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Collection Explorer

Fish scoop

2007.0053.0760

On display



Fish scoop

Physical description

A fish scoop featuring a cylindrical wooden handle including a truncated end with thin sticks tied to three circular wooden braces using yellow string. Yellow string is tightly bound around the thin sticks near the handle which has carved text that reads, "MR BERO". There are fifteen black seed pods attached with pink wool to one side of the open end of the scoop.

Statement of significance

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Art collection comprises 2050 artworks and other objects. The artworks - which numerically dominate the collection - were produced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities throughout Australia. The accumulation of these artworks into a single collection has resulted from the choices and selections made during a 38 year period by a variety of staff working for the Council for Aboriginal Affairs (CAA), the Department of Aboriginal Affairs (DAA), the Aboriginal Development Commission (ADC) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) at the national, regional and local levels.

The collection spans the years following the 1967 referendum, when dramatic changes in the governance of Aboriginal people took place, up to 2005 when the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission was dissolved. It provides a snapshot of the diversity and changes in Indigenous art and its representation which occurred during the period of its formation. The small number of 'non-art' objects in the collection is also significant in providing insights into the working of the various Commonwealth bodies involved in Indigenous affairs. As well as the significance of many of the individual pieces, the collection is also significant as a whole, as a complex artefact stemming from Australia's history of governance of Australian Indigenous peoples.

On display at the National Museum of Australia.


Object information

What

Type	Fish traps
Collection	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Art (ATSIAA) collection
Dimensions	L 830mm x W 275mm x H 380mm
Material	Cane , Wool - non specific , Seed pod

Who

Owner
[Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission](#)

 Where

Place collected

[Townsville, Queensland, Australia](#)

ATSIC branch office



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