



Bridge to Opportunity

The Rural City of
**MURRAY
BRIDGE**

MEDIA RELEASE

Subject: My Paintings Speak for Me

Contact: Fulvia Mantelli
Team Leader Arts Development, Gallery Director
08 8539 1423
f.mantelli@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

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Local Government Centre
2 Seventh Street (PO Box 421)
Murray Bridge SA 5253

T 08 8539 1100
F 08 8532 2766

council@murraybridge.sa.gov.au
www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au

ABN 90 501 266 817

THREE galleries full of heartfelt paintings tell the story of South Australian artist Kunyi June Anne McInerney's childhood as a member of the stolen generation.

The Murray Bridge Regional Gallery exhibition 'My Paintings Speak For Me' draws upon the artist's childhood experiences growing up in the Oodnadatta Children's Home during the 1950's.

Kunyi's vibrant works document her memories and reflect on both the strict life and often fun moments she experienced alongside other mission children who became her only family.

The exhibition is described as an honest and sensitive exploration of separation from family, loss of culture and struggle, as well as finding moments of joy amid the hardship.

"These are my stories from a dry, remote place where my experiences were so different from what Australian children know today," said Kunyi.

"They took away my family, my culture and who I could have been.

"I want people to understand what happened.

"Painting is the best way for me to tell my stories."

Murray Bridge Regional Gallery Director Fulvia Mantelli said the exhibition includes more than forty paintings and a video animation of Kunyi's images and narrative.

"As we celebrate the 11th anniversary of the federal government's apology to Australian Indigenous peoples, this very generous body of work highlights a critical truth of Australia's history, which we still have much to learn from" said Ms Mantelli.

This Country Arts SA touring exhibition curated by Maggie Fletcher will be on display at the Murray Bridge Regional Art Gallery until Sunday 17 March 2019.

For more information visit www.murraybridgegallery.com.au or phone 8539 1420

