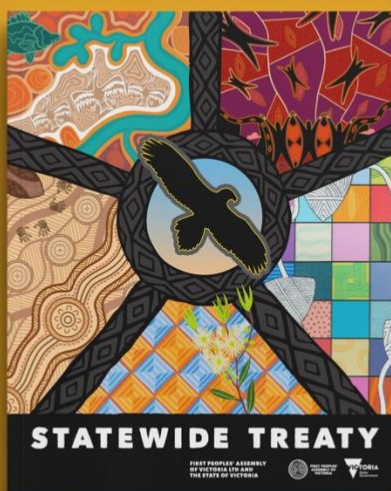


Statewide Treaty Artwork



The Assembly commissioned five original artworks by Traditional Owners, each representing one of the five Assembly regions.

The artworks feature on the Statewide Treaty agreement signed by the Assembly and Victorian State Government sign on Thursday 13 November 2025.

The works celebrate the strength and resilience of Aboriginal communities, cultures and connection to Country through artistic practice.

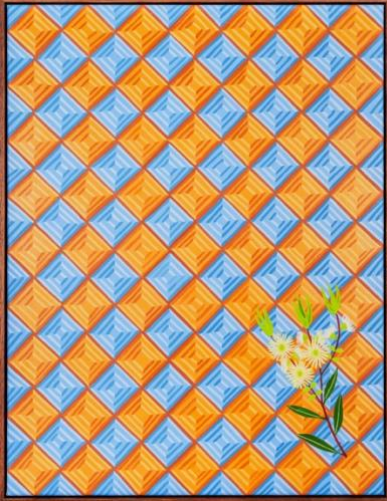
The artists who contributed to the Statewide Treaty include;

- Stacey Edwards (Taungurung, Boon Wurrung),
- John Patten (Yorta Yorta (Dhulinyagan), Dhudhuroa, Bundjalung),
- Jade Kennedy (Tatti-Tatti and Mutti-Mutti), Kiewa Austin-Rioli (Gunditjmara),
- and Njarala Paton (Monero Ngario, Gunai, Gunditjmara).

The artworks have been woven together by Boonwurrung, Ugar and Erub artist Amina Briggs.

Artwork Stories

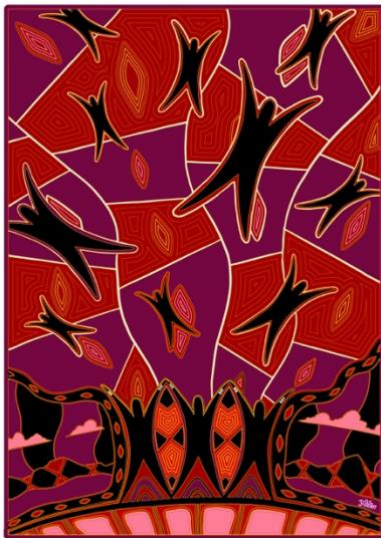
METRO REGION



by **Stacey Edwards**

(Taungurung, Boon Wurrung)

The geometric design of the diamonds was traditionally used by the Kulin nations. This is contemporary spin on the diamonds. Blue represents the waterways whilst burnt orange represents the land. The mana gum leaves represent ceremony and healing. The smoking ceremony cleanses the past and welcomes the new. The mana gum blossom depicts self-determination, resilience and strength.



NORTH EAST REGION

by **John Patten**

(Yorta Yorta (Dhulinyagan), Dhudhuroa, Bundjalung)

Treaty Giants celebrates our Old People – our Elders who have sacrificed so much, in order for us to be where we are now.



NORTH WEST REGION

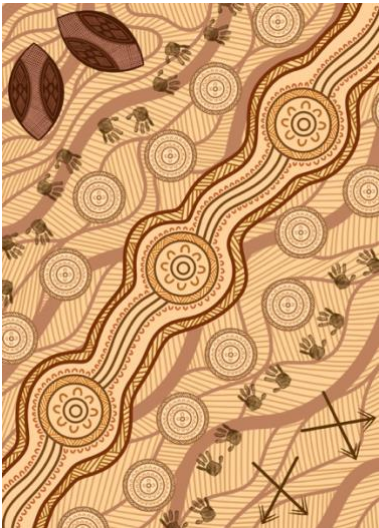
***Dindi Thanggi: River Country* by Jade Kennedy**

(Tatti-Tatti and Mutti-Mutti)

The Murray River is our life source, and important part of our future. It's sustained the land, the trees, the vegetation and all the creatures within the river and the lakes and the lagoons. Along with the Kuli, 'people', that live, travel, gather and create.

Our song lines lead to the corroboree, our gatherings. And travelling throughout the water ways, the life veins, was a way to travelling to and from. The natural resources, our life source. The nutrients we continue to grow from. All flow from the Murray River. The ochre

quarries, the salt lakes, the clay balls, and the bardi grubs. The fish species and the tribes along and throughout the water ways.



SOUTH WEST REGION

by Kiewa Austin-Rioli

(Gunditjmara)

The artwork highlights the strength our people have when we unite as one. The meeting places and journey symbols through the middle of the artwork shows how strong our communities are when we come together this is shown by the crosshatching which represents strength and all the people sitting and supporting along the way. This journey is our long journey towards Treaty. The other circles surrounding the journey shows more communities supporting along the way. There are hands along the artwork which represents our ancestors who came before us and had to fight the fight and they are

still watching over, protecting and supporting our mob always. The shields and spears also represent protections along our journey to treaty by our mob and ancestors. The background shows Mother Earth and how she is very much alive by the movement and flow which shows our land in between communities and our connection to each other through Mother Earth.



SOUTH EAST REGION

Ngetal Narmung – Ngetal Wurruk (My veins – My Country) by Njarala Paton

(Monero Ngario, Gunai, Gunditjmarra)

My artwork reflects how I see, experience and connect to my Country as a young person. It comes through the little things: the details of Country in the leaves, the movement of the river, the patterns in the tree bark, and then the way water moves slowly over rocks in a stream. I think about the sound of rain – how it sounds and how I feel it from the soft touch of mist to large heavy drops pelting on the roof. The feathers, tiny animal tracks in the bush, their patterns through

the sand and the way wind moves through the trees.

I'm drawn to the colours of Country – the early morning light over distant hills, the colours hiding in the shadows of plants, and how colours change as the sun moves across the sky, changing into deep reds, pinks and oranges at the end of the day. My own sketches are in there too – things you might not see, but I do.

All these snippets of connection sit as windows underneath the painting like little windows into my connection with Country and my Gunaikurnai culture.

The five Gunaikurnai shields represent cultural strength and I have layered them over the detailed windows. The shields and connecting veins lightly touch and if you look closely, you'll see those windows and the veins connecting them – because Culture and Country are always one.