

# SPARK SYMPOSIUM 2018

SPARK  
AN ARTBACK NT INITIATIVE

**10.00**      **Registration**

**10.15**      **Welcome to Country**

**10.30**      *Introduction: Why art galleries and museums?*

*Why exhibitions?*

Dennis Stokes, EO Mimi Arts

*The power of objects – collections and keeping places*

Dennis Stokes, EO Mimi Arts

John Waight, Educator and Arts Professional

*Caring for objects – all about conservation*

Carolyn McLennan, Conservator

**12.30**      **Lunch**

**1.30**      *Telling stories with exhibitions – understanding curating*

Glenn Iseger-Pilkington, Curator and Arts Consultant

Jessica Clark, Curator

*Displaying objects – installation techniques and methods*

Cath Bowdler, Curator and Writer

Jack Egan, Educator

**3.30**      **Afternoon tea**

**4.00**      *Malandarri Festival – keeping culture strong*

*through song and dance*

Marlene Timothy, Malandarri Festival Director, Artback NT and Art Support Worker, Waralungku Arts Centre

**4.30**      **Close**

**6.30**      **Dinner**

Barrel and Cruse Bistro

50 Giles Street



**Dennis Stokes** is of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and comes from Darwin in the Northern Territory. He belongs to the Wardaman, Luritja and Warramunga people of the NT and the Wagadagam

people of the Torres Strait. He has worked for the Australia Council for the Arts as a Project Officer for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board (ATSIA). Between 2010 and 2012, Dennis worked as Content Division Manager at National Indigenous Television (NITV) and was then appointed to the role of National Indigenous Program Manager at the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS). Dennis is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Mimi Ngurrdalingi Aboriginal Corporation (MNAC) which includes Mimi Aboriginal Arts.



**John Waight** was born and raised in Darwin and is descended from the Mangarayi people whose country is just outside Katherine. John has extensive curatorial and arts industry experience including seven years as

the Indigenous Curator and Liaison Officer, Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney and three years as Manager, Maningrida Arts and Culture Shop in Darwin. In 2012 John was Acting Curator of Aboriginal Art at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory where he delivered the 29th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award (NATSIAA).



**Carolyn McLennan** is an Art Conservator and Community Museum Consultant based in Darwin. Working freelance across regional and remote areas NT she specialises in artwork treatment, preventive conservation,

museum education and training. For 15 years Carolyn has worked as a Conservator and Collection Manager at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory. This year she'll complete her Post Graduate Diploma Museum Studies, she has PG Cert Visual Arts and BAppSc Degree Conservation of Cultural Materials.



**Jessica Clark** is a proud Palawa woman with English, Irish, Turkish and French ancestry currently living and working in Naarm (Melbourne). Her curatorial practice is driven by an intrinsic passion for art, sharing

knowledge, working closely with artists and bringing people, art and ideas together. Recent curatorial projects have focused on promoting new dialogues, challenging preconceived ideas/ideals and exploring the transformative nature of art and curatorial practice. Jessica is alumni of UNSW College of Fine Art, ACU and RMIT University having completed a Bachelor in Art Theory, postgraduate studies in Education and a Master of Arts Management respectively. She is currently

undergoing confirmation of candidature in a PhD of Media and Communications at RMIT University that is focused within the field of curatorial research.



**Glenn Iseger-Pilkington** is a Nhanda, Wadjarri and Nyoongar man and also a member of a Dutch and Scottish migrant family. Glenn has worked across the galleries and museums sector in curatorial roles for more than

a decade in organisations which include the Art Gallery of Western Australia, Western Australian Museum and the South Australian Museum, where he recently curated *NGURRA: Home in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands*. Glenn is now a creative arts consultant, working closely with remote art centres on exhibitions and career development opportunities for arts workers and artists.



**Dr Cath Bowdler** is an arts administrator, curator and academic who has worked extensively with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and artists in the NT and elsewhere. She has been Director

of 24HR Art in Darwin, Lecturer at Charles Darwin University and Charles Sturt University, Director of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery and inaugural Director of Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre, Katherine, NT. She has been artistic director of two Women of the World Festivals in Katherine in 2013 and 2014. She holds a PhD from the Australian National University in the field of Aboriginal Art and Culture and has written extensively about Australian art in art journals and other publications.



**Jack Egan** currently lives in Katherine and is an experienced art exhibition installer, school teacher and vocational education trainer. He has led a small install team in hanging many exhibitions at the Godinymayin Yijard

Rivers Arts and Culture Centre since it opened in 2012. He enjoys the challenge of hanging art exhibitions with precision and efficiency and sees passing on the know-how as a key part of his role. For Jack it is a privilege to be able to work with beautiful works of art and present them so the public can appreciate and enjoy them too.



**Marlene Timothy** is a Yanyuwa/Garrwa woman. As the Artback NT Cultural Events Officer in Borroloola, Marlene delivers a wide range of projects that supports cultural maintenance, intergenerational

exchange and community arts practice. Marlene is the Artistic Director of Malandarri Festival. Marlene works part time as the Arts Support Worker at the Waralungku Arts Centre and also works annually on the National Indigenous Music Awards, as well as various Indigenous events around the NT.