

FOR RELEASE

Friday, 28 November

***Tracy's Echo: 50 Years of Resilience* Exhibition opens at MAGNT**

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) proudly presents *Tracy's Echo: 50 Years of Resilience*, a powerful, community-led exhibition honouring the untold stories of Aboriginal survivors of Cyclone Tracy.

The exhibition will officially open on Saturday, 29 November, inviting visitors to experience deeply personal artworks created by local Aboriginal artists alongside a newly commissioned sound work.

Originally shared through a display led by Joanne and Tanyah Nasir at Darwin International Airport in 2024, *Tracy's Echo* marked the 50th commemoration of Cyclone Tracy.

When Cyclone Tracy made landfall on 24 December 1974, Joanne Nasir and her family were crammed together in their car in Knuckey Lagoon, bogged.

"The house was collapsing all around us, the sheet iron roof flying off," Joanne said. "The whole family jumped into the car along with our dog Dottie to shelter."

Joanne remembers the noise, even now reliving the trauma, when reminded in the Wet Season when big storms hit.

"It comes over you in waves, taking over your whole body," she said. "Sometimes I just need to be still and let it ride out through me."

Like many involved in the exhibition *Tracy's Echo*, Joanne has found solace in the creation of her artworks.

"Creating these pieces has been incredibly emotional, but also therapeutic, putting my feelings down on paper, letting go," she said. "The cyclone changed our lives in many ways and changed Darwin. I remember the ride in the Hercules, evacuating to stay with family in Melbourne. When we returned life as we knew it had changed forever."

This refreshed exhibition brings together 18 artworks, sharing stories of survival, cultural strength and enduring connection to Country.

MAGNT Director Adam Worrall said that *Tracy's Echo* provides a vital platform for First Nations voices, capturing resilience and history through art.

"We are honoured to present this exhibition in the refreshed Upper Ramp space, connecting past and present through community storytelling," he said.

Visitors are encouraged to attend several special events, including an artist panel discussion on Saturday, 29 November at 11am that will include facilitator Tanyah Nasir and artists.

Curator Joanne Nasir will give an artist talk on Saturday, 6 December at 11am providing a deeply personal recount of her experience of Cyclone Tracy as a 12-year-old. In it she will reflect on her journey to creating artwork related to these memories and as curator of this important exhibition.

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