

Tommy Carroll

Wungkul and Nganjiwarr

My Father and my Grandfather's Country
Recent paintings

4 September – 21 September 2003

1.
Untitled 2003
Synthetic polymer paint on canvas
120.0 x 120.0 cm



2.
Durack Hill 2003
Earth pigment on canvas
100.0 x 140.0 cm

On the Gibb River Road is a station called Home Belly Station. Tommy used to work on the station-mustering cattle when he was young. The people, who belonged to that country told him the story of this place, called Durack Hill.

There is a black area on the hill where "early days blackfellas" were burned by "gadiyas" (whitefellas)



3.

Nganjiwarr Country 2003

Earth pigment on canvas

140.0 x 200.0 cm

Nganjiwarr Country extends north of Doon Doon. Nganjiwarr is the name of the Ngarrangkarni (Dreaming) snake that created this country.

This painting shows the country from an aerial perspective. Not far from this place is a waterhole called Tommy Spring. Tommy was named after this waterhole.



4.

Wungkul Hills 2003

Earth pigment on canvas

90.0 x 120.0 cm

Nganjiwarr is the name of the Dreaming Snake that created this country. The two large hills are Wungkul Hill, this is Tommy's grandfather's name and this is his grandfather's country.

In the Ngarrangkarni, Nganjiwarr the Dreaming Snake left her eggs at Wungkul and went into the earth there.

She came out at Karlorun Gorge, but the gorge was too small for her so she opened up a gap between the hills called Ngaiyarrin Gap and travelled onto Mistake Creek, near the Northern territory border.

As she travelled through this country, she left her eggs in many places; here at Wungkul she left her eggs, which are seen as large boulders in this country.



5.

Thomas Spring 2003

Earth pigment on canvas

120.0 x 120.0 cm

This painting shows Tommy's fathers country. He has painted a series of hills near where Tommy Spring is located. This image is painted in planer perspective. There is a small tan hill in the foreground. Tommy Spring is located to the left of this spring in the area painted dark brown. Behind this area is the big hill (red) with two large rocks on top.

This area is extremely scrubby "you need to get a grader in before you can drive in"

Tommy Spring was an early days stock camp when drovers used to move cattle from the territory to the port at Wyndham. Tommy Spring is living water available all year round.



6.

Nganjiwarr 2003

Earth pigment on canvas

100.0 x 140.0 cm

Nganjiwarr is the name of the Dreaming Snake that created Tommy's country.



7.

Wungkul 2003

Earth pigment on canvas

90.0 x 100.0 cm

Wungkul is Tommy's Grandfathers bush name. His Gadiya (white name) was Paddy Carroll. Paddy taught Tommy a lot of bush skills, much more than his father. Nganjiwarr is Paddy Carroll's country.



8.

Wungkul 2003

Earth pigment on canvas

140.0 x 200.0 cm

Wungkul is Tommy's Grandfathers bush name. His Gadiya (white name) was Paddy Carroll. Paddy taught Tommy a lot of bush skills, much more than his father. Nganjiwarr is Paddy Carroll's country and it extends north of Doon Doon. Not far from this place is a waterhole called Tommy Spring. Tommy Carroll was named after this spring. A living water spring used by the drovers in the early days as a campsite whilst driving stock from the Northern Territory to the Wyndham port.

