



Art Curriculum Vitae

Kim Walmsley

PO Box 9099

Wilsonton

QLD 4350

Australia

Ph: 0408 747 750

H: (07) 4634 9120

[kim\\_walmsley@bigpond.com](mailto:kim_walmsley@bigpond.com)

# Biography: Kim Walmsley

Kim is a descendant of the Jaggerah people of Beaudesert. Kim was born July 1972, the week the Aboriginal tent embassy was set up on the lawns of Parliament house, Canberra; when Aboriginal people took a stand. Kim realised this coincidence in 2009 where she met Aboriginal activist Gary Foley. Gary stood up for a culture that had been long denied its right to exist.

Kim also increases local knowledge of Aboriginal art and modern history. She runs workshops and paints murals with schools throughout the Toowoomba region and beyond: Highfields, Fairview Heights, Christian Outreach College, Rangeville, Toowoomba State High, Centenary Heights, Laidley and the Ipswich Seventh Day Adventist college. In addition to students from these schools, sister city visitors from Japan and Singapore have enjoyed these workshops. Through topics such as reconciliation, the history of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and their significance, Kim encourages people to be self determined and non discriminatory. She also uses her unique style of art as a tool to encourage others to pursue their individual identities.

Kim's three exhibitions: *Life* 2003, *The Third Space* June 2008 and *Bouncing Back* June 2011 have been well received. She has participated in collaborative exhibitions include *Changing times* 2009, *Placemarkers* 2009, *Downlands Art Show* and *What is blue to you?* 2011.

The last ten years have seen Kim work with the Cobb+Co Museum as a residential artist. In 2005 she was commissioned to design the Indigenous display centre Binangar (listening place) and painted a 40m-long carpet snake Karbul with permission from Toowoomba elder, Brian Tobane of the Jarawoir people. Karbul is on permanent and prominent display on Cobb+Co's walls. Kim also introduced the concept of 'Tic Tack Toe' games at the Museum and these are also a permanent display.

Kim creates commissioned works for private buyers and groups including Zonta both Toowoomba City and North clubs, and Women on the Move. From 2007 to 2009 Kim has been a regular stallholder at the Wilsonton Markets. Since then she has an attractive and engaging stall at local markets including Queens Park (weather permissint).

In her teenage years Kim started sketching and then painting. Kim felt she had no permission (spiritually) to paint like her ancestors. Having not been taught to paint traditionally Kim does not paint animals or totems other than Biamme the creator or god of Aboriginal culture and the Rainbow Serpent which she believes belongs to all Aboriginal people.

Kim is self taught gaining her own abilities, style and form through self development with a traditional influence. Connecting to her birth family gave her the cultural identity she had hoped for. Connection to her culture influenced her later style and she finally feels comfortable painting elements of her Aboriginal heritage and ancestry through her Indigenous connections.

Kim explores numerous mediums and design elements and has a distinctive and original style with a bright, contemporary feel and strong linear qualities. She creates a balance between shades of colour, light and dark through the softness and vibrancies of her unique interpretation of the land and beauty of Aboriginal Culture. Kim's art is an explosive expression of this reconnection with traditions and knowledge of her culture and her connectedness to the earth and its elements.

Values and beliefs are interpreted by her colours, fine and detailed work. Kim explores her connection to her people through her art and most recently through working with copper wire which adds an original and modern feel to the more traditional elements of Aboriginal design. In February 2011 a copper wire Coolamon produced during the Cobb+Co Artisans Challenge was acquired by the Queensland Museum. It is currently on display at the Cobb+Co Museum.

Kim's future vision is to develop more explosive works with the new influences she will gain within the creative cluster 'The Grid' 2012. One of seven artists, Kim hopes to be influenced and inspired by a creative collective in order to advance her artistic and professional abilities and start work on her three major projects for 2012 and beyond. A copper wire wedge tailed eagle in respect to her cultural heritage and country. Sound will be art in action works that display visual meaning in co-ordination with music and its lyrics. Corroborate means to Kim, corroboree and collaborate. To bring artists together to share, bounce ideas off and to work together to gain strength and ability as artists need to do to progress. She hopes to invite other Indigenous artists to collaborate with and encourage them to participate in the ongoing art opportunities within Toowoomba and surrounding regions. There is a definite need and want for Indigenous art to be exposed in Toowoomba. Only a few visual artists exist at a professional capacity. Kim says, "There are so many Indigenous artists out there that just don't know how to promote their art and earn an income at the same time. There is definitely a void I want to fill and through my experiences I can at least start sharing what I know".

## Currently and 2012:

- Awaiting call back from Toowoomba Regional Art gallery (TRAG), Community Arts and Cultural funding application to collaborate with Local Kindergarten on garden project entitled 'The Circle'. Community consultation and facilitation of project that could be involved with Toowoomba Carnival of flowers in 2012.
- Application accepted to be Artist in project space called 'The Grid' 2012 – Three major projects to be done over 12 months are copper wire-Wedge tailed eagle, Corroborate-Indigenous Arts management, SOUND – Sounds of Unity Nourishes Determination
- **Ongoing** – Stallholder at Toowoomba Markets. Queens Park (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) and Black Forrest Markets (2nd Sunday)
- **Ongoing** – Commissioned works via word of mouth and Market networks

## 2011

- **August** – Commissioned Catholic Diocese reference group: To design & make Indigenous themed Stole for Bishop Bill Morris
- **June** – Collaborative Exhibition *Bouncing Back – Recovering from adversity*
- **March** - Arts Council Toowoomba Members' Inaugural Exhibition, What is Blue to you?
- **February** – Artisans Challenge at the Cobb & Co Museum. Exhibition finale for artisans Copper wire Coolamon called **Gather** acquisitioned by the Queensland Museum
- **February** – Have a Go Festival – Copper wire workshop facilitator

## 2010

- **February** – **Cobb+Co**, Have a go Festival – Workshop facilitator
- **Collaborative exhibition**, Kath Dickson Community Gallery '*Changing times*'
- **Stallholder** – Toowoomba Queens Park Markets

## 2009

- **May** – Workshop facilitator - Spirits in Bare Feet – The University of Southern Queensland
- **July-December** – Graduate Certificate Indigenous Arts Management – The University of Melbourne
- **June** – University of Southern Queensland (USQ). Indigenous Art Exhibition *Placemarkers* in association with the Centre for Australian Indigenous Knowledges and the Faculty of Arts.
- **July** – Mentoring – 2 day course – TAFE Ipswich, Queensland – Indigenous Youth Focus
- **Stallholder** – Wilsonton Markets

## 2008:

- **September** – The University of Southern Queensland - Indigenous Art Auction
- **July** – Art stall at the University of Southern Queensland – NAIDOC Week
- **June 13 – July 11** Collaborative Exhibition with one other artist *The Third Space*
- **Stallholder** – Wilsonton Markets

## 2007:

- **July** - Southbrook Primary School – Mural - *I believe in you*
- **July** – Community NAIDOC Week – Local business achievement award
- **September** – Arts Council Toowoomba and Toowoomba City Council, *Avant Garden* for Toowoomba Carnival of flowers, Entitled: *Nature will always find a way* – Garden artwork of wire and sandstone
- **September** - Cobb & Co Museum, Workshop during carnival of flowers – Flag painting – Over 300 flags were made during the week.
- **January**- Commissioned: Cobb+Co Museum to design concept and do art piece for display within Binangar (listening place)

## 2006

- **June** - Commissioning of items for the Toowoomba North Zonta Women's Club, International Zonta Conference in June 2006 Melbourne
- **July** - Qld Education – Commissioned to develop and deliver workshop at Indigenous Education professional development workshops to Indigenous and Non-Indigenous staff.

## 2005

- **HSH Constructions**, display home – The Enviroshack – A self sustaining home– McKenzie St, Toowoomba (Several pieces on display sold) The Enviroshack was reported on in both the Courier Mail with a full lift out and House and Garden Magazine.
- **January- May**, Toowoomba North Zonta Women's Club, Commissioning of 250 porcelain coasters, Printing of four artworks onto gift cards (2000). These items were sold at the International Zonta Conference in June 06 Melbourne

## 2004

- **July** – NAIDOC Exhibition – Metro Café – Blue Room
- Artworks placed in outlets...Artdigenous – 1 Railway Street, Toowoomba & Gondwana – Aboriginal Artefacts/Artworks, Byron Bay

## 2003

- **July** - NAIDOC EXHIBITION – National Australia Bank
- **September** – Oxygen Café - Exhibition entitled 'LIFE'
- **2003** - Concordia College – Toowoomba Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students living away from home. In collaboration with The Southern Institute of TAFE, 2 hrs p/w supporting students through their school years away from their Island Homes. We did through Cross cultural awareness on dealing with city life.

## 2002

- **Mural** – Highfields State Primary School -New England Highway

## Donations / Services Volunteered

### 2009 - Naidoc Festival Harlaxton

- Donation of time and services to day. Face painting and artwork

### 2008

- Artwork design for Apology – Community peoples signatures on canvas.
- **Qld Education** – Commissioned to develop and deliver workshop at Indigenous Education professional development workshops to Indigenous and Non-Indigenous staff.

### 2002-2007 - Fairview Heights State Primary School

- **Various workshops done with art - the promoting of School Values was incorporated into workshops.** Over a period of 4 years (2002-2006)– I was highly involved with students who needed a boost of confidence. Art was a form of communication and understanding – Several workshops were done with students. Art / Dance / Culture / Individuality & Respect taught through art. These workshops were topped off with an End of term concert for their parents on Parents Day.

### 2006 - Glennie Girls College – NAIDOC

- Invitation to partake in a round robin cultural day – I was asked to share my story and talk about art and how I use it to create meaning.

### 2006 - Rockville Cub Scouts –

- Art Workshop on Australian Aboriginal Culture - This workshop was based on cultural activities relevant to the Scouts Cultural lessons in order to obtain their 'Cultural Diversity Badge'

### 2005 - Toowoomba State High – Toowoomba Sister Cities project

- In collaboration with Toowoomba State high – Cultural Workshop with Home stay – Exchange Students
  - Takatsuki, Japan
  - Thailand

## Professional References:

Dr. Janet McDonald  
Head of School of Creative Arts,  
University of Southern QLD  
07 4631 1134  
[Janet.mcdonald@usq.qld.edu.au](mailto:Janet.mcdonald@usq.qld.edu.au)

Jennifer Wright (Summers)  
President  
Toowoomba Arts Council  
07 46321858 / 0415883345  
[createcohesion@bigpond.com](mailto:createcohesion@bigpond.com)

Deborah Tranter OAM  
Director  
Cobb+Co Museum  
Queensland Museum Regional Services  
Ph 07 46594900 Mobile 0408984741  
[deborah.tranter@gm.qld.gov.au](mailto:deborah.tranter@gm.qld.gov.au)

Lynne Stuart  
Lecturer (Indigenous Health)  
Faculty of Sciences and Midwifery  
University of Southern Queensland  
Toowoomba  
[Lynne.stuart@usq.qld.edu.au](mailto:Lynne.stuart@usq.qld.edu.au)