



GINGER RILEY

.....
15 JANUARY- 19 APRIL 2015

Castlemaine
Art Gallery &
Historical Museum

.....

The Boss of Colour



Castlemaine Art Gallery
& Historical Museum
14 Lyttleton Street
Castlemaine VIC 3450

Image: Ginger Riley, *The Limmen Bight River - My Mother's Country*,
1993, synthetic polymer paint on linen, 190 x 191 cm

©The Estate of Ginger Riley and Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne 2014

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Ginger Riley Munduwalawala was born c.1936 in the bush in South East Arnhem Land, Northern Territory. His first language was Marra. He was a traditional man, charismatic, with the gracious manners and reserved characteristic of an initiated Indigenous elder.

Riley was the djungkayi, caretaker or custodian of his mother's country, in accordance with Marra law, and his art presents powerful representations of the traditions and responsibilities under his inherited law. His paintings interpret a sequence of events focused on his mother's Limmen Bight River country in the Gulf of Carpentaria region, Northern Territory. The artist's mother is often represented in paintings by the clouds and the sun.

Ginger Riley worked on an heroic scale in both concept and style. The compositions were realised in his mind, or seen in his mind's eye. Inspired by the changing seasons including heavy rain-filled clouds, fine rain and bright sunlight, Riley's paintings often indicated a call to ceremony, procreation and the creation story. He describes the creation events in his paintings as "same story, different country, different time." The difference can be seasonal, day or night time.

Ginger Riley Munduwalawala was the first living Indigenous artist to be honoured with a retrospective and publication at the National Gallery of Victoria in 1997. The Boss of Colour at the Castlemaine Art Gallery features keynote works from 1987 to 2001, with many paintings not shown publically before and several from his retrospective exhibition, *Mother Country in Mind: The art of Ginger Riley Munduwalawala*. This is the first exhibition of his paintings since he passed away in 2002.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Print – Ginger Riley, <i>Ngak Ngak announces the exhibition</i> , 1996, edition of 99, Archival pigment ink on Museo Portfolio rag paper, 63 x 65.5 cm | \$495.00 print only | Quantity <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Exhibition Catalogue, 52 pages – Ginger Riley – <i>The Boss of Colour</i> | \$14.95 | Quantity <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Greeting Card <i>The Limmen Bight River- My Mother's Country</i> 1993 | \$4.95 | Quantity <input type="checkbox"/> |
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