

MICHAEL REID

SYDNEY

BERLIN

BEYOND

Classical

Djirrirra Wununmurra and Moyurrurra Wununmurra

It is almost twenty years since Djirrirra won her first art prize; The Northern Territory Contemporary Art Award in 2008. And almost thirty years since a massive bark painting she worked on, assisting her father, won the First Prize in the 1997 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award.

And it is exactly eighty years since that same father, Yanggarriny Wununmurra, was photographed at a larrakitj ceremony at Yirkala interring the bones of a deceased clan member into the highly patterned hollow memorial pole that would hold them until decaying back to the earth.

This is a very florid example of the bifocal nature of Yolŋu art and culture. The same people and the same designs can be cutting edge contemporary practice and ancient spiritual observance in the same instance.

This exhibition holds these disparate threads together. Two sisters who stem from the same father trace two trajectories that sketch the realm between classical and contemporary manifestations of art.

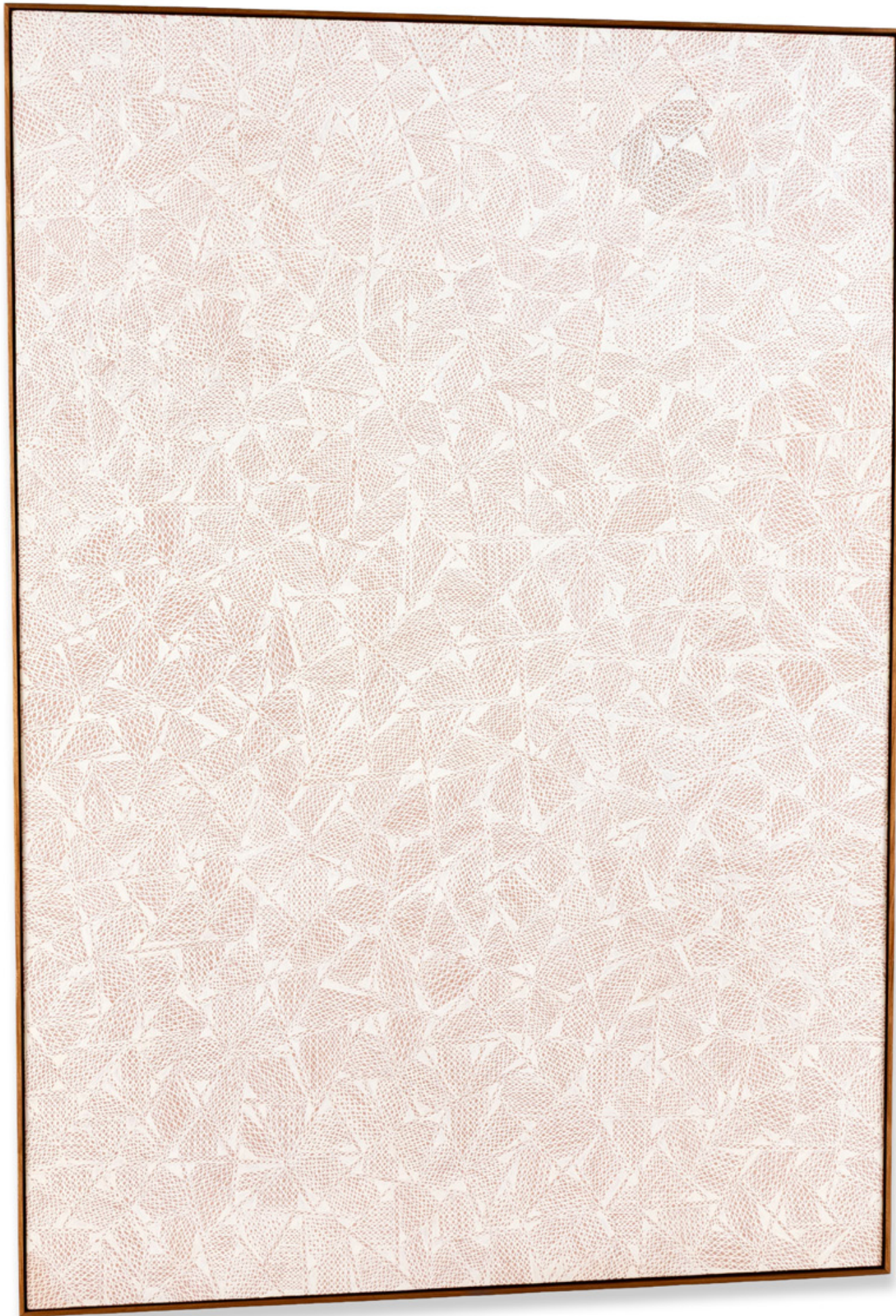
Djirrirra has a well documented history of success in the contemporary art world. But this is her sister Moyurrurra's first ever exhibition in her own right. Whereas Djirrirra is rightly lauded nationally and internationally for her innovative approach, Moyurrurra has remained at her homeland at Gāngan and held to the formal Dhalwanju iconography her father gave them.

It would be easy to frame one practice as contemporary and the other as traditional. But the work resists that reading. These are not opposing positions, nor a hierarchy of innovation and preservation. Djirrirra's practice pushes and expands form, while Moyurrurra's work carries the authority and clarity of classical expression. Like a Bach composition interpreted by a master musician, its power lies not in reinvention, but in depth, precision and command.

Together, the sisters reveal that *classical* and *contemporary* are not opposites, but parallel manifestations of enduring cultural knowledge.

Will Stubbs, Coordinator of Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre



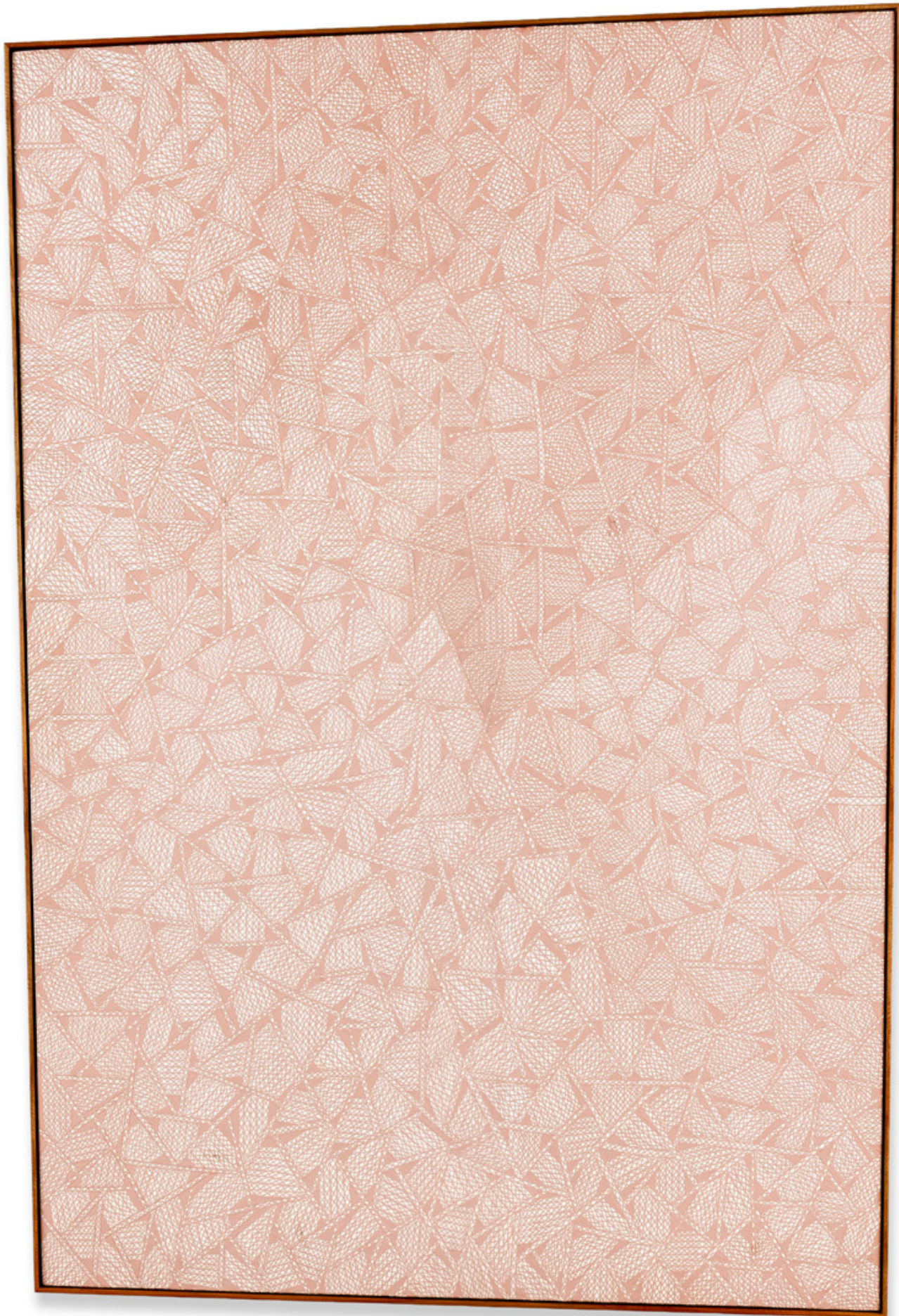


Djirrinra Wunungmurra, *Buyku (5337-25)*, 2025, earth pigments on board, 180 x 121 cm, \$18,000, framed

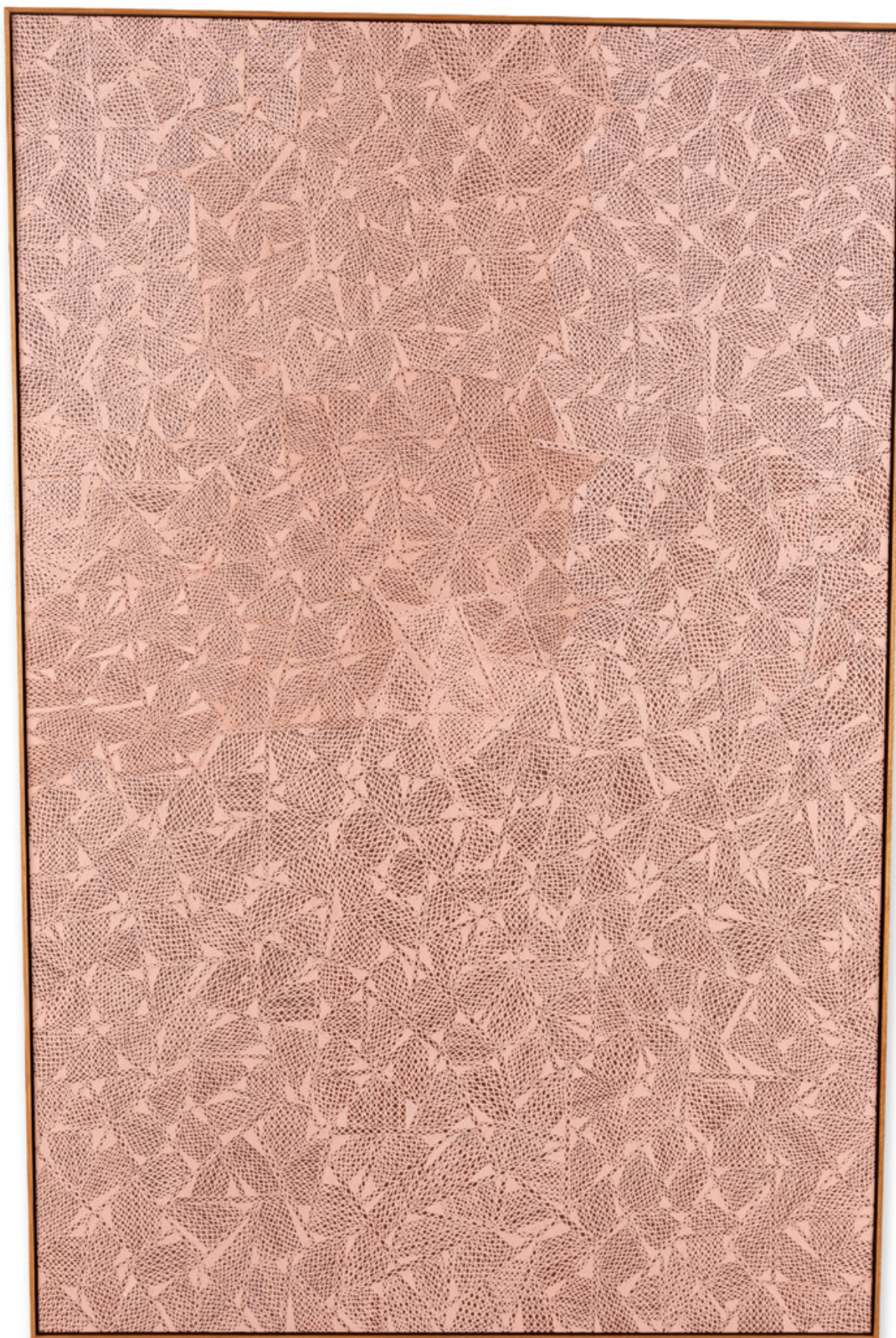


Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku* (6044-25), 2025, earth pigments on board, 180 x 122 cm, \$18,000, framed





Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku* (4848-25), 2025, earth pigments on board, 179 x 122 cm, \$18,000, framed

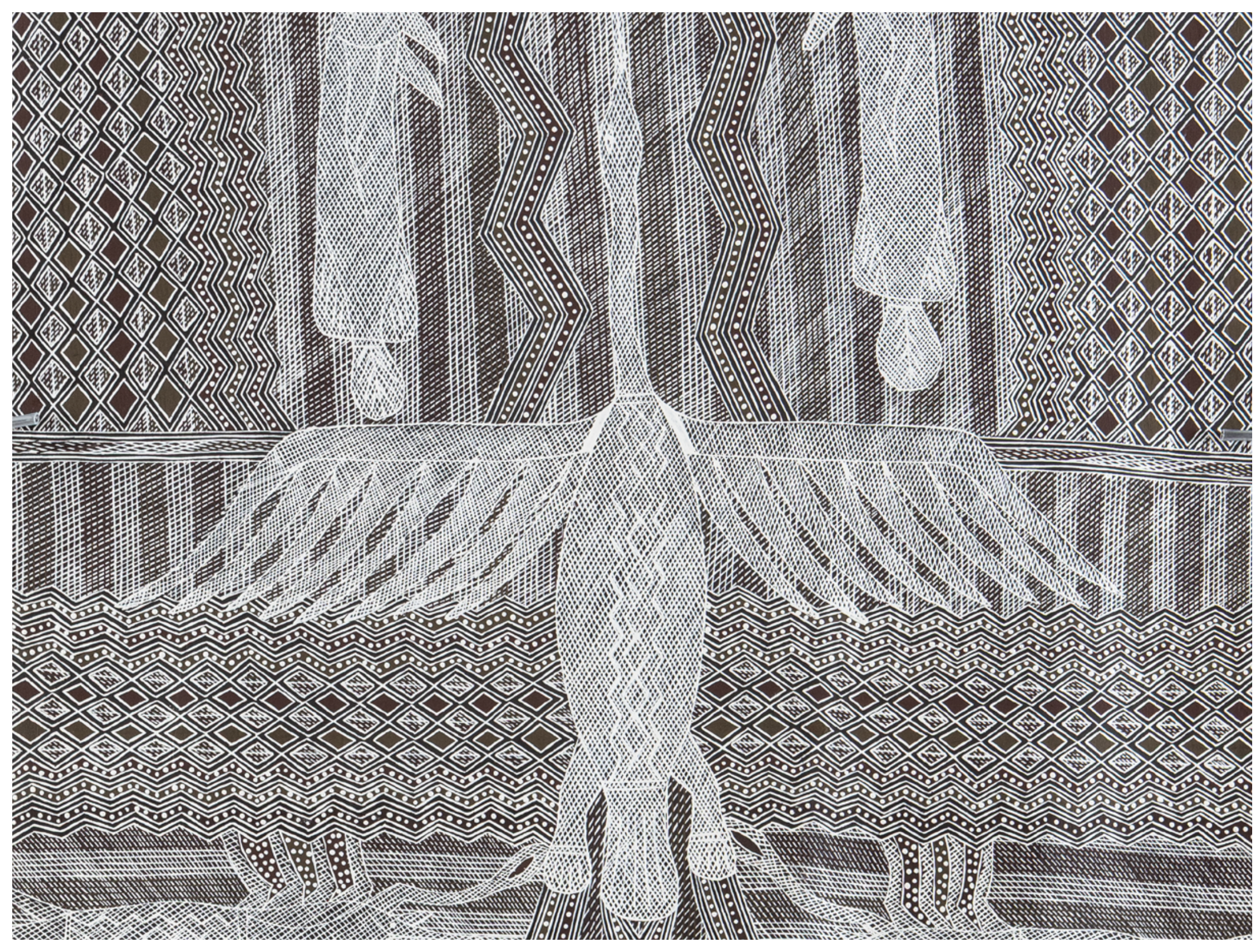


Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku* (5629-25), 2025, earth pigments on board, 177 x 118.5 cm, \$18,000, framed



Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku* (7068-25), 2025, earth pigments on board, 179 x 122 cm, \$18,000, framed







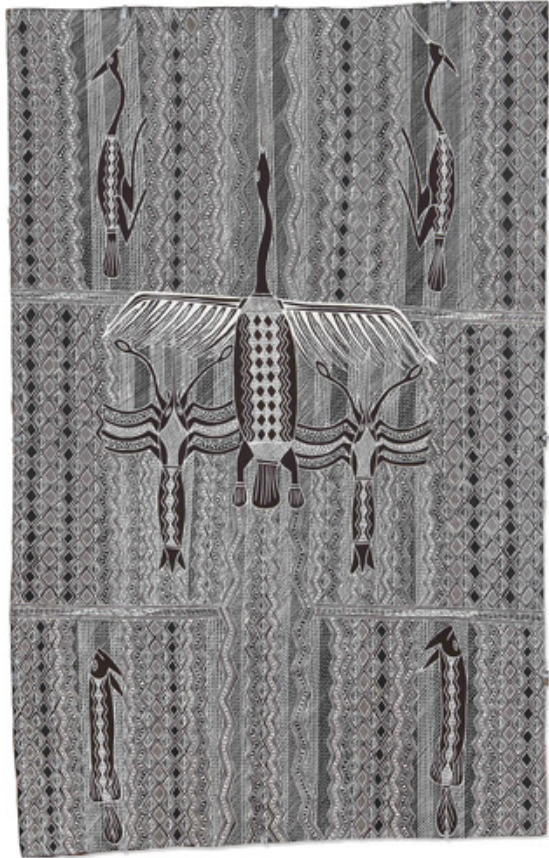
Moyurrurra Wunuḡmurra, *Origin (5651-23)*, 2023
earth pigments on stringybark, 155 x 63 cm, \$8,000



Moyurrurra Wunuḡmurra, *Gängän (6912-25)*, 2025
earth pigments on stringybark, 175 x 44 cm, \$6,500



Moyurrurra Wunuḡmurra, *Gängän (301-26)*, 2026
earth pigments on stringybark, 135 x 42 cm, \$5,000



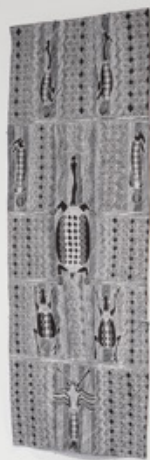
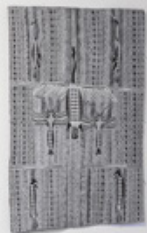
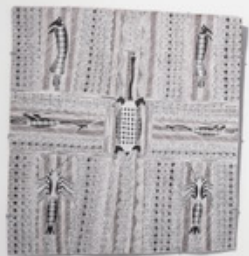
Moyurrurra Wunujmurra, *Gängän (882-26)*, 2026
earth pigments on stringybark, 107 x 68 cm, \$6,300



Moyurrurra Wunujmurra, *Wurran (2047-26)*, 2026
earth pigments on stringybark, 160 x 62 cm, \$8,000



Moyurrurra Wunujmurra, *Gängän (4644-25)*, 2025
earth pigments on stringybark, 97 x 67 cm, \$6,300







Left to right

1. Djirrirra Wunuḡmurra
Buyku (7161-24), 2024
earth pigments on stringybark
210 x 16 cm
\$10,500

2. Djirrirra Wunuḡmurra
Buyku (2570-25), 2025
earth pigments on stringybark
251 x 28 cm
\$18,000

3. Moyurrurra Wunuḡmurra
Gängän (6089-25), 2025
earth pigments on stringybark
246 x 22 cm
\$14,000

4. Moyurrurra Wunuḡmurra
Gängän (7702-25), 2025
earth pigments on stringybark
244 x 18 cm
\$11,500

5. Djirrirra Wunuḡmurra
Buyku (8795-21), 2021
earth pigments on stringybark
318 x 16 cm
\$16,000

6. Djirrirra Wunuḡmurra
Buyku (7784-24), 2024
earth pigments on stringybark
205 x 28 cm
\$17,000

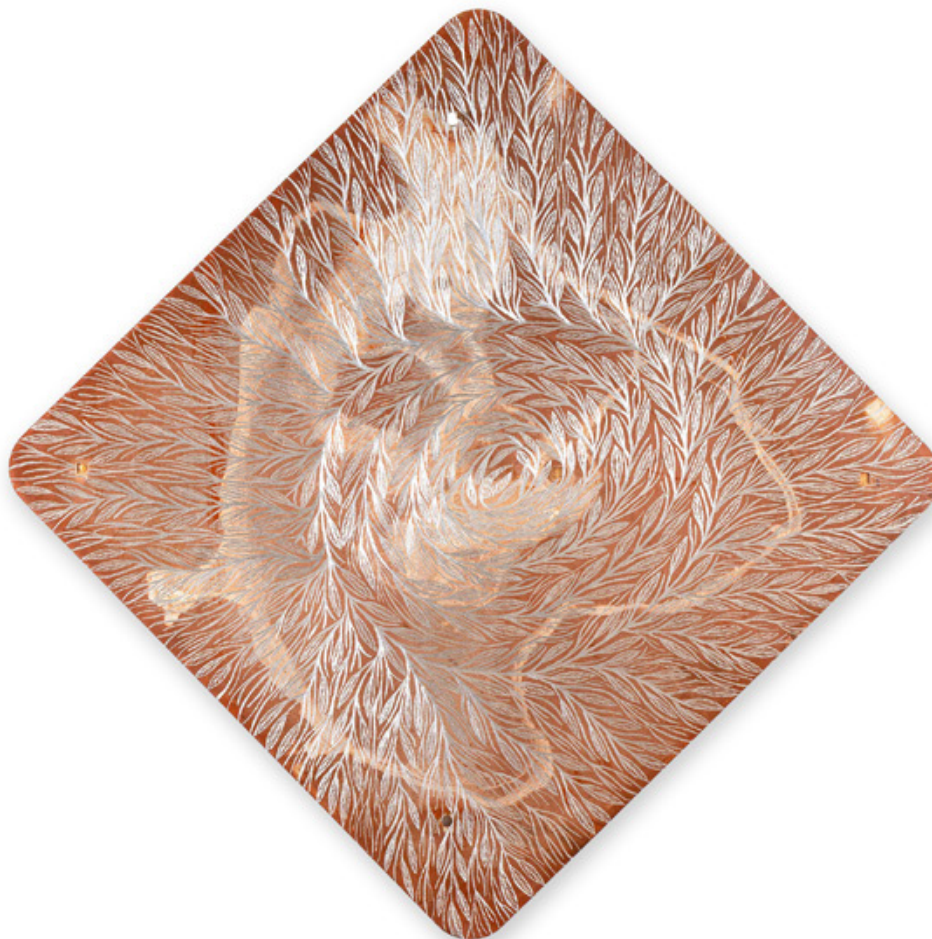
7. Djirrirra Wunuḡmurra
Buyku (4894-24), 2024
earth pigments on stringybark
255 x 18 cm
\$15,000

8. Djirrirra Wunuḡmurra
Buyku (1552-26), 2026
earth pigments on stringybark
203 x 15 cm
\$10,000

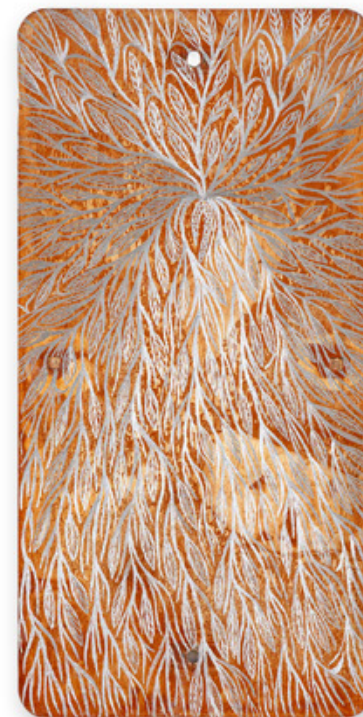




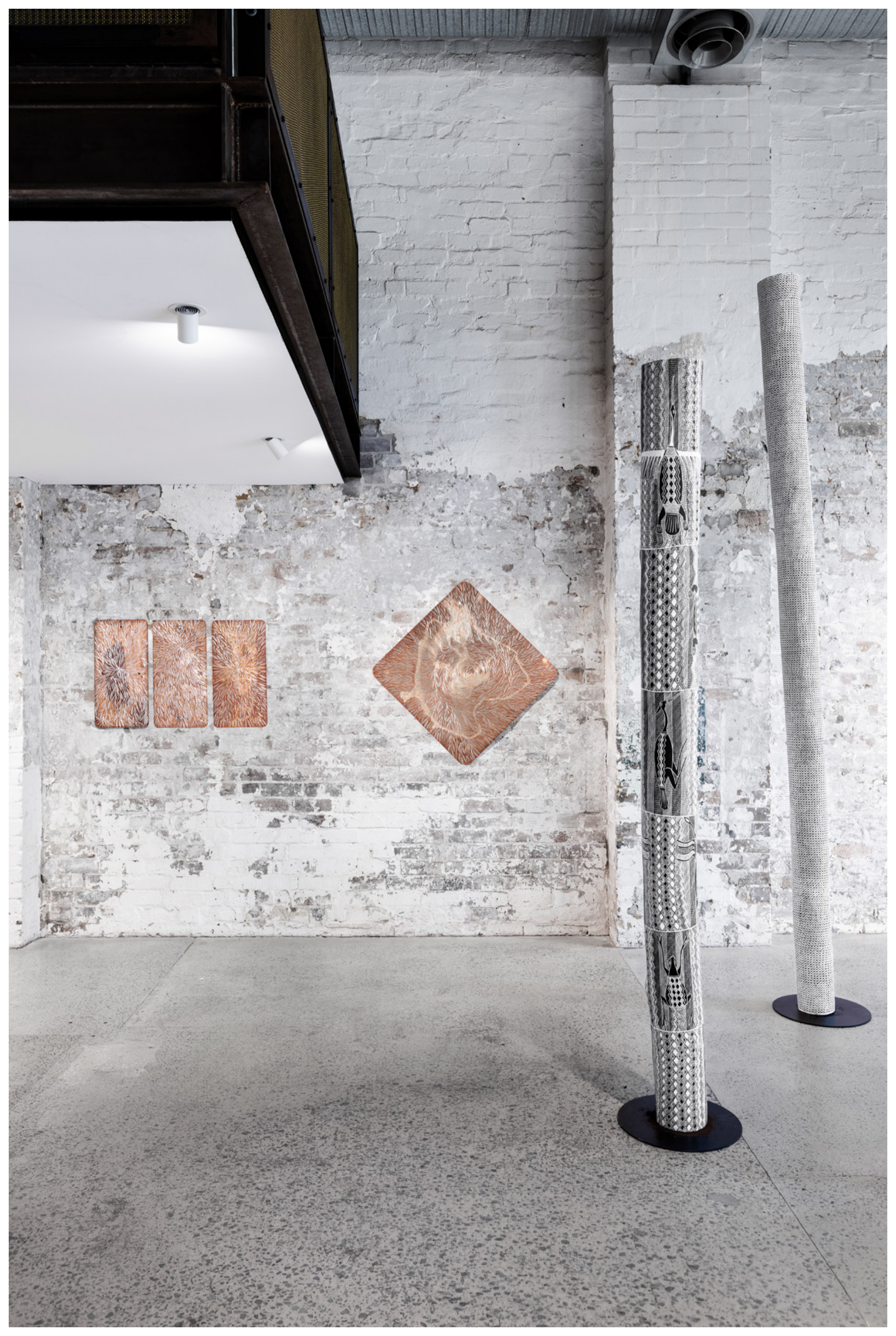
Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku* (2578-26), 2026
etched on found metal, 60 x 30 cm, \$3,500



Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku* (3169-26), 2026
etched on found metal, 75 x 75 cm, \$8,400



Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku* (3079-26), 2026
etched on found metal, 60 x 30 cm, \$3,500





Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku (2519-26)*, 2026
etched on found metal, 60 x 30 cm, \$3,500



Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku (2864-26)*, 2026
etched on found metal, 75 x 45 cm, \$5,200



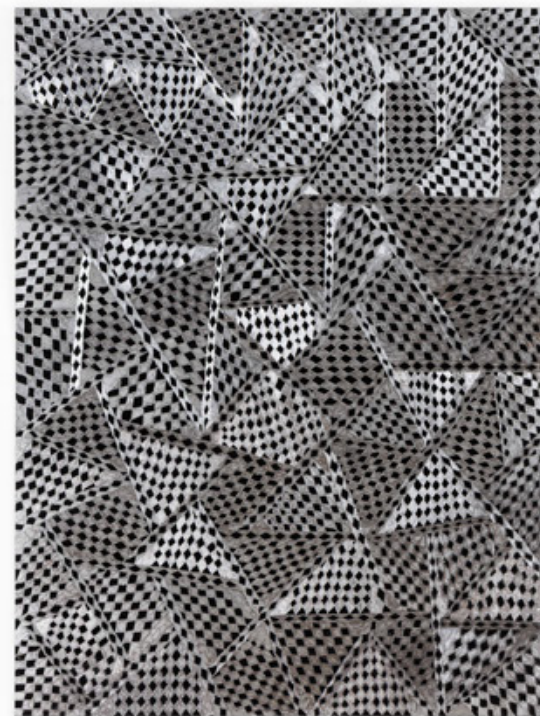
Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku (2678-26)*, 2026
etched on found metal, 60 x 30 cm, \$3,500



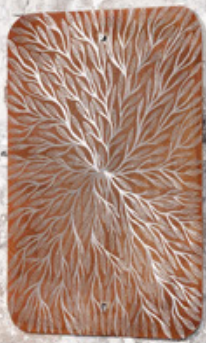
Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku (2555-26)*, 2026
etched on found metal, 60 x 45 cm, \$4,500



Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku (2761-26)*, 2026
etched on found metal, 70 x 45 cm, \$4,800



Djirrirra Wunungmurra, *Buyku (2433-26)*, 2026
etched on found metal, 60 x 45 cm, \$4,500



Handwritten text and a diagram on the wall to the right of the large artwork. The text includes "A. 1000" and "R. 1000" with a simple geometric diagram below it.

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Monday - Friday 11am - 5pm
Saturday 11am - 3pm

Michael Reid Sydney + Berlin acknowledge the Gadigal people as the traditional owners of the land on which our Eora / Sydney gallery stands. We pay our respects to Indigenous Elders past, present & emerging.