

# MUNDUHII

## KERRY TOOMEY



**MARSDEN GALLERY**  
15 MAY - 13 JUNE 2021

**CASULA  
POWERHOUSE  
ARTS CENTRE**

# Casula Powerhouse Aboriginal Scholarship

## KERRY TOOMEY - MUNDUHII

I am a long-time resident of Bundeena who maintains a strong connection to my family and traditional Country -- particularly in relation to Pilliga, NSW.

*Munduhii* means 'shoes' in my language (the Gamilaraay language group). *Munduhii* engages in the stories that are grounded in Country, community and family.

I have created a selection of *munduhii* in a range of styles, all moulded around shoes that have been used, discarded, favoured or are simply aspirational. Some of my *munduhii* have language maps in the sole to remind me that my mother's language has a place. Others are missing the sole which for me symbolises the removal of the metaphorical barrier between me and my country.

All my *munduhii* are made from the same fragile paper -- tissues. Tissues are at once a delicate and fragile material, but one that is designed as a throw-away commodity. I use tissue paper because it alludes to the fragility of Aboriginal culture and the way it is often discarded and devalued by non-Indigenous Australia.

In addition to tissue, I use a slew of traditional materials such as ochre, echidna quills, emu feathers, snakeskin, quandong seeds, leaves and flowers to connect to my Country. The lace in my work, which creates such intricate pattern, is a symbol of Colonial Australia. Lace was prominent in the fashions of the time and some of my family members sewed and wore typical white lace dress, skirts and hats.

This exhibition also features cherished portraits of my family "ochre'd up." Despite being staged, these portraits allowed my family and I to engage in a personal time of reflection, whether by remembering loved ones who had passed on, celebrating their connection to each other or looking to the future.

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*Munduhii*, developed and exhibited at Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre in 2021, is the result of the Casula Powerhouse Aboriginal Scholarship Award which Kerry Toomey won in 2020. This award was developed by Casula Powerhouse and introduced to the Mil-Pra AECG Art Exhibition and Awards for the first time in 2020. The Prize is sponsored by Dharug Strategic Management Group, an anonymous sponsor, and the exhibition support is provided by Casula Powerhouse.

# Biography

Kerry Toomey is a Gamilaroi woman who grew up in Pilliga, New South Wales and currently lives and works in Bundeena, NSW.

Inspired by stories of family, her work grapples with themes of Indigenous displacement and oppression, as well as survival and resistance. She works across a range of mediums and uses a variety of symbolic materials to speak on these topics, such as tissue paper, lace, ochre, echidna quills, emu feathers, snakeskin, quandong seeds, leaves and flowers. Toomey has exhibited regularly in NSW since 2015.

Currently she is also exhibiting in a group exhibition *wuliwulawala Dharawal women sharing stories* at the Hazlehurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre, Sydney.

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# Public Programs

## ARTIST WORKSHOP

Saturday 5 June 2021

11am - 1pm

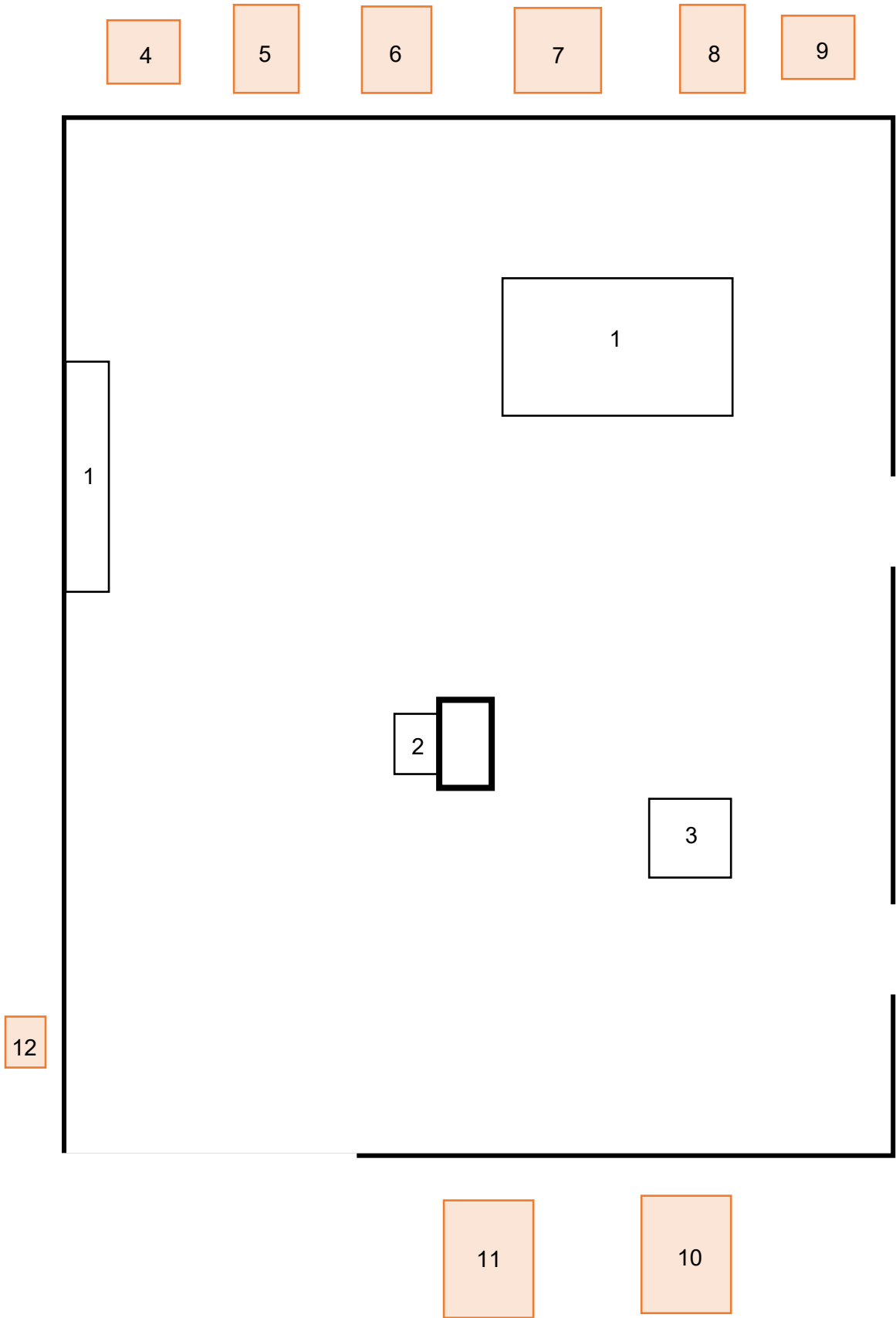
Tickets: FREE, bookings essential

Suitable for all ages. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

This workshop offers a unique opportunity to meet Kerry Toomey and join a hands-on workshop where she will share her story and knowledge. Participants joining the workshop will be encouraged to collect natural materials and other found objects along the riverbank of the Tucoerah River (Georges River) near the Casula Powerhouse Art Centre to create bowls and hats using Toomey's techniques.

To learn more or to register for any of the public programs for KERRY TOOMEY - MUNDUHII, scan this QR Code





# KERRY TOOMEY - MUNDUHII

## Artwork Price List | 15 May - 28 June

1.	<i>Munduhii shoes and boots, 2021</i> Mixed media. Dimensions variable. Courtesy the artist. AUD \$200.00 each
2.	<i>Hat &amp; Boots, 2020</i> Mixed media. Courtesy the artist. AUD \$450.00
3.	<i>Boots and spurs, 2021</i> Mixed media. Dimensions variable. Courtesy the artist. AUD \$400.00
4.	<i>Sister Cetrice 2, 2021</i> Digital print, cotton rag, 48 x 60 cm. Courtesy the artist. AUD \$450.00
5.	<i>Niece Jacinta, 2021</i> Digital print, cotton rag, 60 x 48 cm. Courtesy of the artist. AUD \$450.00
6.	<i>Kerry, 2015</i> Digital print, cotton rag, 59 x 60 cm. Courtesy of the artist. AUD \$450.00
7.	<i>Kerry 2, 2021</i> 58 x 60 cm. Courtesy of the artist. AUD \$450.00
8.	<i>Sister Cetrice, 2021</i> Digital print, cotton rag, 60 x 59 cm. Courtesy of the artist. AUD \$450.00
9.	<i>Niece Lorna, 2021</i> Digital print, cotton rag, 48 x 80 cm. Courtesy of the artist. AUD \$450.00
10.	<i>Sisters, 2021</i> Mixed media, 94 x 63 cm. Courtesy the artist. AUD \$400.00
11.	<i>Untitled, 2021</i> Mixed media, 98 x 67 cm. Courtesy the artist. AUD \$400.00
12.	<i>Untitled, 2021</i> Mixed media, 42.5 x 32.5 cm. Courtesy the artist. AUD \$400.00



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