MARKING THE INFINITE
Contemporary Women Artists from Aboriginal Australia

PHILLIPS  1600 21st Street NW, Washington, DC | PhillipsCollection.org
### Exhibition Title
Marking the Infinite: Contemporary Women Artists from Aboriginal Australia

### Dates
June 2–September 9, 2018

### Organizing Institution
Henry Skerritt, editor, and William Fox, Director, Center for Art and Environment, Nevada Museum of Art

### Description
Marking the Infinite features the work of nine leading Aboriginal Australian women artists: Nongirrnga Marawili, Wintjiya Napaltjarri, Yukultji Napangati, Angelina Pwerle, Lena Yarinkuwa, Gulumbu Yunupingu, Nyapanyapa Yunupingu, Carlene West, and Regina Pilawuk Wilson. The works are drawn from the collection of Miami-based collectors and philanthropists Debra and Dennis Scholl. The selection has been carefully curated by the Scholls, in conjunction with Australian curator and art historian Henry F. Skerritt, with many key works commissioned specifically for the exhibition.

The artists are from remote Aboriginal communities across Australia. The subjects of their art are broad and varied: as expansive as the stars above us or as small as the tiny berries of the bush plum. And yet, each one is an attempt to grapple with the most fundamental questions of existence. Every mark bears testament to cycles that put our being into perspective: whether they are the ebb and flow of sacred waters and ancestral sands or the simple passage of brush against canvas. These are marks made upon an “ancient endless infinity,” revealing our insignificance against the steady movement of time and the cosmos. In a world of accelerating connectivity, in which information travels the world at instantaneous speed, these paintings ask us to slow down and to pay attention to what the natural world reveals to us. At their most literal, some of these works ask us to note the presence of spirits and ancestral beings. In a broader sense, each one asks us to acknowledge different ways of seeing and valuing the same world. They ask us to consider the unity of our planet, and the diversity of the worlds that it contains.

The exhibition features approximately 60 objects, including paintings on canvas, bark paintings, wood poles, weavings, and drawings.

### Catalogue
The 184-page publication features color illustrations, documentary photographs, artist biographies, and a bibliography. It includes essays by Henry Skerritt and Hettie Perkins, along with biographical essays on each of the nine artists by leading aboriginal art writers, and an interview with the collectors Debra and Dennis Scholl.
SELECT WORKS

Carlene West, *Tjitjiti*, 2013
Acrylic on linen, 71 5/8 x 47 5/8 in.

Earth pigments on bark, 87 1/8 x 33 ½ in.

Gulumbu Yunupingu, *Ganyu (Stars)*, 2004
Earth pigments on wood, 71 1/2 in.

Regina Pilawuk Wilson, *Syaw*, 2014
Acrylic on linen, 47 1/4 x 78 3/4 in.

Wintjiya Napaltjarri, *Women’s Ceremonies at Watanuma*, 2010
Synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 48 x 35 7/8 in.
EXHIBITION COMMITTEE AND MURAL SPONSOR (Gift of $10,000+)
In conjunction with Marking the Infinite, Regina Pilawuk Wilson, one of the artists featured in the exhibition, will travel from Australia to Washington, DC, to paint a mural in the Phillips’s courtyard that is expected to last for at least 10 years. The generous support provided by donors at the Exhibition Committee level will sponsor this exciting work and make it possible for visitors to experience the dynamic exhibition as well as the exceptional public programs and educational resources offered. With gifts of $10,000 or more, Exhibition Committee supporters are acknowledged on the exhibition title wall, the Phillips website, the member magazine, and event invitations. They will also gather for unique opportunities such as a special dinner at an embassy, exclusive meetings with curators and exhibition designers, a toast and first-look at the installation, and private events to celebrate the exhibition’s opening. They will also be invited to watch Regina Pilawuk Wilson create her mural at the Phillips.

ARTWORK SPONSOR (Gift of $5,000+)
The Phillips is seeking focused support for the transportation of and care for the works that will be included in this exhibition. In order to secure the pieces, the museum must account for courier services, crating, and shipping costs—often up to 50% of the exhibition’s budget. With this figure in mind, the Phillips invites individuals to directly impact the success of our 2018 special exhibitions by sponsoring a work with a gift of $5,000. Artwork Sponsors will be recognized for making possible the presentation of a specific work at special events to celebrate the exhibition’s opening.

EXHIBITION FRIEND (Gift of $2,000+)
With a special one-time tax-deductible contribution of $2,000, Exhibition Friends can make an important contribution to the success of our exhibitions. Exhibition Friends will have an opportunity to participate in a number of exclusive events including an exhibition preview reception, a special curator-led tour of the exhibition, and an annual donor appreciation event hosted by the Phillips Director and Trustees.

For more information, contact:
Development Department
development@phillipscollection.org
202.387.2151 x250