To Be Reimbursed		76.95	
		<u>996,267.23</u>	<u>1,379,923.07</u>
<b>Receivables</b>			
Trade debtors		22,920.02	91,086.60
Sundry Debtors		29.61	
		<u>22,949.63</u>	<u>91,086.60</u>
<b>Other</b>			
Prepayments		7,525.71	4,375.80
		<u>7,525.71</u>	<u>4,375.80</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u><b>1,026,742.57</b></u>	<u><b>1,475,385.47</b></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**ARTBACK NT INCORPORATED ABN 72 598 610 340**  
**Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2018**

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
<b>Property, Plant and Equipment</b>			
Plant & equipment - at cost		39,635.78	37,315.00
Less: Accumulated depreciation		(29,256.00)	(21,900.00)
Motor vehicles - at cost		20,000.00	20,000.00
Less: Accumulated depreciation		(16,294.00)	(15,059.00)
		<u>14,085.78</u>	<u>17,356.00</u>
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<u><b>14,085.78</b></u>	<u><b>17,356.00</b></u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u><b>1,040,828.35</b></u>	<u><b>1,492,741.47</b></u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Payables</b>			
<b>Unsecured:</b>			
Trade creditors		310.60	3,320.81
Invoices Not to Hand		8,411.11	
Accrued Expenses		19,587.00	4.65
		<u>28,308.71</u>	<u>3,325.46</u>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>			
<b>Unsecured:</b>			
Visa Cards		2,563.39	1,559.55
		<u>2,563.39</u>	<u>1,559.55</u>
<b>Current Tax Liabilities</b>			
GST payable control account		26,865.12	75,833.00
Input tax credit control account		(12,672.50)	(14,563.00)
Amounts withheld from salary and wages		13,912.71	9,230.00
		<u>28,104.93</u>	<u>70,500.00</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**ARTBACK NT INCORPORATED ABN 72 598 610 340**  
**Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2018**

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Provisions</b>			
Provision for Annual Leave		54,352.19	53,620.81
Provision for LSL		11,494.18	7,662.32
Superannuation Payable		26,608.45	15,647.88
		<u>92,454.82</u>	<u>76,931.01</u>
<b>Other</b>			
Unexpended Grants		438,897.91	\$11,185.78
Advance Grant		203,015.00	321,065.00
		<u>641,912.91</u>	<u>1,132,250.78</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u><b>793,344.16</b></u>	<u><b>1,284,566.80</b></u>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Provisions</b>			
Other Funding Liabilities		20,000.00	
		<u>20,000.00</u>	
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<u><b>20,000.00</b></u>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u><b>813,344.16</b></u>	<u><b>1,284,566.80</b></u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><b>227,484.19</b></u>	<u><b>208,174.67</b></u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained profits / (accumulated losses)		227,484.19	208,174.67
<b>Total Equity</b>		<u><b>227,484.19</b></u>	<u><b>208,174.67</b></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**ARTBACK NT INCORPORATED**

**ABN 72 598 610 340**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2018**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of accounting**

The financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

**Reporting Entity**

The association is not a reporting entity because in the committee's opinion there are unlikely to exist users who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy all of their information needs, and these accounts are therefore "special purpose accounts" that have been prepared solely to meet the requirements of the Constitution and the *Associations Act*.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial report containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions to which they apply. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of this financial report are presented below. They have been consistently applied unless stated.

The Profit and Loss Statements and Balance Sheet have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with historical cost convention. Except where stated no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position.

Revenues and Expenses in the association are recognised in the Profit and Loss Statements when and only when the flow or consumption or loss of economic benefits has occurred and can be easily measured.

**a) Taxation**

The Association believes it is exempt from all forms of taxation except PAYG and GST. Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

These financial statements are audited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Audit Report and Accompanying Notes which form part of these financial statements.



## 1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Contd)

### b) Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for employee entitlements benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include salaries and annual leave.

Liabilities arising in respect of salaries, annual leave and any other employee entitlements expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts and are shown under current liabilities. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

### c) Acquisition of Assets

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and revenues at their fair value at the date of acquisition, except where they are acquired as part of a transfer of functions from another Government entity, in which case they are recognised as contributed equity at the carrying amount.

### d) Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

### Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Depreciation is provided on a Diminishing and Straight line basis on property plant and equipment at rates calculated to allocate the cost or valuation less estimated residual value at the end for the useful lives of the assets against revenue over those estimated lives to the association.

### e) Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, the association reviews the carrying values of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

## D) Terms Conditions and Accounting Policies

### Financial Assets

#### Cash at Bank

Deposits are recognised at their nominal amounts. Interest is credited to revenue as it accrues.

#### Cash Management

Deposits are recognised at their nominal amounts. Interest is credited to revenue as it accrues.

#### Receivables

These receivables are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any provision for bad and doubtful debts.

### Financial Liabilities

#### Trade Creditors

Creditors and accruals are recognised at their nominal amounts, being the amount at which liabilities will be settled. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods and services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).

### g) Unexpended Grants/Advance Grant

The grants funds have been received for specific purpose. To the extent that the funds have not been applied for that purpose throughout the year, they are recorded as unexpended grants and are recognised as a current liability.

	2018	2017
NT Art Programs and Services	\$50,000.00	\$138,000.00
Arts NT Regional Arts Fund	-	\$8,642.70
Australia Council for the Art	\$153,015.00	\$151,500.00
Australia Council Comm	\$254,040.92	\$267,862.91
Visions of Australia	\$38,456.71	\$143,595.63
General	\$87,505.36	\$114,055.36
Arts NT	\$36,597.21	\$77,981.68
Grants Playing Aust	\$5,946.89	\$199,047.50
Advance Grants Other		\$31,565.00
Tim Fairfax	\$16,350.82	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$641,912.91</b>	<b>\$1,132,250.78</b>



Board

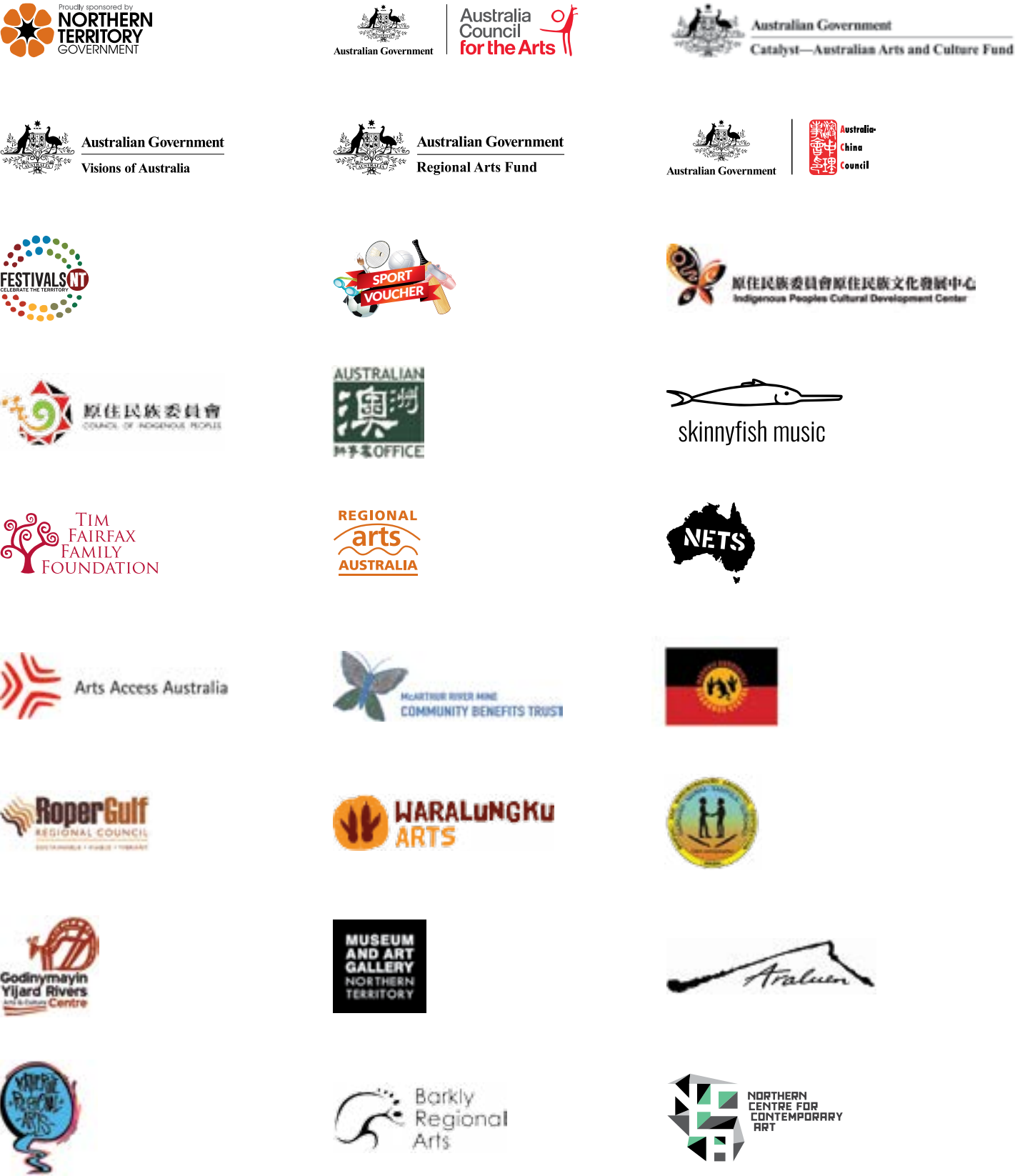
- Dr Denise Salvestro  
Chairperson
- Dr Susan Congreve  
Vice Chair and Treasurer
- Francine Chinn  
Secretary
- Gary Single  
Public Officer
- Liam Campbell  
Committee Member
- Marlene Chisholm  
Committee Member
- Juliette Hubbard  
Committee Member
- Sarah Pringle  
Committee Member
- Dennis Stokes  
Committee Member
- John Waight  
Committee Member

Staff

- Darwin**
  - Louise Partos  
Executive Officer
  - Martin Douglas  
Book Keeper
  - Josh Grant  
Production Manager
  - Isabelle Kirkbride  
Project Coordinator
  - Eve Pawlik  
Artists on Tour Manager & Indigenous Traditional Dance Program Coordinator
  - Kate Rendell / Rebecca Renshaw  
Communications Manager
  - Elizabeth Rogers  
Performing Arts Manager
  - Alicia Scobie / Jocelyn Tribe  
Administrator

- Alice Springs**
  - Jo Foster  
Visual Arts Development Manager
  - Neridah Stockley  
Visual Arts Touring Manager
- Borroloola**
  - Marlene Timothy  
Malandarri Festival Director & Cultural Events Officer
- Numbulwar**
  - Ella Geia  
Numburindi Festival Director & Project Coordinator
  - Grant Nundhirribala  
Numburindi Artistic Director & Project Coordinator
- Walcha**
  - Oscar Waugh  
Graphic Designer

Partners







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**Artback NT**

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Alice Springs NT 0871

**Borroloola Office**

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Robinson Road  
Borroloola NT 0854

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Hi-Bulk Artboard 250gsm  
Print run: 75

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Inside cover image: Sang Mei-  
Chuan, Artback NT Indigenous  
Artist in Residence, Berri  
Springs, August – September  
2018. Photographer: Zoe Teng

Left: Yanyuwa dancers  
performing, Malandarri  
Festival, 2018. Photographer:  
Benjamin Warlangu Bayliss





**Artback NT**

Connecting people  
and place through arts  
development and touring

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