

Ngala Kaaditjiny ‘*Our Culture*’ Dispute Practice of Noongar women and the relationship that this has with their idea of their culture.



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Research Topic and Objectives



Artist: Barbara Bynder, Title: '*Strong Culture, Strong People*', Medium: Pastel on Paper, Size: 148mm x 210mm, Created July 2017.

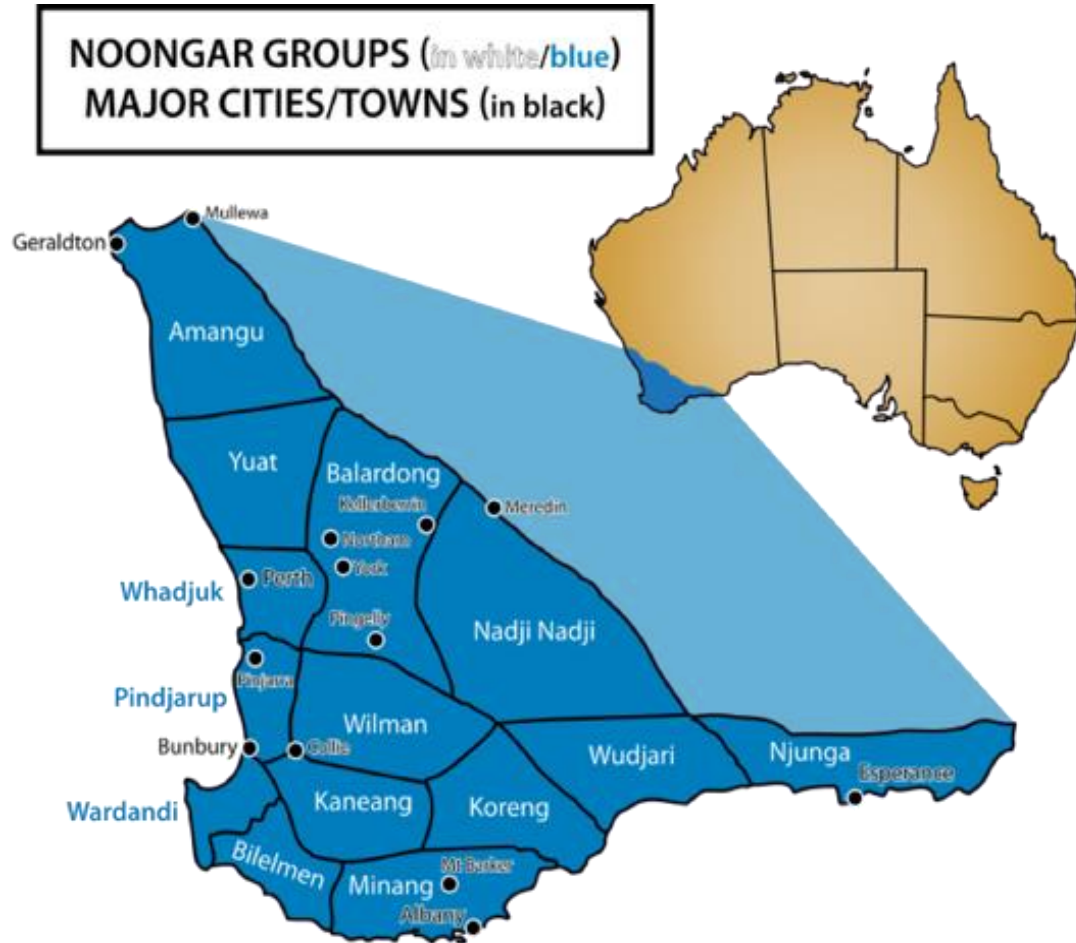
Research Topic

- Dispute Practice of contemporary Noongar women living in the urban environment
- The relationship that this has with their idea of their culture
- I believe - structures

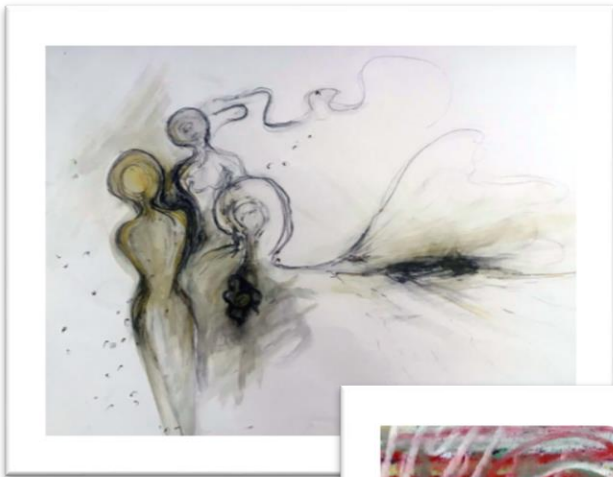
Objectives/Aims:

- Dialogue - dispute practice
- Dialogue - culture
- Understanding - relationship between dispute practice and the idea of culture
- Provide a platform for Noongar women to have a voice about how they want to express their culture, in their own way

Focal Group – Noongar Women



Why?



Rationale

- Based on personal experience
- Observing the idea of cultural practice
- Grown up in a sometimes volatile environment
- Desire to understand why – use of violence in dispute practice is accepted as social norm
- I am interested in how other Noongar women feel about the idea of dispute practice and the idea of culture

Anthropology

- Historically influenced mass thinking
- By White Men who consulted with Aboriginal men
- Limited research about Aboriginal women

Rationale

Artist: Barbara Bynder, Title: 'Strong Noongar Yok' Medium: Graphite Aquarelle and pastel on Paper, Size: 768mm x 574mm, Created July 2017.

Artist: Barbara Bynder, Title: 'Strong Noongar Yok' Medium: Pastel on Paper, Size: 148mm x 210mm, Created July 2017.

Art as an Indigenous Methodological Approach to Research

- Practising Artist
- Research topics
- Communicate using the visual living language of art
- Art as reflective practice
- Art to help me analyse my own thinking
- Art to help me understand and communicate complex theories and concepts
- Inclusive of Indigenous philosophy, values and values systems
- Art used for knowledge transfer
- Catherine Berndt argues that “art has meaning” (Berndt 1978, p. 95)
- Art is a significant practice for knowledge transfer that is ongoing



Title: *Noongar Yok*

Artist: Barbara Bynder

Medium: Graphite aquarelle, pastel, water colour paper

Literature

Three areas of literature to draw from:

Historical

- Ethnography/Anthropology
- Early settler accounts of Noongar culture
- Early Theorists

Contemporary

- Contemporary anthropology
- Sociology
- Theorists built on the existing historical foundations of theory

Current

- Current literature
- Cross disciplinary
- Psychology
- Criminology
- Evolutionary anthropology
- Epistemology

Historical

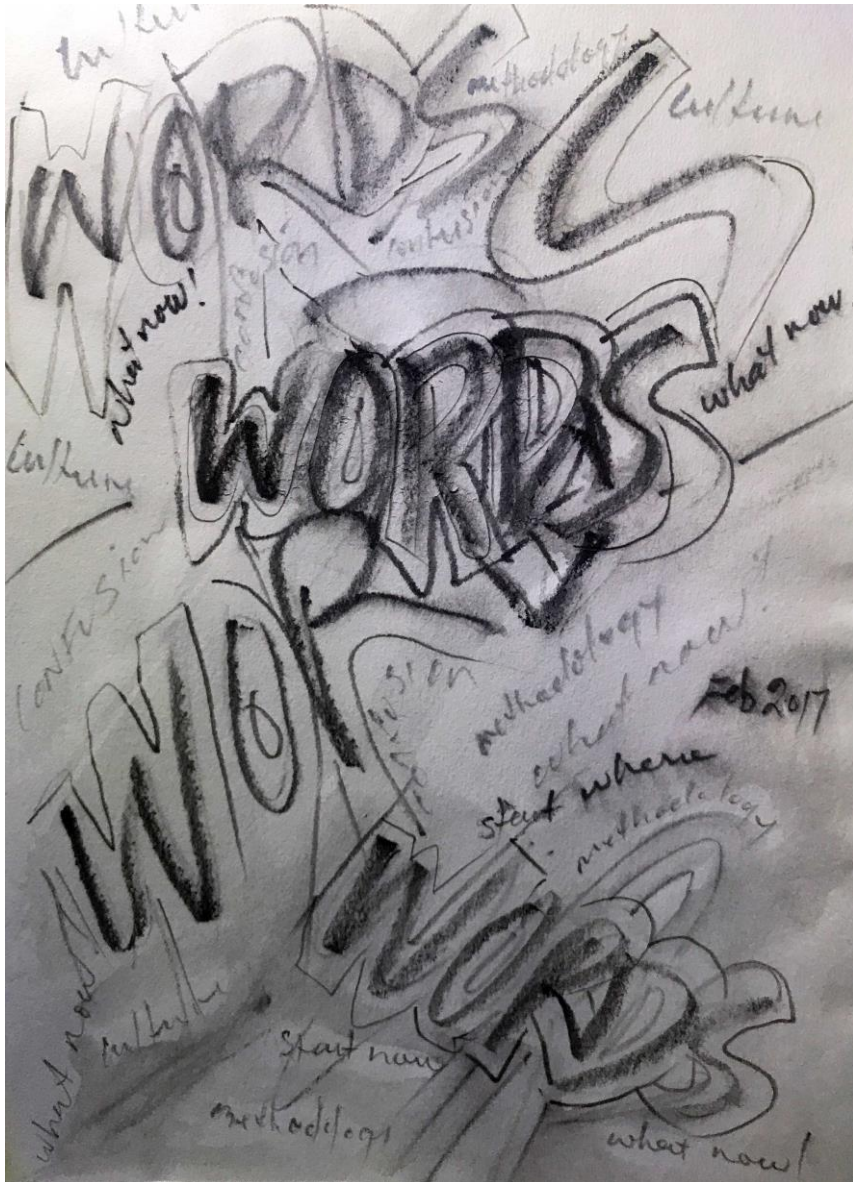
Contemporary

Current

- Topic is complex
- Categorizing the literature
- Patterns of change in Aboriginal culture over a period of time
- Destruction of cultural structures
 - Lack of structural support of customary practice today
- Some Influences of change
 - Process of colonization
 - Assimilation Policy
 - Alcohol and drug abuse
- Cultural degradation
- Re-generating culture

Artist: Barbara Bynder, Title: '*Lit Review*', Medium: Pastel on Paper, Size: 148mm x 210mm, Created October 2018.





Frustration at finding words to articulate the many thoughts that are in my head.

University challenges my Indigenous Worldview

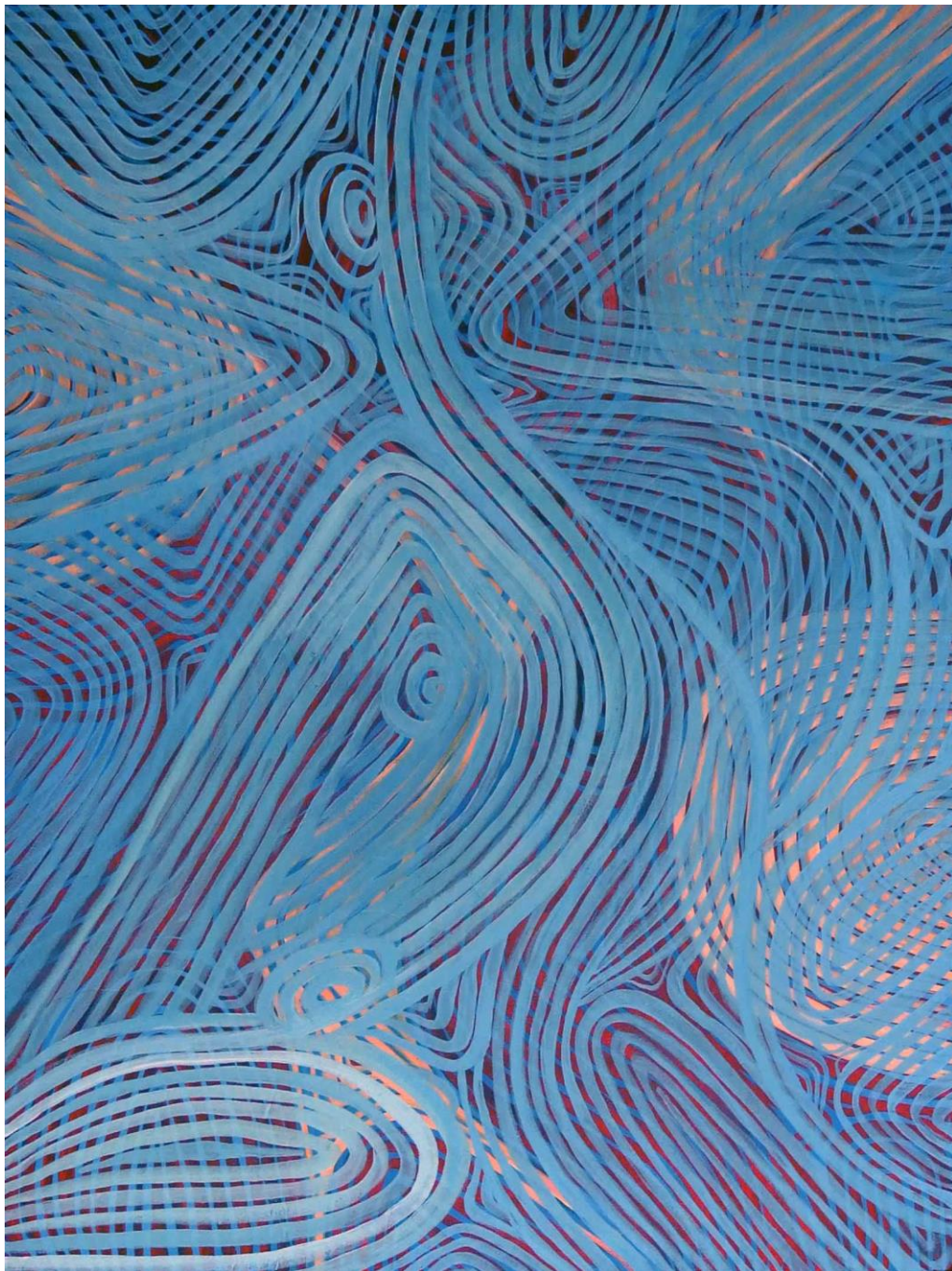
Artwork is titled *'Too Many Fucking Words'*



Art as Reflective Practice : change, adaptation and evolution

Culture Analogy as Design for Thesis





Influenced by Basil Sansom's idea of leadership and Indigenous values and value systems in response to the values and values systems of mainstream society i.e. fairness/equity/justice.

Burns cited in Alfred (2009) defines leadership:

“Leadership is the recognition of real need, the uncovering and exploiting of contradictions among values and between values and practice; the realigning of values, the reorganizing of institutions where necessary and the governance of change” (p.70).