

Looking Through Time

Basketry from the
TAMA Collection

NOVEMBER 2020 - MAY 2021*



* COVID-19 restrictions may affect exhibition dates, please check website for updates

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'Baskets have always been an integral part of our lives. What is the attraction? Is it the materials they are made from, or is it because of their individuality from being 'hand' made without the use of any mechanical device?' Virginia Kaiser, Textile Fibre Forum, No. 27, 1990.

Ararat Gallery TAMA has specialised in the collecting of contemporary textile fibre art since the mid 1970s. The Gallery holds a small but significant sub-collection of Australian basketry and objects which employ basketry weaving or construction techniques. These objects provide a sound overview of contemporary Australian basketry practice from the late 1970s to the early 1990s, with many of these earlier works on long-term loan from the Victorian State Craft Collection.

Later acquisitions in 2010 and 2011 from Nalda Searles, Virginia Kaiser and Nancy Duggan extended the breadth of the sub-collection, while in 2012 TAMA also commissioned *Large Eel Trap* by one of Australia's foremost First Nations weavers, Yvonne Koolmatrie.

This exhibition celebrates the unveiling of TAMA's most recent acquisitions, a trio of baskets by Lisa Waup: *Looking Through Time* (2017), *Spirit* (2015) and *Mixed Bag* (2019).



Liz SOUTER

b 1936 Melbourne, Australia,

d 2017 Ballarat, Australia.

***Palambang Basket / Nomad Expression* (1987).**

Palembang cane, hazelwood, olivewood, Aboriginal beads from Central Australia, local clay, wood stain and boot polish. 26 x 59 cm.

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Ararat Gallery TAMA, Ararat Rural City Council and MDP Photography & Video.

Cover image: Lisa Waup, *Looking Through Time* (2017).

Emu feathers, parrot feathers, lyrebird feathers, pandanus (dyed), hemp, 100% cottons, shells, kelp, kangaroo ribs and possum fur. 20.5 x 14 x 19cm.

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Lisa Waup

Lisa Waup is a multidisciplinary artist and curator working across weaving, printmaking, photography, sculpture, textiles and installation. Waup's distinctive weaving practice highlights the importance of tracing lost history, ancestral relationships, Country, motherhood and time. These stories of her past, present and future are ultimately woven into contemporary, sculptural forms.

Born in Melbourne, Victoria in 1971, Waup is an artist of Gunditjmara, Torres Strait Islander and Italian heritage with an affinity with Melanesian culture, developed through her extended family and experience of living in Papua New Guinea.

Waup holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Printmaking Photography from RMIT University: in 2020 is studying a Master of Contemporary Art at the Victorian College of the Arts. In parallel, she is also the Program Coordinator at Baluk Arts, an Aboriginal Art Centre based in Mornington, where she facilitates arts workshops with schools and Aboriginal artists, organises collaborations and curates both locally and internationally.



Lisa WAUP

b 1971 Melbourne, Australia.

Mixed Bag (2019).

Possum fur, emu feathers, sulphur-crested cockatoo feathers, parrot feathers, peacock feathers, hen feathers, clay, glaze, shark vertebrae, aloe vera fibre, ochre, 100% cotton, copper wire. 21.5 x 17cm.

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LIST OF WORKS

Nancy DUGGAN b 1940 Adelaide, South Australia. **Jacaranda XXX - Ochre 1** (1991). Jacaranda (leaf rachis), acrylic paint, linen thread: spiral stitched. Gift of Nalda Searles, 2011. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA (Textile Art Museum Australia).

Virginia KAISER b 1945 Sydney, Australia, d 2012 Broken Hill, Australia. **Basket** (c. mid – late 1980s). Date stalks, linen thread. Held by Ararat Gallery TAMA on long-term loan from the Victorian State Craft Collection.

Yvonne KOOLMATRIE b 1944 Wudinna, South Australia. **Large Eel Trap** (2012). Woven sedge. Purchased, 2012. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Jean LANGE b 1919 Australia, d 1996. **Granary Basket** (1978). Watsonia leaves, waxed linen thread. Purchased, 1978. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Jean LANGE b. 1919 Australia, d. 1996. **Miniature basket with lid** (1981). Day lily leaves, maripose weave over Cordyline australis leaves. Purchased, 1972. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Dawne McINTYRE b 1944. **Embrace** (1987). Pine needles, jacaranda, waxed linen thread. Purchased, 1987. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Letty NICHOLLS b c. 1930-33, Bordertown, South Australia. **Basket** (2016). Sedge grass: coiling technique. Purchased, 2016. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Eleanor PIGGOTT b 1951, Toowoomba, Australia. **Basket with Lid** (1981). Casuarina (Sheoak) needles. Coiling method using wing stitch. Held by Ararat Gallery TAMA on long-term loan from the Victorian State Craft Collection.

Helen RALSTON b unknown d 2018 Australia. **Basket** (c. mid 1980s). Red hot poker, montbretia, linen thread, cane. Held by Ararat Gallery TAMA on long-term loan from the Victorian State Craft Collection.

Helen RICHARDSON b. 1930 Maidenhead, England. **Round Open Dodder Basket** (1984). Dodder (*Cassytha pubescens*) stitched with linen thread. Held by Ararat Gallery TAMA on long-term loan from the Victorian State Craft Collection.

Nalda SEARLES b 1945 Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. **Inverse Form** (2001). Broom bush, lemon scented native grasses, balga spathes, silk and linen threads, recycled silk fabric. Gift of the artist and TAFTA (The Australian Forum for Textile Arts), 2010. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Liz SOUTER b 1936 Melbourne, Australia, d 2017 Ballarat, Australia. **Palambang Basket / Nomad Expression** (1987). Palembang cane, hazelwood, olivewood, Aboriginal beads from Central Australia, local clay, wood stain and boot polish. Held by Ararat Gallery TAMA on long-term loan from the Victorian State Craft Collection.

Yve THOMPSON b 1950 Sydney, Australia. **The Jewel Box** (1983). Cotton wrapped jute, internal multi-coloured pile. Purchased with the assistance of the Caltex - Victorian Government Art Fund, 1983. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Lisa WAUP b 1971 Melbourne, Australia. **Looking Through Time** (2017). Emu feathers, parrot feathers, lyrebird feathers, pandanus (dyed), hemp, 100% cottons, shells, kelp, kangaroo ribs, possum fur. Purchased, 2020. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Lisa WAUP b 1971 Melbourne, Australia. **Mixed Bag** (2019). Possum fur, emu feathers, sulphur-crested cockatoo feathers, parrot feathers, peacock feathers, hen feathers, clay, glaze, shark vertebrae, aloe vera fibre, ochre, 100% cotton, copper wire. Purchased, 2020. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Lisa WAUP b 1971 Melbourne, Australia. **Spirit** (2015). Emu feathers, galah feathers, parrot feathers, duck feathers, packing tape, artichoke flower, alpaca wool, 100% cottons. Purchased, 2020. Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Angela WILLIAMS b unknown. **Coiled Basket** (1983). Acid dyed silk. Purchased with the assistance of the Caltex - Victorian Government Art Fund, 1983 Collection of Ararat Gallery TAMA.

Enid WILLIAMS b 1924 Broken Hill, Australia. **Coiled Basket** (1988). Coiled stems of the Golden Raintree leaf: hand stitched in spiral stitch with Irish linen thread. Held by Ararat Gallery TAMA on long-term loan from the Victorian State Craft Collection.

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Ararat Rural City

CREATIVE VICTORIA

Ararat Gallery TAMA is a cultural facility of Ararat Rural City Council

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