SUPERPOWERED

**LARGE PRINT GUIDE**

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## Exhibition information

‘Superpowered’ brings together interactive projects by four Australian artists – Kaylene Whiskey (Yankunytjatjara people),

Tony Albert (Girramay/Yidinji/Kuku Yalanji peoples), Gordon Hookey (Waanyi people) and Vincent Namatjira (Western Aranda people) – who use their voices and their art to empower Aboriginal people and create inspirational imagery for all children. Together, the artists have created an immersive world full of cheeky humour

and courageous characters for young visitors to explore.

Kaylene Whiskey often paints her own heroes – including Dolly Parton, Tina Turner, Cher and Wonder Woman – having fun in the remote community where she lives. Kaylene invites children to draw themselves having a party with their heroes as part of the collage activity *Super Party* 2022.

Children can also create their own digital superhero identity inspired by the work of Tony Albert in *Warakurna Warriors* 2018; take on a heroic kangaroo persona in the mask making activity *Make a Roo* 2013 by Gordon Hookey; and adopt ‘power icons’ by stepping into a virtual portrait in Vincent Namatjira’s 2018 multimedia interactive, *Power Portraits*.

## Introduction video label

Single-channel video: exhibition format, colour, sound Videographers: Denny Ryan and Jeremy Virag

Editor: Judy Yeh

Commissioned by the Queensland Art Galley I Gallery of Modern Art Children’s Art Centre

In this video, ‘Superpowered’ artists Kaylene Whiskey, Tony Albert, Gordon Hookey and Vincent Namatjira, and students from Brisbane’s Junction Park State School, share their thoughts on what they think is heroic and what makes them laugh.

The Children’s Art Centre would like to give special thanks to the artists and to the teachers and families of Junction Park State School who made this video possible.

# TONY ALBERT

### WARAKURNA WARRIORS 2018

***Warakurna Warriors* activity information**

Tony Albert often works closely with other artists, communities and organisations. He believes that one of the best ways to learn from and connect with people is to live and work together.

Tony’s multimedia interactive *Warakurna Warriors* invites you to visit Warakurna, an Aboriginal community in Western Australia, near the border shared with the Northern Territory.

To get to Warakurna, you must pass through Mamu Country, where the Mamu spirits dwell. A Mamu spirit is a bit like a trickster or a bogeyman. They are shapeshifters who regularly change their appearance, so no one is sure what they look like.

To pass through Mamu Country and visit Warakurna safely, you must find your inner hero.

Using the touch screens, you can take a photo of yourself and create your own digital superhero identity by choosing a special power and assembling a costume.

# KAYLENE WHISKEY

***SUPER PARTY* 2022**

***Super Party* activity information**

Kaylene Whiskey creates colourful, humorous paintings that celebrate strong kungkas (women).

Often, Kaylene will paint pictures of herself and her heroes – including pop culture icons Dolly Parton and Wonder Woman – having fun in the remote community where she lives. Sometimes these paintings show Kaylene’s heroes alongside native wildlife or engaging in traditional activities like collecting bush tucker.

Kaylene invites you to draw a party scene featuring your heroes. You can use coloured pencils and cut out pictures from one of the collage sheets provided to create your own Super Party collage.

***Super Party* music playlist**

The songs that you can hear in this space are by some of Kaylene Whiskey’s musical heroes.

Boney M. ‘Sunny’ (1976)

Dolly Parton ‘9 to 5’ (1980)

Whitney Houston ‘I wanna dance with somebody (who loves me)’ (1987) Kenny Loggins ‘Footloose’ (1984) Journey ‘Don’t stop belevin’’ (1981)

Guns N’ Roses ‘Sweet child o’ mine’ (1987) Christine Anu ‘Sunshine on a rainy day’ (2000) Roy Orbison ‘You got it’ (1989)

Cher ‘If I could turn back time’ (1989)

ABBA ‘Mama mia’ (1975)

David Bowie ‘Let’s dance’ (1983)

Tina Turner ‘Proud Mary’ (1970)

# GORDON HOOKEY

***MAKE A ROO* 2013**

***Make a Roo* activity information**

Gordon Hookey’s artworks are inspired by Australian history and everyday life. He often uses native Australian animals such as the kangaroo to represent Indigenous Australians.

Gordon’s inspiring story, *The Sacred Hill*, follows four brave kangaroos on a quest to reclaim their homeland. The kangaroos each have special traits or abilities that help them thrive in their different environments.

Choose which kangaroo you would like to become, then add to your kangaroo mask with coloured pencils.

In this space you can also hear Gordon narrating the story of

***The Sacred Hill*.**

## ‘Meet the Kangaroo Crew’ signage

#### I’m Treez the tree kangaroo

I live in the canopy of the rainforest. I am quite shy and often hide from visitors.

I use my long, curved claws to grip onto the tree branches so I don’t fall.

My favourite foods are leaves and fruit, but sometimes I will eat ferns, flowers, grass shoots, moss and bark.

I have a long, swinging tail but when I hop on the ground, my tail curls up towards the sky.

Tree kangaroos like me are very special because we are the only type of kangaroo that is able to jump backwards!

Super Roo! Some tree kangaroos can leap 18 metres from the tree tops to the ground without getting hurt!

#### I’m Blue the plains kangaroo

I am called a plains kangaroo because I often live on the open plains, but I am also famously known as the red kangaroo.

Plains kangaroos are some of the largest and most colourful kangaroos in Australia; males have brick-red fur and females are blue-grey.

I like to eat grass but, when times are tough, I’ll eat leaves and tree bark. If I find enough green grass in cool weather, I can go for months without needing to drink.

I can hop at over 56 kilometres an hour, leap eight metres in a single bound and jump two metres high!

Did you know kangaroos use both of their legs to hop because we

are not able to walk like humans? 8

#### My name is Rocko and I am a rock wallaby

I am a smaller version of my bigger kangaroo relatives.

Rock wallabies like me live on steep slopes and among caves and boulders.

I like to eat grass, fallen fruit, leaves, flowers and seeds. One of my favourite activities is sunbathing in the early morning or late afternoon.

I can hop along rocky outcrops, rugged cliffs and uneven ground. To help me get around, my feet have adapted to grip rocks.

Seeing double! There are many different species of rock wallaby living in Australia, but most of us look alike! Sometimes only a scientific test can tell us apart.

#### My name is Potsy and I am a potoroo

I may look a bit like a rodent, but potoroos are actually the smaller relatives of kangaroos and wallabies. Sometimes people call potoroos ‘rat kangaroos’!

I live among thick scrub in nests made from dry grass.

I have long claws on my front paws. They are very useful for finding my favourite foods, which include roots and fungi that are often buried under the ground.

I am a nocturnal kangaroo. This means that I sleep during the day and like to come out at night. I can see very well in the dark.

Scary stuff! Of the four types of potoroo, one is extinct and the other three are endangered or vulnerable. This means that in the future there may not be any potoroos left in the scrub.

# VINCENT NAMATJIRA

### POWER PORTRAITS 2018

***Power Portraits* activity information**

Vincent Namatjira paints important figures of authority, from his famous great-grandfather, painter Albert Namatjira, to royal dignitaries, international heads of state and Australian prime ministers. Vincent’s humorous portraits explore how people use symbols to demonstrate their power, such as crowns, special hats, uniforms, or even a suit and tie. He also reminds us that with power comes responsibility.

Vincent invites you to feel powerful. This activity has screens that you can stand in front of. When you do, you might appear to be wearing a queen’s crown, a policemen’s hat and sunglasses, Captain Cook’s hat or a collar and tie.