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Collection Explorer

Stone used by Mulkun Wirrpanda for grinding ochres - Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre

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Physical description

An irregular shaped stone with jagged edges. It is dark grey in colour with white and reddy-brown residue on it. The white is predominantly along one edge.

Statement of significance

The collection comprises 13 items of artist's equipment used by Mulkun Wirrpanda in the production of a large body of works donated to the Museum under the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Wayne and Vicki McGeoch. It includes samples of ochres, paint brushes, grinding stone, palette and sandpaper used to smooth the handles of human hair brushes Wirrpanda made for painting the fine strokes of the rarrk in her paintings.

The collection is important in that it gives an insight into the production of the Wirrpanda's artworks, particularly the use of the human hair brush used in painting the rarrk, as these parts of her paintings were inspired by each plant in 'revealing its character' to her. The works provide a unique visual record of Yolngu knowledge of plants with food-bearing or medicinal properties. Wirrpanda depicts aspects of the plants' life cycle across numerous works, from the gestational period through to fruiting and harvesting and the interconnections between the food source and the extensive freshwater flood plains and rivers, beaches, sandhills, salt flats and estuaries in her Yolngu country.

Object information

What

Type [Artists equipment](#)

Collection [Mulkun Wirrpanda collection no. 2](#)

Dimensions L 70mm x W 57mm x H 37mm

Material

[Stone,
Pigment](#)

 Who

Artist

[Mulkun Wirrpanda](#)

Painting materials used by Mulkun Wirrpanda

Associated organisation

[Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre](#)

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