

IN PROUD ASSOCIATION WITH  
OUTSTATION GALLERY AND RAY MUDJANDI

# BININJ IKON



*Outstation*  
art from art centres



RAY MUDJANDI

# Bininj Ikon

Opening Saturday 9 July at 11 am

Showing 9 to 30 July 2016

**Outstation**  
art from art centres

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Director Matt Ward

RAY MUDJANDI

## Portrait of an artist as a super hero

ARCHETYPAL CHARACTERS DRAWN FROM THE vivid imagination of sixteen year old artist Ray Mudjandi in his debut exhibition *Bininj Ikon*.

Mudjandi has been working alongside senior artists of the Kakadu, West Arnhem region with in the Children's Ground Bininj Kunwaral Creative Arts Space. He has been observing and learning skills involved in preparation of traditional materials for painting and of the characters that occupy cultural narratives.

During this time he has created a series of bark paintings with natural earth pigments that are at once, both an expression of cultural sensibilities and a strong contemporary vision.

The works are personal expressions of his bininj culture, his indigenous identity and his love of modern pop culture, films, comics and superheros.

*Bininj Ikon* exhibition is a series of portraits of bininj 'super heroes' that Mudjandi has created with 'super powers' to empower, protect, and heal.

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*All the works in this exhibition have been bought by a private collector and donated to the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT).*

## Bininj Ikon Characters

'They all started out in the stars,  
born in the sky.

They just appeared out there,  
and came down to protect the earth,  
the old people, everybody ...

And they decided to stay here.'





**“T-BUSTER** is strong like a rock, like a buffalo. He does exercise and is very fit. He brings his fists together to give him power and this makes lightening. He is a good guy, a hero, he helps people.”



T-Buster

*natural ochres and fixative on bark, 26 x 31 cm, 2015, RAM03B-15*

**“STAR MAN** is a little bit quiet. He has a cape and can fly. His eyes can see everywhere. If someone gets hurt he sees it. He looks out for old people. He lives in the star where he was born.”



Bininj Kinjking (Star Man)

*natural ochres and fixative on bark, 31 x 40 cm, 2015, RAM01B-15*



## “MEDICINE MAN

is the most powerful of all the IKON characters. He is also very old. He can make himself really small to go inside people's bodies to fight germs. He has the power to heal all sick people and make everyone better, and sometimes he can bring people back.”



Medicine Man

*natural ochres and fixative on bark, 27 x 36 cm, 2016, RAM02B-16*

**“FISH MAN** lives in the water, all the other fish are his pets. He looks after all the water, keeps the rivers clean and he can make it rain.”



Bininj Djenj (Fish Man)

*natural ochres and fixative on bark, 31 x 29 cm, 2016, RAM01B-16*



**“LIZARD MAN** lives near the water and is friends with Fish Man. They both work together to protect the rivers. He can run on water and is very fast.”



Bininj Burarr (Lizard Man)

*natural ochres and fixative on bark, 29 x 44 cm, 2016, RAM03B-16*

## “DRAGON FLY MAN

lives near the water. He is very shy and stays hidden in the long grass, you don't see him very often. He can fly around too. He can turn little like a dragon fly which makes him even harder to spot. He keeps an eye on little people.”



Dragon Fly Man

*natural ochres and fixative on bark, 31 x 42 cm, 2015, RAM02B-15*



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