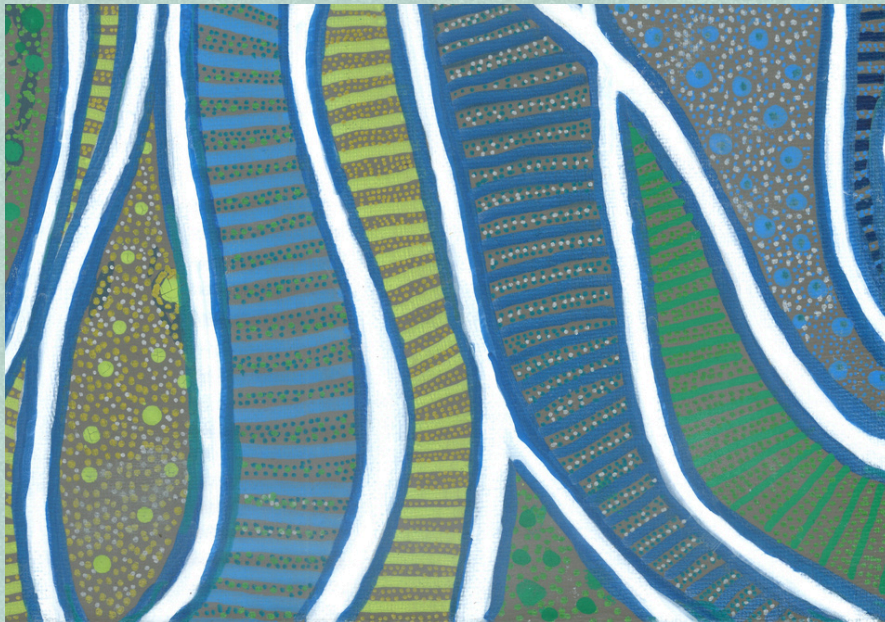


FOOTPRINTS



MUSIC CELEBRATING COUNTRY AND CULTURE

MONASH UNIVERSITY recognises that its Australian campuses are located on the unceded lands of the people of the Kulin Nations, and pays its respects to their Elders, past and present.

This album was created as the final part of a Summer Semester Music in Culture Study Tour. The inaugural 'On Country' unit, designed and led by Professor Deborah Cheetham Fraillon, AO, took place in December, 2022. It is an immersive unit that invites students to look at the world through a First Nations lens. During the unit, students spend time on Wadawurrung Country, and have the opportunity to deeply reflect on their intercultural awareness, competence, and obligations when it comes to working with First Nations artists. Our 2023 unit was led by Aaron Wyatt and Dr Nicole Canham.

THE ARTISTS



Hugh Blackett

Camilla Burrows

Aidan Carruthers

Lewis Clark

Danlin Jing

Felicia Kung

Yifeng Li

Ning Lin

Gemma Livingstone

Sibusisiwe Maswaure

Oskar Moore

Elizabeth Rayner

Eliza Romano

Sullivan Tung

Xiling Wang

Lloyd Wright

Samantha Xu

TRACK LISTING

Wominjeka

Long Time Living Here - Deborah Cheetham Fraillon

Udumo - Sibusisiwe Maswaure

Cirrus - Aaron Wyatt

Long Night Chorale - Deborah Cheetham Fraillon

Kiss of Flames - Lloyd Wright

Lupe's Waltz - Tim Gray

Bardju - Brenda Gifford

Echo - Felicia Kung and Ning Mia Lin

Boorda - Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse

Recorded in the Auditorium of the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance,
Monash University, November 30 and December 1, 2023

Recording engineers: Campbell McNish and Su Min Lee

Editing, mixing and mastering: Daniel Tan

Produced by: Nicole Canham, Aaron Wyatt and Sibusisiwe Maswaure

Artwork: Sibusisiwe Maswaure. Cover art: Water on Country by Paula Harrison.

PERFORMERS

Wominjeka - The Collective Footprints choir, directed by Aaron Wyatt

Long Time Living Here - Deborah Cheetham Fraillon

Gemma Livingstone, soprano. Nicole Canham, piano

Udumo - Sibusisiwe Maswaure

Sibusisiwe Maswaure, spoken word. Camilla Burrows, voice. Oskar Moore, trombone. Elizabeth Rayner, cello.
Electronics, Felicia Kung & Ning Mia Lin

Cirrus - Aaron Wyatt

Aaron Wyatt, violin. Hugh Blackett, clarinet. Lloyd Wright, keytar. Elizabeth Rayner, cello.

Long Night Chorale - Deborah Cheetham Fraillon

Footprints Collective choir. Directed by Aaron Wyatt. Lewis Clarke, Piano.

Kiss of Flames - Lloyd Wright

Lupe's Waltz - Tim Grey

Gemma Livingstone, soprano. Lewis Clarke, piano

Bardju - Brenda Gifford arr. Oskar Moore

Camilla Burrows, voice. Oskar Moore, trombone. Elizabeth Rayner, cello. Sullivan Tung, saxophone.
Aaron Wyatt, piano.

Echo - Felicia Kung and Ning (Mia) Lin

Boorda - Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse

The Collective Footprints choir, directed by Aaron Wyatt. Lloyd Wright, Piano. Nicole Canham, clarinet.

COMPOSERS:

DEBORAH CHEETHAM FRAILLON

Professor Deborah Cheetham Fraillon, Yorta Yorta woman, soprano, composer and educator has been a leader and pioneer in the Australian arts landscape for more than 25 years. In the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours List, Cheetham Fraillon was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO), for "distinguished service to the performing arts as an opera singer, composer and artistic director, to the development of Indigenous artists, and to innovation in performance". In March 2015 she was inducted onto the Honour Roll of Women in Victoria and in April 2018 received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of South Australia for her pioneering work and achievements in the music.

In 2009, Cheetham Fraillon established Short Black Opera as a national not-for-profit opera company devoted to the development of Indigenous singers. The following year she produced the premiere of her first opera Pecan Summer. This landmark work was Australia's first Indigenous opera and has been a vehicle for the development of a new generation of Indigenous opera singers. Cheetham Fraillon's Eumeralla: A War Requiem for Peace, premiered to sold out audiences on-country at the Port Fairy Spring Festival in October 2018 and at Hamer Hall in Melbourne with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra on June 15, 2019.

Deborah Cheetham Fraillon's list of commissions for major Australian ensembles including works for the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Australia String Quartet, West Australian Symphony Orchestra, Rubiks Collective, The Sydney Philharmonia, Plexus Collective, the Goldner Quartet and Flinders Quartet.

COMPOSERS:

AARON WYATT

Aaron is a violist, violinist, conductor, composer, programmer, and academic. Originally from Perth, he spent many years as a regular casual with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra before moving to Melbourne to take up an assistant lecturer position at Monash. A member of the Decibel New Music ensemble, he also develops their animated graphic notation app, the Decibel ScorePlayer. In 2021 he became the first Indigenous Australian to conduct a state symphony orchestra in concert, and has since gone on to have engagements with the Melbourne, Adelaide, and Sydney Symphony Orchestras, as well as being the Artistic Director of Ensemble Dutala.

COMPOSERS:

TIM GRAY

Tim Gray is a Gumbayngirr/Wiradjuri/Bidjigal man born in Macksville on the mid-north coast of NSW. Tim is an accomplished singer/songwriter and has released two CDs with his seven-piece reggae fusion band Green Hand Band. Tim is also a composer of classical music and is on the Board of Tribal Warrior Corporation. Tim first joined Tribal Warrior in 2006 and became a qualified deckhand. He also has his own show on Koori Radio called Social Change. Tim is on The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel of City of Sydney. Tim currently works at Barangaroo as an Aboriginal cultural guide.

COMPOSERS:

BRENDA GIFFORD

Brenda Gifford is a composer and proud Yuin woman whose culture is the basis of her arts practice. Brenda has been commissioned by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, by Canberra International Music Festival for her work Gambambarawaraga ('seasons' in Dhurgha language) and the Four Winds Festival. Mungala/Clouds commissioned for American star flautist Claire Chase premiered at National Sawdust New York in 2019. She is First Nations Resident Composer with Ensemble Offspring in 2020 as well as undertaking a Master of Music at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music as part of the Composing Women program. Her ARIA nominated album Music for the Dreaming, a work tailored for children exploring Dreamtime stories, received multiple performances at the Sydney Opera House in 2019, co-presented by Ensemble Offspring, ABC KIDS Listen and ABC Classics. She has toured extensively as a jazz saxophonist as a member of the reggae band Mixed Relations with Bart Willoughby.

COMPOSERS: GINA WILLIAMS AND GUY GHOUSE

Six times winners, Indigenous Act of the Year at the West Australian Music Industry Awards, Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse use their music and performances to highlight one of the most beautiful and rare languages on the planet; the Noongar language of the southern corner of Western Australia.

Bringing ancient language, contemporary music, stunning vocals, poignant stories and guitar brilliance, Gina and Guy have made it their mission to become agitators for a hopeful future, by rewriting the script through song. Because the only way to address intergenerational trauma is to bring healing and invite everyone back to the campfire.

But rather than talk about it, they'd much rather allow their performances and the power of the music they create speak for itself. Because even though there are less than 400 speakers of Noongar language left, their work has always been about what connects us. You don't need to understand the words; love, loss, joy all means the same things no matter how you say it. Their welcome song Wanjoo, has reached over 1 million people and has been translated into a number of other languages around the world.

Since 2014, they have released four albums, two books, two works for the Perth Festival (Koorlangka and Koort) and an Opera (Koolbardi wer Wardong). They toured the UK in October and November and premiered their latest Opera, Wundig wer Wilura (commissioned by the West Australian Opera) in 2024.

NOTES ON: UDUMO

The main idea of the work, paying my respects to First Nations Peoples in Australia, came to me while we were on Wadawurrung Country, in Ballarat. We had concluded an excellent tour with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and throughout I could not stop thinking about the ways that First Nations Peoples have been treated for the last 200 years, and how that kind of mistreatment has been perpetuated through macro and micro systems in society today. Udumo means honour in isiZulu and isiNdebele, languages that are spoken in my household, and it is a reflection. It is something to come back to, for me to remember and consider in all things I do. The work was brought to life with my wonderful colleagues, Elizabeth Rayner (cello), Oskar Moore (trombone) and Camilla Burrows (voice). The electronics were graciously produced by Felicia Kung and Ning Mia Lin.

Sibusisiwe Maswaure

NOTES ON: KISS OF FLAMES

Created and synthesised by Lloyd Wright, Sullivan Tung and Gemma Livingstone, Kiss of Flames is an improvisation work that depicts the change and damage that was brought with colonisation along with industrialisation. The work also imagines a future in which First Nations Peoples are respected and are able to practise Wirimbirragu Ngurambanggu, Caring for Country. The ensemble (3 voices, trombone, cello, piano, clarinet, saxophone and guitar) was shown 5 historic images that showed Australia at different stages (from pre colonisation to the current) and had to conjure the emotion that each image might have brought on for Indigenous Peoples. The result was beyond our imaginations and we are glad to have worked with the ensemble to create a work that translates what we learnt while we were on the tour.

Lloyd Wright

NOTES ON: ECHO

As a duo, we sought to record and capture the beauty of the Victorian landscape. We collaborated with other students from the unit to create a sonic experience that encompassed the awe we experienced in our time on the study tour, with vocals, cello, saxophone, 2 clarinets, 3 voices and a soundscape.

We would like to thank the following ensemble members for their contributions to our work:

- Gemma Livingstone
- Hugh Blackett
- Elizabeth Rayner
- Sullivan Tung
- Sibusisiwe Maswaure

Felicia Kung and Ning (Mia) Lin



