



WRITTEN IN THE LAND: THE LIFE OF QUEENIE MCKENZIE

Jennifer Joi Field

An initiative of the Warmun Aboriginal
Community Western Australia

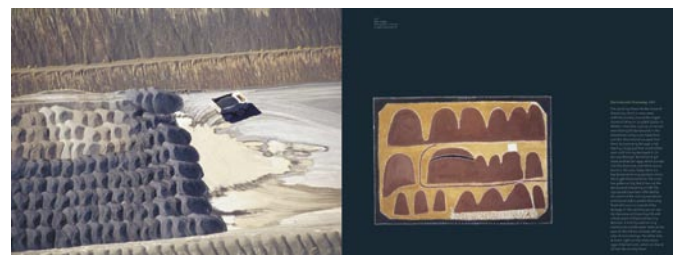
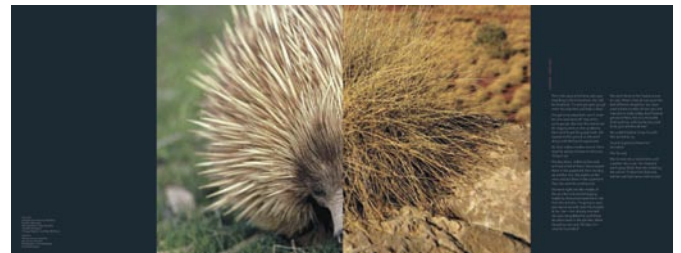


"This book...is not only a tribute to Queenie McKenzie – to Queenie as a painter, as a traditional Law woman and as a custodian of the Barramundi Dreaming site. It is also a celebration of the people and culture of the Kimberley...It is an oral history – in a beautifully printed format – of the love of country, the loss of land and the rebuilding of culture."

Jenny Macklin

Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Sample spreads...



This beautifully produced book tells the story of Queenie McKenzie, a remarkable indigenous woman from the remote East Kimberley in Western Australia. Now deceased, Queenie was an important cultural leader, revered Aboriginal Law person and internationally acclaimed artist.

Written in the Land: The Life of Queenie McKenzie explores her personal story and that of her 'country' through her own words and stunning images, including those of her art. Queenie used her artistic works to teach others about her vibrant culture and her life, and as a way to inspire interest in the special and dynamic relationship her people have with the land. The social history of Queenie's community and their relationship with the Argyle mine is also documented in this book

Queenie is one of Australia's most collectable Aboriginal contemporary artists. Her style is defined by her unique use of ochres, particularly the rare pink tones that she developed herself. Queenie's magnificent artworks are held in the collections of many public galleries worldwide.

In 1998, the government of Western Australia declared Queenie a 'State Living Treasure', in recognition of her dedication to art and her role as a cultural leader and advocate.

Queenie's main concern in her later years was the cultural future of the children of her community. This book will contribute in many ways to the cultural sustainability of her community and ensure that the legacy of Queenie McKenzie lives on.

The author, Jennifer Joy Field, settled in the Kimberley in 1991 to open an art gallery. She now manages Cultural Mapping, an organisation that helps communities to self manage their cultural knowledge and assets. www.culturalmapping.com

For further information, contact the publisher:
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Quality paper back with flaps, Coffee Table format. 208 pages · 235 mm x 210 mm landscape · full colour images including 42 stunning reproductions of Queenie's art · RRP \$59.95 · ISBN 9781877096709 March 2009 release

An important publication about 'Country', culture, reconciliation and art