

Acknowledgements

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Cover image

The editors and The Federation Press also warmly thank the Artists of Kapululangu Aboriginal Women's Association of Balgo for the magnificent painting on the cover. *The Way of the Walawarra (Two Women Ancestors): Kapululangu Women's Two Way Governance* © 2011 Artists of Kapululangu Aboriginal Women's Association of Balgo • Sarah Manaya Daniels Napanangka • Margaret Yintjurru Anjule (Bumblebee) Napurrula • Payi Payi Sunfly Napangarti • Dora Mungkina Rockman Napaltjarri • Maudie Mandigalli Napanangka • Helen Tjiliwa Nagomara Napurrula • Nan Watson Nangala • Bertha Kalion • Tammy Kalion.

Contributors

Manuhuia Barcham grew up in a marae (traditional Maori village) on the East Coast of the North Island of New Zealand. He is a member of the following Iwi (tribes): Ngati Kahungunu, Te Arawa and Ngati Tuwharetoa. His undergraduate work was completed at Canterbury University in New Zealand; he completed his graduate education overseas studying at Oxford University in England and taking his PhD at the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia. An Australian citizen, and former academic, he is currently Managing Director of Synexe, an international knowledge consulting firm.

Shaun Berg practises law in South Australia in the areas of Aboriginal rights and intellectual property. He is committed to the process of reconciliation with the First Peoples of Australia.

Morgan Brigg is lecturer in the School of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Queensland. His research examines, among other themes, Indigenous-Settler relations in Australia and intercultural issues in conflict resolution, international development, and governance. Morgan's interests include knowing across cultural difference and exchange between Western and Indigenous political systems and philosophies. He is the author of *The New Politics of Conflict Resolution: Responding to Difference* (Palgrave Macmillan), and co-editor (with Roland Bleiker) of *Mediating across Difference: Oceanic and Asian Approaches to Conflict Resolution* (University of Hawai'i Press).

Tom Calma is an Aboriginal elder from the Kungarakan tribal group and the Iwaidja tribal group in the Northern Territory. He has been involved in Indigenous affairs at a local, community, State, national and international level and has worked in the public sector for over 38 years. From July 2004 to February 2010 Dr Calma was the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner and Race Discrimination Commissioner (July 2004 to July 2009) with the Australian Human Rights Commission. Dr Calma has worked in the fields of Indigenous and mainstream education, training, employment and community development at the service delivery, administration and management levels.

CONTRIBUTORS

Patsy Cameron is an Aboriginal historian, heritage consultant and cultural artisan from the islands of eastern Bass Strait, Tasmania. She now lives at Tomahawk, a small coastal village on the northeast tip of Tasmanian, within ancestral clan-country and looking seaward toward her island home. She is the founding Director of Riawunna Centre for Aboriginal Education at the University of Tasmania Launceston campus and has completed a Master of Arts (History). Her current research involves a re-examination and re-interpretation of Aboriginal histories and lifeworlds on the colonial sea frontier of northeast Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). Her publications include *Grease and Ochre* (2011).

Darryl Cronin is Senior Research Fellow at the Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Research Unit, University of New South Wales, working on intercultural dialogue and Indigenous policy research. He is completing his PhD. Darryl has a law degree from the University of Adelaide and a Masters of Environmental Law from Macquarie University, along with community development qualifications and experience. He has previously worked on agreement-making and economic opportunities for traditional owners in the Goldfields region of Western Australia and in western Cape York, and has worked with traditional landowner communities through land councils across northern Australia. His interest in research began when he worked at Curtin University of Technology and Charles Darwin University in areas of Aboriginal authority and governance, capacity development and Aboriginal economic development.

Zohl dé Ishtar is an Irish-Australian sociologist. She was the founding coordinator of the Kapululangu Aboriginal Women's Law and Culture Centre at Balgo in Western Australia. Living and working with Balgo's women elders for eight of the past 11 years, Zohl has assisted them to run a dynamic cultural education and healing program designed to foster pride and resilience among their women and children. Nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005 as part of the 1000 Women for Peace global initiative, she has worked with Indigenous Australian and Pacific women since 1979, authored three books, and has lectured in 27 countries. *Permission: Dr dé Ishtar wrote her chapter in this book at the request of and with the blessings of the Kapululangu Aboriginal Women's Association.*

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Darren Dick is a legal and policy adviser specialising in human rights. He has worked in a range of roles at the Australian Law Reform Commission and Australian Human Rights Commission, including overseeing the research and production of the annual Social Justice Report (from 1998-2008) and Native Title Report (2005-2008), leading the Secretariat supporting the consultation process to establish a new national Indigenous representative organisation, and has played a leading role in the Close the Gap coalition.

Patrick Dodson is a Yawuru leader and the Director of the Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Research Unit at the University of New South Wales. He is a former Director of the Central Land Council and the Kimberley Land Council, a former Royal Commissioner into the Aboriginal Deaths in Custody inquiry and for six years was the Chairman of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation. He is currently the Chairman of the Lingiari Foundation, an Indigenous non-government advocacy and research Foundation and is involved in a range of matters relating to the preservation and enhancement of Indigenous rights and culture.

Steve Hemming is a Senior Lecturer in Australian Studies at Flinders University in South Australia. Since the early 1980s he has worked closely with the Ngarrindjeri nation in the Lower Murray region of South Australia. More recently he has worked with Ngarrindjeri leaders on research projects that address the relationship between natural resource management, Indigenous heritage management and Indigenous governance.

Sam Jeffries is a member of the Moorawari nation in northwest New South Wales. The youngest of seven children, Sam resides in Brewarrina, New South Wales, and has been involved in Aboriginal Affairs for some 30 years. Sam was with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) for 15 years as a Regional Councillor and Regional Council Chairman of the Murdi Paaki Regional Council and is currently Co-Chairman of National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, Deputy Chairman of Indigenous Land Corporation, Chairman of Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly, and Adjunct Professor at Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning. Sam is a strong advocate for his people, and is interested in governance, leadership, economic development, partnerships and community participation.

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Sarah Maddison is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow in the Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Research Unit at the University of New South Wales. Her fellowship project involves a four country comparative study of dialogue and reconciliation processes. Sarah was awarded a 2009 Churchill Fellowship to study Indigenous representative bodies in Canada and the United States. Her books include *Activist Wisdom* (UNSW Press, 2006), *Silencing Dissent* (Allen & Unwin, 2007), *Black Politics* (Allen & Unwin, 2009) and *Beyond White Guilt* (Allen & Unwin, 2011).

George Menham is a former journalist and senior public servant with 20 years experience in managing Indigenous programs. He was a General Manager within ATSIC from the time of its inauguration, and was responsible for the arrangements leading to the establishment of the Torres Strait Regional Authority. On leaving the public service he undertook consulting assignments, including the development of proposals for greater autonomy in the Torres Strait and a system of regional local government for the Tiwi Islands. He has worked continuously with the Murdi Paaki Regional Council and Regional Assembly in the development of Indigenous regional governance arrangements in western New South Wales.

Linn Miller is a Tasmanian non-Aboriginal academic who occupies dual roles of Lecturer in the School of Philosophy and Research Fellow on the Community Engaged Aboriginal Research Initiative, University of Tasmania. She researches and publishes across eclectic fields including Aboriginal metaphysics, philosophies of belonging, identity and place and the thought of 19th century Danish existentialist Søren Kierkegaard. Linn is currently involved in a number of Aboriginal cultural geography projects and facilitates a range of community-engaged initiatives concerning Aboriginal philosophy, cultural geography and history.

Michael Mundine Snr, a Bundjalung man, is CEO of the Redfern Aboriginal Housing Company. He has worked on The Block for over 35 years and has a long involvement in the struggle for the betterment of Aboriginal people in Sydney's Redfern community. Over the past 15 years he has been a director of the Redfern Aboriginal Medical Service, Redfern Aboriginal Children's Service, and one of the founding directors of the Redfern Community Development Employment Program.

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Lyndon Murphy teaches Aboriginal studies at the School of Humanities at Griffith University. He worked for many years in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission as well as for Education Queensland. He completed a Bachelor of Arts with Majors in Aboriginal Studies and Government (1994) and a Master of Public Administration (2000) at the University of Queensland. He is currently completing his PhD in political science titled *Australian democracy and Aboriginality* at Griffith University.

June Oscar is a Bunuba woman from Fitzroy Crossing. She has worked at local, regional, State and national levels in areas of community development, women's advocacy and policy development, Indigenous language maintenance, land management and Indigenous rights. After completing a business degree at Broome's Notre Dame University campus, she returned to Fitzroy Crossing to help a major community development and reconstruction effort. From 2007 she developed a national profile in a campaign against alcohol that highlighted the scourge of foetal alcohol syndrome. In 2010 she was awarded a WA HealthWays Research fellowship to research Aboriginal women's resilience in the Fitzroy Valley.

Kirstie Parker is a Yuwalarai Aboriginal woman from New South Wales. A journalist for about 25 years, she is currently Editor of *The Koori Mail*. Previously, Kirstie ran several Indigenous organisations including the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre (AILC) in Canberra and the National Aboriginal Cultural Institute – Tandanya in Adelaide. She is also a former Director of Public Affairs for ATSIC, and former media adviser to a federal government minister.

Howard Pedersen is a Settler Australian from Victoria who has had a three-decade association with Bunuba and other Aboriginal people in the Kimberley region. He wrote, in collaboration with Bunuba leader Banjo Woorunmarra, the award-winning book *Jandamarra and the Bunuba Resistance*, published in 1995. He has worked for Aboriginal political interests on key issues that have defined the relationship between Indigenous people and the Australian nation state, including the homeland movement, native title, institutional reform and raising popular understanding of Australia's continuing colonial history. He currently lives in Broome and works for Yawuru native title holders.

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Angela Pitts has over 15 years' experience in urban, regional and community development working in Africa, Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States. In Australia, Angela has worked as a consultant/researcher on various Indigenous projects, including inner-city Sydney Aboriginal homelessness, Aboriginal housing and health projects throughout New South Wales and the current Aboriginal Housing Company (AHC) Pemulwuy Redevelopment Project. Her work with the AHC to develop the Redfern Community Social Plan won both national and international awards, and her contributions have been instrumental in the approval of the development plans for affordable and sustainable Aboriginal housing on 'The Block' in Redfern.

Daryle Rigney is Ngarrindjeri and an Associate Professor in Indigenous Studies/Education at the Yunggoendi First Nations Centre at Flinders University in South Australia. Recently he has worked with Ngarrindjeri leaders to develop relationships between Indigenous nations internationally on matters of mutual interest, including cultural and scholarly exchange. He is a co-chair of the United League of Indigenous Nations.

Lester-Irabinna Rigney is Professor of Education at Flinders University and is one of the most influential Indigenous educationalists in Australia today. In 2009 he received a United Nations award from the Australian chapter for Aboriginal Education. He is inaugural Ethics Council Chair for the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples. He is expert on COAG 'Closing the Gap' Scientific Reference Group and ACARA, National Languages Curriculum Reference Group. Interest in Professor Rigney's work by national and international universities includes several prestigious Visiting Research Fellowships at the University of Cambridge, UK; Fort Hare University, South Africa; and University of British Columbia, Canada.