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The Patterns of Yarning

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Abstract
The Patterns of Yarning is a 3-minute digital visualisation that's based on the accompanying sunrise themed sonic yarning audio.

Keywords
Yarning, creative expression, cross-cultural dialogue, reconciliation

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The Patterns of Yarning visually contextualise the theme of a sunrise, with the added addition of a sunset. For example, when looking at Figure one, one will observe the digital visualisations replicate the notion of a sunrise; and Figure two outlines the rays from the daylight sun, and figure three, the darkness of sunset. However, the greater purpose of the Patterns of Yarning - is to promote the Indigenous yarning circle concept as a means for creative expression, cross-cultural dialogue, and reconciliation.

This cross-cultural sonic yarning enacts and embodies deep listening (Atkinson, 2017). It is a gift weaved by the participants who needed to listen well and deeply in order to create the yarn. It is an offering and invitation to listeners to enter this borderland space of many rhythmic and sonic threads. This ‘learning with’ promotes a listening with the heart and a connection to spirit which can move us away from commodifying and silencing forms of sonic creation (Motta, 2018).

The form, content and process invite embrace of the cyclical nature of time, and to the deep time (Griffiths, 2018; Vázquez, 2015; Motta and Bermudez, 2019) signified by the sun and its constant, ancient and essential cycle on this Land and across lands. This moves away from linear productivist notions of time, performance and sonic creation, towards multiple rhythms, voices and a cross-cultural soundscape which cannot be captured by constraining musical forms or languages.

This matters at this time of the renewed emergence of First Nations’ Australian voices on these ancient unceded lands of Australia; for it asks of all of us, musician, performer, listener, Indigenous and non-Indigenous to reflect, deeply listen, re-learn and re-member to Yarn with Country as land and people (Minmia, 2018; Atkinson, 2003).

The Patterns of Yarning was published to YouTube on 16th October 2020. When watching the clip, you’ll experience how the above concepts come to life by combining lo-fi digital audio reactive graphics with a live sonic yarning piece. Using headphones when listening/watching the clip will deepen the experience. Enjoy.

The Patterns of Yarning: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EH7-aJvMhd4
Figure One: Sunrise

Figure Two: The Rays from the Daylight Sun
Figure Three: Sunset

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