

Space 1

Oliver Pike

Opening 19 August 6pm
via Facebook live stream

20th August -
05 September

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Affinity with one's culture can reveal questions and enquiries that can sometimes not be answered. We sit on a fine line of understanding the key principles of culture, soon to be handed a pile of inquisitions. As a proud Wiradjuri and Ngemba man from country NSW, I have found myself in a situation where all I can do is question my culture in order to understand where the true essence is placed, or displaced.

Knowledge • Guidance • Passage is a series of works that provide a sense of ease to these questionings. Elders are a wealth of knowledge (as the saying goes), they provide community with their comfort, their understandings, and their love. These works capture the hardships and emotions experienced by many. Aunty Yvonne, proud La Perouse elder, is someone who has guided me along a different path. The path of understanding one's journey in order to depict one's directions. Confusing yet highly understandable when we recognise the lineage of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander past. This series presents an elder in her home, a side of the story that not many people see, nor understand. We see Aunty Yvonne presenting Acknowledgements at events and conferences, as the community says, being 'blak' and 'deadly'. Yet the home is where growth occurs. Me sitting in her living room, on the front porch, outside on the street - I learnt so much just by watching, and experiencing the home life. Learning the knowledge as Aunty Yvonne passes it down the line and guides it to me, to yet again, pass it on to those emerging into a culture they merely understand.

KUDOS GALLERY

6 Napier St Paddington NSW 2021

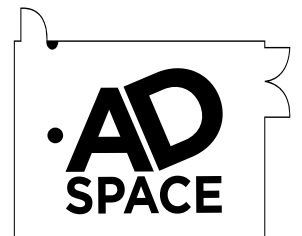
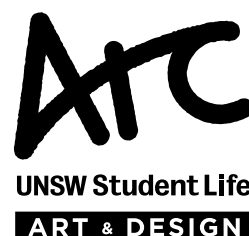
11am-6pm Wed to Fri, 11am-4pm Sat

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Kudos Gallery is run by UNSW A&D students and funded by Arc @ UNSW Limited.



**1. Untitled, 2020.
photographic prints (NFS).**

This is a series of monochromatic photos that were processed and developed in the darkroom. These images capture Auntie Yvonne relaxing having a cuppa in her home environment. 5 of these images have been soaked in the natural dyes that I created for the Guidance

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artwork. These dyed images hold a connection, that is so very important in the Indigenous community between not just the artworks but also between Auntie Yvonne and myself.

2. Knowledge, 2020, audio (25 minutes) (NFS).

This artwork captures the essence of Auntie Yvonne in her home environment.

The audio pieces exhibit Yvonne speaking of everyday topics. Ranging from a telescope from a tv show she watched the night before to the resistance that the Indigenous peoples of Australia have strongly continued everyday since the invasion. This piece places her wisdom and knowledge in my foreground and therefore important for me to learn.

3. Guidance, 2020, dyed calico (NFS).

This textile piece exhibits my journey taken with Auntie Yvonne in her home and beyond the mission space. Collecting natural materials from charred wood, ochre, roots, and eucalyptus leaves. Using long strips of fabric to naturally dye speaks of

the journey and trek taken with Auntie Yvonne and the wider community in La Perouse.

4. Passage, 2020, jarred dyes (NFS).

After naturally dying the journey line (Guidance artwork) I collected and documented the dyes by placing them in jars. Each jar holds a natural dye and provides a documentation of the journey I took with Auntie Yvonne. While holding the journey with Auntie they also hold new knowledge and comings that I have learn't along the way - this can be seen in the murky water and growth of mould. Finally, on the back of each jar is a name from someone in my life, friends and family members from Indigenous and non-Indigenous background. These people will be placed with the responsibility of being a custodian holder the jar (the new knowledge) until I recall this artwork. As Auntie Yvonne says, it is highly important that we pass on knowledge down the line to everyone.

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