# archie moore kith and kin

australia pavilion at venice biennale 2024

from 20 april to 24 november 2024

commissioned by creative australia

curated by ellie buttrose

# archie moore on kith and kin

the phrase 'kith and kin' now simply means 'friends and family', however, an earlier old english definition that dates from the 1300s shows kith originally had the added meanings of 'countrymen' and also 'one's native land', with kin meaning 'family members', many indigenous australians, especially those who grew up on country, know the land and other living things as part of their kinship systems — the land itself can be a mentor. teacher, parent to a child, this sense of belonging involves everyone and everything, and for first nations peoples of australia, like most indigenous cultures, is deeply rooted in our sacred landscapes from birth until death, i was interested in the phrase as it aptly describes the artwork in the pavilion, but i was also interested in the old english meaning of the words, as it feels more like a first nations understanding of attachment to place, people and time.

when i was younger, i had little interest in discovering my first nations roots and history — there was a shame and embarrassment in being known as aboriginal, i once had to attain a certificate of aboriginality for approval of a loan from a first nations organisation — they asked for the surnames of my family and where they were from, and that's all they needed to confirm my status, this proof may be required for employment in indigenous-identified positions, enrolling in schools, for government loans and assistance, and for land rights claims, where a continuous and unbroken connection to country since colonisation needs to be proven, now, it is with pride i identify as aboriginal, and i see those feelings of shame and embarrassment as a product of racism and the colonialist project.

i became interested in genealogy six years ago and started looking in the archives for information on my mother's kamilaroi and bigambul side, and my father's british and scottish side. when my mother had a stroke in 2016, i started to realise how much information would be lost if she died. she also became more open about discussing family history, and more lucid too. i have come across material in archives and museums, on the national library of australia's search engine trove, and i have 3484 people in the family tree on the genealogical website ancestry.

the family tree in kith and kin is limited by recorded information — how far back written records go, which is much sooner on my aboriginal side than my european side. I referenced the genealogical chart from anthropologist norman tindale's visit to boggabilla, when he interviewed my maternal great-grandmother, jane clevin, in 1938. what tindale recorded from my great-grandmother seems accurate and correlates with what my mother has said, but it reflects a western idea of how people are interconnected as a family. In indigenous kinship, there are several people that you call 'mother' or 'father', and cousins are called 'brothers'. many researchers have traced descent as a way to categorise and document aboriginal people, without necessarily understanding indigenous family structures.

my artwork also historicises terms now considered highly derogatory to mark a time in australia when these terms were more commonly used in the language of cultural conflict. the words 'black', 'full blood', 'half-caste', and 'quadroon' were common descriptions on government records, which seems to reaffirm the racist

myth of a 'dying race', as if first nations peoples could be bred out. 'gin' and 'lubra' are indigenous words for woman/wife but have come to be used as pejorative terms, often in connection with the sexual exploitation of aboriginal women by colonisers. this shows how language can become weaponised, and also the european settlers' need for classification. I found these racist words in archival documents about my family — often about members, like my grandparents, who couldn't read or write. I don't believe the inclusion of the words in kith and kin reinstates their usage, as indigenous peoples refuse to occupy and entertain the terms' denigrated meanings.

some of the names i've used in the family tree have anglo first and surnames. there are also joke nicknames from the 19th century, like 'one eyed jack' and just a singular first name that is a shortened version of the proper name, like 'bobby' instead of 'robert'. if a surname exists, sometimes it was assigned by the pastoralists who were putting their surname or the property's name on indigenous people. higher up on the family tree, i use singular traditional aboriginal names. i've tried to write as many kamilaroi names as i can.

over 550 first nations people have died in the state's care in the years since the <u>royal commission into</u> aboriginal deaths in custody 1987-1991. the redacted coroners' reports and archival material of my family members hover above a pool of water, facing their ancestors at the furthest reaches of the family tree — in and between the stars. with no one held accountable for any death in custody, and many of the 339 recommendations of the commission yet to be acted upon, the volume of cold administrative documents visualises the scale of inaction. the stillness and quiet of the space serve as a memorial or shrine — a place for reflection and remembrance of all of those who have come before us.

the family tree shows a 65,000+ year scope of time. i wanted to show how long aboriginal cultures have existed and — in spite of invasion, massacres, and systemic over-incarceration — continue to exist into the now. the drawing begins as a representation of genealogical descendancy and time in a western linear sense, but as we go back a few hundred years it resembles more of a first nations notion of kinship and time, where the present, past and future share the same space in the here and now. the australian anthropologist william edward stanner conveyed the idea in his germinal 1956 essay the dreaming, in which he coined the term 'everywhen': 'one cannot "fix" the dreaming in time: it was, and is, everywhen'.

# ellie buttrose on kith and kin

historiography

first nations peoples of australia are among the oldest continuous living cultures on earth. archie moore's kith and kin is both evidence and reminder of this fact, tracing the artist's aboriginal relations from the kamilaroi and bigambul nations over 65,000+ years up the walls and across the ceiling of the australia pavilion. it is a continuation of archie's ongoing assertion of the sovereignty (and reflections on the subjectivity) of indigenous australians in his artistic practice. in school, archie was taught that australia's history started with british colonisation in 1770, founded on the principle of

terra nullius (land belonging to no one), without reference to indigenous peoples who cared for the continent for millennia. the artist's choice of materials for this celestial map of names — fragile chalk on blackboard — invokes the transmission of knowledge and how what is taught within, and what is left out of, the prevailing education system reverberates into the future with consequence.

the vast drawing traces the artist's personal history from himself, close kin, distant relatives, segueing through racist slurs, and extending to countless generations of ancestors. anthropologist norman tindale's linear genealogical diagram that professed to document archie's aboriginal relations is exceeded by the greater complexity of first nations kinship systems. kinship is the organising principle for indigenous social relations and responsibilities, and incorporates all living things including plants, animals, land and waterways. archie's drawing reaches so far into time that it captures the common ancestors of all humans, a timely reminder that every person on the planet has kinship duties to one another.

archives the words that appear in this linguistic taxonomy are taken from archives, newspapers and government documents, and include names, racist slurs, and gamilaraay (the kamilaroi nation's language) and bigambul kinship terms, the inclusion of archie's ancestors' languages enacts indigenous language maintenance. derogatory terms and diminutive names attest to how language has been used to classify and disempower first nations peoples, speculative names appear amongst the ancestors to redress omissions in the written records on oral indigenous cultures, holes occur throughout the family tree, these absences signal the severing of familial ties through colonial invasion, massacres, diseases, displacement and the deliberate destruction and suppression of archival records, while archie represents his lived experience and his family's history, these chronicles resonate worldwide.

memorialisation another black void occupies the centre of the pavilion. this reflective pool is a memorial for the first nations individuals who have died in police custody since 1991. indigenous australians are one of the most incarcerated people globally; they comprise 3.8% of the australian population yet are 33% of prison inmates.1 above the water hover stacks of coronial inquests that date back to the royal commission into aboriginal deaths in custody 1987-1991, appointed by the australian government, it found that self-determination and addressing health, schooling, employment, and housing inequality would contribute to a lower incarceration rate.2 more than 30 years later, many of its recommendations have yet to be implemented, and deaths continue unabated, the volume of coronial inquests makes visible the vast scale of this preventable horror, by placing this publicly available information at arm's length archie articulates the gap between knowledge and action, names have been redacted out of respect for the deceased, reports that are not publicly accessible are represented with a blank ream of paper, with these white voids expressing

breaches in the record, the administrative reports are cradled by the reflection of the family tree in the water below, commemorating that each of the deceased belongs to this expansive web of relations.

carceral legacies australia's history is inextricably linked with the carceral system, british colonisation was established with penal colonies from 1788. archie's genealogy is illustrative of this, with his british and scottish great-greatgrandfather arriving as a convict in 1820; while his kamilaroi and bigambul great uncle was imprisoned in the notorious boggo road gaol after accidentally killing his father during a fight over their paltry wages. within the sea of coronial inquests, archie incorporates archival records referencing his kin that evidence how punitive laws and government policies have long been imposed upon first nations peoples, these include reports by the protector of aboriginals denying his grandparents exemption from the queensland government's aboriginal protection and restriction of the sale of opium act 1897, and subsequent amendments that would have enabled them to access rights that non-indigenous citizens enjoyed — such as freedom of movement, the ability to control their money and the right to marry without approval, archie uses his family history to make the systemic issues imposed upon first nations peoples uncomfortably tangible.

time kith and kin is an extensive account of history — a vast abyss of time — yet it is a statement told from one point of view. the fragility of archie's perspective is reflected in the impermanence of chalk that could seemingly be wiped away without a trace, while his voice is singular, the vertiginous volume of names is confirmation that archie's position draws upon the knowledge of hundreds of thousands of his forebears. in kamilaroi astronomy the ancestors reside in the sky, including the dark patches between stars, and archie's white drawing on a black background resembles an astronomical chart, the artwork reaches into the deep time of space and simultaneously into the future through the suggestion of endlessly reproduced kinship connections, in the kamilaroi understanding of time, the past, present and future co-present (a view shared by other first nations in australia). by placing 65,000+ years of family on a single continuum, kith and kin immerses audiences in the co-presence of ancestors and the co-existence of time, and by doing so archie enfolds each of us into the everywhen.

- 1. thalia anthony, 'factcheck: are first australians the most imprisoned people on earth?', the conversation, 6 june 2017, <a href="https://theconversation.com/factcheck-are-first-australians-the-most-imprisoned-people-on-earth-78528">https://theconversation.com/factcheck-are-first-australians-the-most-imprisoned-people-on-earth-78528</a>, viewed 1 february 2024, australian bureau of statistics. 'estimates of aboriginal and torres strait islander australians.' abs, 30 june 2021, <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples/estimates-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-australians/30-june-2021">https://www.aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-australians/30-june-2021</a>, viewed 1 february 2024, australian bureau of statistics. 'prisoners in australia', abs, 2023, <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/crime-and-justice/prisoners-australia/latest-release">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/crime-and-justice/prisoners-australia/latest-release</a>, viewed 1 february 2024.
- 'recommendations', national report volume 5, <u>royal</u> <u>commission into aboriginal deaths in custody</u>, australasian legal information institute: indigenous law resources, <a href="http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/indiglres/rciadic/national/vol5/5">httml#heading5</a>, viewed 1 february 2024.

alin tarerenorer gaayili donnie bormee tiaradu iosephine douglas gurroobah iovce may meegan doori marie helen crofter iumpinpin uminau tipin ukoo platford john william kollabita rose irene dommini lumbirra yaarni vuminarodil whitton alu blunka mundy gannil para henrietta goobarragandra narni burani kuko william 'little one-eyed jack elizabeth frederick galamaay iean eileen burns merinda brittliff wilkinson granny garmeen breeches'. warrabar toopoolu baldi bobbi dumidi kul-ti-run bird isabel moore stephen ridge katin ambrose bubaa-thi tarni dinbin garraay indian kunki anome fitz vummar alma joyce clevin beenoon marni marni aoondil lanana iovce ann freddy tommy tianna diditnu matilda marv brennan pin pullwollah tommv linai aoobina florence vellina gundawinda bibal brittliff dia jin bludia nungarn boonaba buwa-thi richard edward bruce james pum pum tom tindarni vimbin nuridar moore sutton yunsun aiinda robert alexander black girl kvlie bunga munna willy clevin tunulin harry lang murinda new maria nymboy tikatolt warraba ruby mary noble umana tion full-blooded boomi meeghan yarrapinda ginninderra mister thulimba arbun quadroon aipiku kul aooloo son of old johnny tubbulin marku auro vumma tarbi aubba billy goat neeboon lorna olive hooper vembin emily ada small goobah neibal cecil james tunna blonga h.c. gon-min nerrida o'brien thaathaa kate garde binkini robert clubbin william fitz biljimi george richard pearl gloria joyce ethel tinbun half caste iacob clevens beeta moore black fellow jemmy hippi mary kathleen queeny joseph john flick beegung eddie koobla greaves happy law eebee innun david william law bob boland oollee wadjiin stillborn tilldi numba ada adele nolan meeandari mangana garry james jerry cecil william small kulimin clevens piccininni dhundarli mawukura yumarndinalli bigarmbaoola meendu tjoali mujan gehrr quarter caste maydup meriwa barlow mundi womina jacquline whitton kulkul windwoon maud moore bunal iumpin william henry mundoo kenneth charles joseph edward old abo oomi ferris archer boland small tarlo moore lucy bloni gunka half caste nellie small kwopti charley kubba robert chadwick garandju kulun bubbi tjarla phyllis clevin velindah bungeve hanma legg dipul rosemary anne vullar kina gabingar teebee lona clevens hollo bluda kennida linpindun gamin george walcott or lindsay flick dimbi muni arthur ernest yinahr woolcott jerry jerome crabby chapman lenah wawkoo austin kumminanali mannalargenna queenie milla carli wadjini australia ada witt inka *aurrandiin* robert peter nardee abingo colin gordon brittliff ronald lance jamarara goodar wullnar perri bard nganaeara old bill hodges moore john alfred moore sydney peter iooni goppa yougurrup ngunnawonna eegar campbell willie tottie karbilinarni munta black stephen dillunah half caste ab. ungaar aborigine aborigine m. munjerah bitte miidii booni timpinway karling gingingur one eye timmy calladoon jimmy boondil morinda margaret jane wildo ann jane hayes iohn clevin gammo john nolan doyle ngoorunna kurdil sylvia fernando tabouli arika ngobil gurramunmindjin mudik koonoo tommv ion yungal old johnny nhaadu umbur jackie tinto jimmie vellin brindabella thaya-di gunna kurri muun matilda jane small black male iames richard iames thomas gaygagii ula garindi rosemary frances bundurgi djarni brennan moore ungulah kingki tunaa female moore lucelle yuminarndi manuka merindi waaka iinnv oswald eric bimbo darbi kikdi kaa pooni moore wyangara koba narlin oorun war war narnini joseph boland merida yarranky john small kungarn ierome bunilla florence boland isabella moore bunyin tarbin garda

iosephine patricia dippi kinki moore kummin indii winnaba old gran tuppil timil ryan marpu mingi tiekke geera bunguny bluni notmanni pintya kimbin minidii dipikul elizabeth gobbin martah helen lorraine doomi polly wombat krinki bindo gin dekkin isabella nolan olsen bubaar kullin pulun alu john young moore neebur lily moore mary theresa gloria joan munii munda karini winnan moore mcmanus tjikooloonarri miral goobeah gurrooda awullani gamma darti bloon edward robertson diinka garr ab susan adell alice clevin kandee dundi freddy jeremy ann mcpherson kevin john moore brittliff moya narara tilden minnie derar minnapin ledda mangar yongee victor enos lega old iack's gin george william toeti nobov gowarlah william george adeena cook nerrang neri neri gilli tragannini dieedie mehla unkil watson geerly douglas lawrence native james moore gurumana deeday mah aborigine susan iane kindum campbell ngarri kalvi kallimadi trundle marilla topsy karri Ioni aboriginal child karinglji korindi arrni iulii margaret ellen dindi dooni kobbadamana dinda darby tianndalen brennan tuttomareena rae cobbo tiekku miniawal ioe boland wirrpanda illuka aldyth margaret godina awunna elizabeth ada fitz lumbanallamin barbu ethel small barnev felicity joseph william tin elubin kondi tingaron breenie kyalla mary boland ngindji woolaytoo bridge talladar bobby mabel jack ogani balanko old dave bindiun punka bindi bulli emmil tarden susanne clevin mister billy vunni garnji marngril manram ungulla jack noble mundy gunnadarra tiellarti tudalay doodi dilhar kumba bamali garum omanna herbert william wara tamah pikambul nagar sallv whitton boongi pantaloon gundja ningana wirmanee tumbar gumbo djillin uttani garbarrgo james witt tummarrinarra varndi bubaa aboriginal yarrawanna merindah toobeah balowin grunna dobinil little jimmy yarran iohnny whalan diinkar merin gerah ullumbar ioanie ngarndjin matilba derida djunkee wingala yerrii male bella moore innobaragoal william thomas oobingi gunamatta marjorie joan platford gooray marni nulla tungarin ngandullaa clevins old granny full blood numboo nikon arnkulboonmee vincent fredrick billy kinkin billie munka undoorarni naumbur law claire viner tjakaya elinta ellen macgillivray blardin whitton cally dorri tjin peter small walter marley vinar luce mick garah henrietta small william clevins lyla yarti tandawanna kit charlotte weir garbidi thava duqqan ionathon kade elsie irene small naoroa arno meely wugsin weeri isabel ann flick iosephine vera nungarli geerah balinda puta cleven old billy bob kumminannali gamarla hinch yinji maya iulenin barti iunda vulloon dunnii garunji kowalla tillmil aborigine jibbil wungwan raby eva moore narga dennimundanno margaret moore maroodii bambam goorooda bungunyah vivian mcgrady karrah nurida diniin richard james fitz ienni dieemi cubby robert trevor law helen emma ianali paeen alankarr kennidu kadetta agnes small h/c f/b Iorna law sally no.2 looloo gurrog delah khan dantee kakalu butu bob mary ann robbie aooli billy waites richard coleman gama gambil dorothy margaret nellie may barbi mary ann ware gon-minit muniin campbell ethel law lungga yanna ngoorunne moore ngambaa-thi bawa garloo cranny woord karma nunii george moore uppiti gardi tilda dink henry roy holland darbou minmin munierra ubburil torarah wunjin gipikul kumun dumpi mīal agunna bullun jack jack torara charles nolan james kenneth jayn lumbara william john witt neebeen yarbelli onee

their child lizzie darwin burra patricia anne law sally murray peter frances llovd thomas isobel walford full blood adelonga dotti edward brittliff clevens pinto tukte oliver charles Iowanna winii bunddah schutz balingo kwindi kim marta tjinna eunice dogo elena may tintun mundiarni vundan bardi mcpherson ajana carolyn beng tieri minna duni henry clarence mcgregor william moore pelham bolton kimbi winbar brav aunbun allambee allen tonbun iohn tildar bludia h/c abing tandamarra margaret inu macky edward daniels vuminarodilanulla nerridan hervina matilda dundaed toobalumma hippi jack innil voolarbindee wiley mcnulty iennie gerrina kuaki tiaer barraba minnamurra dubra mary fogerty robert clibbon dolly barkinnwindia ubbori bunau avardan tinki meela robert aubrey dindedun barun yuni galamaay-dji ethel bird weatherall mundamintjerra gellos gumin biddbadda albert gordon barbara beatrice mana king billy tjimbin mary bucket moore vileen old iohn william trundle clarence umbaah deedin parli lumbar kinhi djanay wukar iumpin tudaii bitta annie iosephine garmibari tilbar butta dudiboy kagurrin raveneau meriwah catherine bridget dumai minia tidam ngambaar wung walt pallett telli pintin barni tanami tiaki puniin eric clifton mov bundi chow widoolah gwydir amos lidooloog valinda judith ann mundy abbalu konti tambo margaret minnarga honnery narri robert noel darli josephine smith areena yemeni vera bartman mundv hedwig amalia wallaby widdula doobi igmig gurit dorothea bange ujindo kombarngo tarri william henry kundia dumbina dartil gadina brittliff nungarna kanool tomba kuldia paleeda kullamundjarni minon tingah tianamary plunti nignig aiind boongeroo jilly merinti gingun alandra zulu charles bingi harry small schuter lord buna baradin darbeen arnee molly bulla ngunna gimeneeh ngarra ginga isyphena anne karijini lavinia flick koone mundanjarru kο thomas william stillborn boland taylor tingha tiaraduli charles moobal bollon smith margina iillaroo mary jane simms toobalummah meekayla alice nungabulda white gallup djodee mary wightman ambrose william tabra karrlii nebbilbonna diandan wallangarra lowinna kundali kubbar cleavens henry mcgrady daarti bulini conrad bini tarbii tooloonabbin aboriginal male punta dila dindee gwarpil gooleegalee duali iane annie moore tullarni patricia mary mutta tinjanin peter charles o'meara nargrar barron susanna bilin kalli elizabeth small mackie mungoo clevens lardo yungun umbun dieediee torkos mulli anamaria duj bumaroo manii yappin florence emily diunee besta black mary irene witt mandaway garrum evelyn jane may mullandi dimbil dimpu arul blunga burgin pebbi boonangar victor bond john henry porter garlabil william norman munibin dindo minni mindjirri tinkah djunarangdiji fitz pinva kurrunala muriel katherine pinta rianna tinji minda charles william verleah kellett ted edwards karumbabint garri tunnerminnerwait hird buldin tippi tumbero gooreedee karcela kitti tinger karranii little johnny norma edith may percy moore varri narrei duncan daniels munjeeri bondan-di karrli elliott jarbo his daughter bunta tintuu tiekdit me oon wudia dembday tippil tippil elli palanka mingah danteen miyay ngandoilgoo william walter dillun iim aboriginal female danderoo ng-bomberra gumbinna donegal clevins sarah sophia wandalina margaret lily kolla garbiil heleen ruby dick barri small kauunga castles moore jacquline yvonne varbul tiinnar ukin tibin tinton full-blooded mundy bob newman tombah djumpi yumnni garrlah deetee tjund boombil warrni gorani

waraloo balonga lapdo reginald moore gume turri marla sandy corrigan toobalummar lumbo mary jane topto mundam lizzy olive half caste luni jimmy darboo aborigine dubbilin kobo lucy long annamul gaayinggal stillborn karbucky krindi toobea karta tippil mcgregor varree ab, female kroojingooloong wanna gimbo merindin mari beryl esmay emma margaret kate clevin kullini vinmin tiandiianni cooper durie nellie vumbeina boodoo arnendi dollie vulumbar dolli goroo hartoo wunkkal wyangala ekbutla halinda tingor diabit tieriko tillyo kinee baro vunnabi harold armstrong quarter caste tardin bindara yunagul mungarli tabooli kundal midiii william cleven tonda kumbarri kuki percy john tiakavah iames dong midii butibal mcgrady bullillin puntiian leslie moore thomas michael armoo mino undundi brennan mary geer gon tillin garno rosaline barko pulun taliba beegun nellie weatherall winnum hoh kadabra sarah catherine vannathan iimmv bundoon micki wiyarra auai bridge louisa annabel wukka moolu william joseph vulli bular ettie nolan clevins his wife gumadi hine aunn marain octoroon imim iosev mani wigton davey gertorkoo amarni telliboo bundcardi binkin ann herd gavna diunki barrdi murindani vouwanna kinkilooni berinba bini tintin nguma putani turrin kingi johnny kamarlee kedda timba djuimpo mary ann moore dungin gurgin sullivan kgoona birrani garni tinka wondulla nurrigar ereerdun tanna darbeen darlii violet lily moore dindoo athol george oman wurraba marjorie clevin small tiageri h.c. kungari kamala daranal kalina thaar gld native bye mahree mela aooroo queen susan nargra iink timbin widdil kobbi mulland toolay nattai robert clepbbon topti tarin mundamin bloom gan black boy joyce melvina vunbin william henry comah diarrngi tippii wells fanny moore angoona allen brittliff dunbuna karumba bineel danti winifred may gerooda yellana margorie joan narminarmi tarloo whiting joey whitton master sam neridan dooev balimba geegee balak timunee ullumba pentin bagaan-di nungar violet maggie witt kerdilburr iean horn ginn tamtam mikkimin malanda lumbola florence eva kullan djunarang diolli areena lumbin tilli gaay moore yapin native bessie moore gumpi djudja tudala **V00** maggie mcgregor tooni wuorta barranky iumboona old davey george noble wydon baoola eliza bulloo narli vonai doombin ullun gulla boobera tinai ada parker kulin yardi argoo yama yama koonoowrin waites micky galetti teegan kooli kathleen joyce gunter dimindunn gaalamaay-dji donni iinko margaret clevin tiimboo kyli upiti menierraa tumba manoo marmi old jack muntar botta kullun william francis robert clevin dion william dowd trophina ada kāgūl nolan baybee blungi campbell brittliff gooni garrindi tiundio iiimbar wubba gurrinin burnin turinn dharki amaarnii minnarmi tingaranna dirra goongarri california warni djarrtjuntiun robert henry mullin marki onofrio loschiavo victor charles lue bunji tee dhawalli small tendiin yagan katina golea schutz yangan iiemba timba thomas daggy yelarbon kaeri baaman-di tullaminka koolla ngari neiba iane newman mary murray james bridge henry ootaduta boland nyooday marga domni millo kinka tiimbu boona f.b. munjinar munramunna goorarooman ondindarlinni tiulib muqmuq george law david pail eka tabii tina mananan thomas young peeta umbar mullambamba male kumii dinka dolly hinch bagaan karjin tinjin ngarrah

archie moore kith and kin australia pavilion at venice biennale 2024 from 20 april to 24 november 2024 commissioned by creative australia curated by ellie buttrose

readers are advised this room sheet contains names of deceased persons. language that is offensive to today's standards is presented within its historical context.

## i acknowledgement of country

i, archie moore, would like to acknowledge the people of the lagoon of venice. like me, they are 'others'. outsiders — like most artists speak another language, my project was conceived on other small islands: those of the quandamooka people, in another inter-tidal zone on the other side of the world, for my aboriginal people, the inter-tidal zones where saltwater meets freshwater are sites of the creation of life in the world encountered. creation, imagination, memory, family and fraternity-sorority, in the minds of kith and kin.

#### ii artwork

kith and kin 2024
ink on polyester, water, composite board, paint, aluminium, steel, pigment and clay crayon, methyl acetate
499.8 × 1588 × 1498cm
artwork courtesy of the artist and the commercial

#### iii archie moore

kamilaroi/bigambul artist archie moore works across media in conceptual, research-based portrayals of self and national histories. his ongoing interests include key signifiers of identity (skin, language, smell, home, genealogy, flags), the borders of intercultural understanding and misunderstanding, and the wider concerns of racism. archie moore is represented by the commercial

# iv ellie buttrose

how aesthetic debates inform the political imaginary is the subject of ellie buttrose's curatorial projects and critical writing. ellie is a curator at the queensland art gallery | gallery

of modern art, brisbane, australia. she has curated projects and served on curatoriums for: the asia pacific triennial of contemporary art, brisbane; brisbane international film festival; centre pompidou, paris; and university of new south wales galleries, sydney.

### v creative australia

creative australia is the australian government's principal arts investment, development, funding, and advisory body.

vi project credits

artist archie moore

curator ellie buttrose

commissioner creative australia

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vii project supporters

ambassadors robert morgan (chair), alenka tindale, alexandra dimos, marie-louise theile, dr terry wu

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