THE COMMERCIAL

MICHAEL RILEY

b. 1960, Dubbo NSW

d. 2004

WEBSITE www.michaelriley.com.au

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018 Ngabinbiyi dulmarra (measured pressure): Michael Riley and Lorraine

Connelly-Northey, curated by Jonathan Jones, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery,

Wagga Wagga

Michael Riley - Flyblown, Murray Art Museum Albury, Albury

2016 *A common place: Portraits of Moree Murries,* The Commercial, Sydney

A common place, State Library of New South Wales, Sydney

2015 *Michael Riley - Blacktracker,* La Trobe Regional Gallery, Melbourne

2014 Beauty and Strength – Portraits by Michael Riley, National Portrait Gallery,

Canberra

2013 *Portraits 1984-1990,* The Commercial, Sydney

2012 *cloud and Sacrifice*, UTS Gallery, Sydney

They call me niigarr, Stills Gallery, Sydney

2010 Of earth and sky: Riley, Bangarra Dance Theatre production featuring the

series cloud, Sydney Opera House, Sydney

2008 *flyblown,* Stills Gallery, Sydney

Michael Riley: Sights unseen, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

2007 Musée du quai Branly: Monument and retrospective, permanent collection

and display, Musée du quai Branly, Paris, France

2006 *Michael Riley: Sacrifice boxed-set release*, Stills Gallery, Sydney

Michael Riley: Sights unseen, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra and

national tour

2005 *cloud and Sacrifice*, Stills Gallery, Sydney

cloud, Museum of Sydney, Sydney

2002 cloud and Empire (photography and video), Campbelltown City Bicentennial

Gallery, Sydney

cloud, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne

2000 cloud and Empire (photography and video), Australian Centre for

Photography, Sydney

1999 *flyblown*, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney

Yarns from the Talbragar Reserve, Dubbo Regional Gallery, New South

Wales; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

flyblown, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
 they call me niigarr, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney
 Fence sitting, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney
 Sacrifice, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney

1991 A common place: Portraits of Moree Murries, Rebecca Hossack Gallery,

London, United Kingdom; Hogarth Galleries, Sydney; Moree Plains Gallery,

New South Wales

1990 *Portraits by a window*, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021 Big Weather, curated by Hannah Presley, The Ian Potter Centre, National

Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

2020 Destiny, curated by Myles Russel-Cook, The Ian Potter Centre, National

Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

Wonder + Dread: Art in the Land of Weather Extremes, Shaolhaven City Arts

Centre, Nowra, NSW

First impression: Indigenous works from the ACU Art Collection, Australian Catholic University, Sydney 2017 The Boomalli Ten, curated by Djon Mundine OAM, Boomalli Aborigial Artists Co-operative, Sydney Curtain Call, Stills Gallery, Sydney Presence, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne Over the fence: Contemporary Indigenous photography from the Corrigan 2016 Collection, curated by Gordon Craig, UQ Art Museum, The University of Queensland, Brisbane Naya Wa Yugali (We Dance), curated by Tahjee Moar, Carriageworks, Sydney Everywhen: The Eternal Present in Indigenous Art from Australia, curated by Stephen Gilchrist, Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA 2015 MAMA Here MAMA Now, Murray Art Museum Albury, Albury, NSW Buruwi Burra (Three Skies), with Paddy Sims Japaljarri and Archie Moore, The Commercial, Sydney Writing Art, curated by Scott Donovan, Artspace, Sydney The Photograph and Australia, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane BLAK: Forced into images, Museum of Contemporary Aboriginal Art, 2014 Utrecht, The Netherlands Cold Eels and Distant Thoughts, Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide Men's Work, Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide The Commercial, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne Under My Skin: Contemporary Australian Photographs from the Corrigan 2013 Collection, Rockhampton Art Gallery, Queensland Making Change, Galleries UNSW, Sydney Cold eels and distant thoughts, Kudos Gallery, Sydney My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Australia, Queensland Art Galleryl Galley of Modern Art, Brisbane Crossing Cultures - The Owen and Wagner Collection of Contemporary Aboriginal Australian Art, Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio, United States Light Sensitive Material - Works from the Verghis Collection, Moree Plains 2012 Gallery, Moree Crossing Cultures - The Owen and Wagner Collection of Contemporary Aboriginal Australian Art, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, United States: 7th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, as part of Indian artist Atul Dodiya's installation Somersault in sandalwood sky 2012 Maamungun: Compatriots, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, India, with the Australian Government as part of Oz Fest 2012 Cruel & Tender, Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland Shadowlife, Asialink and Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria; Bangkok Arts and Cultural Centre, Thailand; Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, Taiwan; Nanyang Academy of Fine Art, Singapore 2011 Freedom riders: Art and activism 1960s to now, University Art Gallery, University of Sydney, Sydney Photography and place: Australian landscape photography 1970s until now, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney More than my skin, Newcastle Art Gallery, New South Wales Cold eels and distant thoughts, University of Newcastle, New South Wales Snapshot: Contemporary photography from the La Trobe University Art 2010 Collection, La Trobe University, Victoria art + soul, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney Half light: Portraits from Black Australia, Art Gallery of New South Wales, 2009

Light sensitive: Works from the Verghis Collection, Campbelltown Arts

	Centre, Sydney
	Feel my scar, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney
2000	Message Sticks: Indigenous Film Festival, Sydney Opera House
2008	Country Culture Community, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	cloud, Adelaide Festival, South Australia
2007	More than my skin, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney
2007	Reveries: Photography and mortality, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra;
	University Art Museum, University of Queensland, Brisbane; and Mornington
	Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria
2006	Boomalli: 20 years on, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
2006	WAVEfront, Tokyo Wondersite, Tokyo, Japan
	Prism: Contemporary Australian art, Bridgestone Museum of Art, Tokyo,
	Japan
2005	Melbourne Art Fair, Stills Gallery, Sydney
2005	Art Cologne, Germany
	Points of View: Australian Photography 1985-95, Art Gallery of New South
2004	Wales, Sydney
2004	Images: Contemporary photographs by Aboriginal artists, AAMU Museum
	for Contemporary Aboriginal Art, Utrecht, the Netherlands
	Holy holy holy, Flinders University Art Museum, South Australia; and national
	tour
2002	By the river, Sydney Opera House Studio, Sydney
2003	8th Istanbul Biennial: Poetic justice, Istanbul, Turkey
	Meridian: Focus on contemporary Australian art, Sydney Festival, Museum of
2002	Contemporary Art, Sydney Photographica Australis, Sala de Exposiciones del Canal de Isabel II, Madrid,
2002	Spain; Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney
	Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
	Native Title Business: Contemporary Indigenous art, national tour
	High tide, Linden Centre for Contemporary Arts, Melbourne
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2001	ARCO Contemporary Art Fair, Madrid, Spain FedFest, Royal Melbourne Institute for Technology, Capitol Theatre,
2001	Melbourne
	Indicium: Identity in Australian contemporary photomedia, The Korean
	Culture & Arts Foundation, Insa Art Space, Seoul, Korea
	Centenary vs Eternity, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney
	Caught in the headlights, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney
2000	true, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney; Sydney Opera House,
2000	Sydney
	Being Aboriginal, NSW Trade Investment Centre, Sydney
	Beyond the pale: Contemporary Indigenous Art, Adelaide Biennial of
	Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
	Title Deeds: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Works from the Collection,
	Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Across: An exhibition of Aboriginal art and culture, Canberra School of Art
	Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra
	That's not Aboriginal art, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney
	Comfort zone, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney
	Biennale of contemporary art, Festival of Pacific Arts, Noumea, New
	Caledonia
	My Country, Lismore Regional Gallery, New South Wales
1999	Living here now: Art and politics, Perspecta '99, Art Gallery of New South
	Wales, Sydney
	Natural disasters/disasters unnatural, Monash University Art Gallery,
	Melbourne
	Signature works, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney
	Another Country, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Beyond myth: Otre il mito, 48th Venice Biennale satellite exhibition, Gallery
	Gabrielle Pizzi, Palazzo Papadopoli, Venice, Italy
1998	The art of place: 4th National Indigenous Heritage Art Award, Australian

Heritage Commission, Old Parliament House, Canberra Co-existence: Australian artists against racism, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney Flesh and blood: A Sydney story 1788–1998, Museum of Sydney, Sydney Re-take: Contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander photography, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra 1997 *Indigenous Australians*, Australian Museum, Sydney Blak on trak, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney Chip on the shoulder, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney 1996 The art of place: 3rd National Indigenous Heritage Art Award, Australian Heritage Commission, Old Parliament House, Canberra Guwanyi: Stories of the Redfern Aboriginal community, Museum of Sydney, Sydney Abstracts: New Aboriginalities, Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery, Exeter, United Kingdom; 198 Contemporary Arts and Learning, London, United Kingdom Spirit + Place, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney On a Mission, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney 1995 Dhaguu Yandhal: Where to now?, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydnev Urban focus: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, National Gallery of 1994 Australia, Canberra Aratjara: Art of the First Australians, Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalem, 1993 Dusseldorf, Germany; Hayward Gallery, London, United Kingdom; Louisiana Museum, Humlebaek, Denmark Kodak Acquisition Fund: 10th anniversary show, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra NAIDOC exhibition, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney Recent Acquisitions of Aboriginal Art, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Svdnev 1990 The image black, international tour, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade After 200 years: Photographs of Aboriginal and Islander Australia today, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra Tagari Lia, My Family: Contemporary Aboriginal art from Australia, Third Eye Centre, Glasgow, Scotland Photography: Recent acquisitions, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra 1989 A Koori perspective, Artspace, Sydney Boomalli Breaking Boundaries, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Gomileroi-Moree Mob, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney 40 000 + 4, Bondi Pavilion, Sydney ANCAAA (Association of Northern & Central Australian Aboriginal Artists) 1988 and Boomalli, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, Sydney De-facto apartheid, Performance Space, Sydney Art and Aboriginality, Portsmouth, United Kingdom; Exhibition Hall, Sydney Opera House, Sydney Survey of Aboriginal art, audio-visual study, Performance Space, Sydney 1987 Boomalli Au-Go-Go, inaugural exhibition, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Cooperative, Sydney 1986 Contemporary Aboriginal photography, Macarthur College of Advanced Education, New South Wales NADOC '86 exhibition of Aboriginal and Islander photographers, Aboriginal Artists Gallery, Sydney 1984 Koori art '84, Artspace, Sydney Contemporary Aboriginal art, Bondi Pavilion, Sydney 1983 **FILMS** 1999 I don't wanna be a bludger, collaborative film with Destiny Deacon shown at Living here now: Art and politics, the Perspecta '99 exhibition at the Art

Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; 30-minute film

1998 Songlines; film clips and story segments for Indigenous Music Program; ABC Television; nine 30-minute episodes Empire, experimental film commissioned for 1997 Cultural Olympiad Festival 1997 of the Dreaming; ABC Television Indigenous Production Unit; 18-minute film Tent boxers, documentary; ABC Television – Indigenous Documentary Fund; 30- minute film 1996 Blacktracker; documentary; ABC Television - Indigenous Documentary Fund; 30- minute film The Masters; sitcom; SBS Television; thirteen 15-minute episodes Aboriginal English; film; Department of Education and Training; 15-minute film 1995 Eora; promotional audio-visual display projected from laser disk, Museum of Sydney and Historic Houses Trust NSW; 60-minute film 1994 Kangaroo Dancer; promotional segments; Qantas; 12 segments A passage through the aisles, Episode 1 of *The Family* series, short experimental films based on the family for Eat Carpet, SBS Television; 6-minute film 1993 Aratiara; magazine piece for Blackout; ABC Television; 5-minute film Quest for country; experimental documentary as first episode of From Spirit to Spirit series, 13-part international co-production; SBS Television; 24-minute film An afternoon in Brunswick, starring Destiny Deacon, segment for Blackout; ABC Television; five 12-minute segments 1992 Mother Earth; film clip for Alice Haines; ABC Television; 3-minute film clip Starlit bushes; film clip for Savanah Doolan; ABC Television; 3-minute film clip Dolores's Koori world; comedy for Blackout; ABC Television; 12-minute film The meaning of life; film clip for Peter Wells; ABC Television; 3-minute film clip Ilbigiri Theatre Company; segment for Blackout; ABC Television; 15minute film 1991 *Poison;* experimental drama looking at addiction in urban Koori environment, winner of the Golden Tripod Award and Bronze Award for Best Short Television Drama at the New York Film Festival; ABC Television; 29-minute film Malangi: A day in the life of a bark painter; documentary on work of Dr David Malangi; ABC Television; 30-minute film 1990 Frances; film clip for Frances Peters; ABC Television; 3-minute film clip 1989 Alice; corporate film dealing with racism; Department of Education; 15minute film Boomalli: Five Koorie Artists; documentary on the work of five artists from 1988 the Sydney-based Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative; Film Australia; 28- minute film Dreamings: The art of Aboriginal Australia; documentary examining the work of Aboriginal artists, such as Dr David Malangi and Michael Jagamara Nelson, to accompany an exhibition of the same name curated by anthropologist Peter Sutton; Film Australia; 30-minute film SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY 2020 Djon Mundine OAM, 'Untitled', First impression: Indigenous works from the ACU Art Collection, exh. cat., Australian Catholic University, Sydney, 2020, pp. 50-51 2018 Michael Riley, exh. cat., Murray Art Museum Albury, Albury, NSW, 2018 Anne Elvey, 'Michael Riley's Bible and the Touch of the Text (with reference 2017 to the Gospel of Luke)', The Bible and Art, Perspectives from Oceania, eds., Carolyn Blyth, and Nasili Vaka'uta, Bloomsbury T and T Clark, London, 2017, pp. 163-186 Gordon Craig, 'Over the fence: Contemporary Indigenous photography from 2016 the Corrigan Collection', exh. cat. UQ Art Museum, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, 2016 'Everywhen: The Eternal Present in Indigenous Art from Australia', exh. cat. Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 2016 2015 Amanda Rowell, 'Buruwi Burra (Three Skies)', exh. cat., The Commercial, Sydney, 2015 Stella Rosa McDonald, 'Buruwi Burra (Three Skies)', The Art Life, 20 May,

2015

	hada Amaran Tha ahada amah and Amahada Cada an hara 2045 at 400
2013	Judy Annear, <i>The photograph and Australia</i> , Sydney, June 2015, p. 109 Brenda L. Croft, 'True beauty: Michael Riley's portraits 1984-1990', <i>Photofile</i> , Vol. 93, Spring/Summer 2013-14, pp. 33-39
2012	Stephen Gilchrist, <i>Maamungun: Compatriots</i> , published by Nicole Foreshew,
	Jonathan Jones and the Australian Government for the exhibition
	Maamungun: Compatriots at Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, India
	Jill Sykes, ed. 'AGNSW current exhibitions: Yiribana gallery', <i>Look</i> , Art Gallery
	of New South Wales, Sydney, August 2012, p. 53
	Djon Mundine OAM and Natalie King, <i>Shadowlife,</i> Asialink, Melbourne, Bendigo Art Gallery, Victori
2011	Vigen Galstyan, 'Earth scans and bush relevances. Photography and Place in
20	Australia, 1970s til now' Look, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney,
2010	March 2011, pp. 26-29
2010	Hetti Perkins, 'Bitter + Sweet', <i>art + soul: a journey into the world of Aboriginal art</i> , The Miegunyah Press, Melbourne, 2010, pp. 216–29, 256–59
	Gael Newtown, 'Michael Riley', Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander art:
	Collection highlights, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
2009	Hetti Perkins and Jonathan Jones, Half light: Portraits from Black Australia,
	Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, pp 110–119
	Jonathan Jones and Amanda Peacock, Country, Culture, Community: An
	education kit for the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander collection, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
	Nicholas Jose (ed), <i>Macquarie Anthology of Australian Literature</i> , Allen &
	Unwin, Sydney
2008	Desmond, M et al, Jonathan Jones: Untitled (the tyranny of distance),
	Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney
	Edmund Capon AM, OBE, <i>Art Gallery of New South Wales: highlights from the collection</i> , Sydney, 2008, p. 46
	Hetti Perkins and Jonathan Jones, eds., 'Michael Riley', <i>Half light: Portraits</i>
	from black Australia, Sydney, 2008, pp. 110-119
2007	Hetti Perkins and Margie West, 'Michel Riley in conversation', One sun one
	moon: Aboriginal art in Australia, Sydney, 2007, pp. 322-27
	Hetti Perkins, 'One sun one moon', <i>Look</i> , Sydney, June 2007pp. 22-27
	Dan Edwards, 'Michael Riley: Photographer and Filmmaker part 2: The Films – Buried Histories', <i>Realtime</i> , no.77, 1 February 2007
2006	Brenda L. Croft and Hetti Perkins, eds., <i>Australian Indigenous Art</i>
	Commission: Musée du quai Branly, Art & Australia, Sydney, 2006
	Nakamuro Setsuko (ed), Prism: Contemporary Australian art, Bridgestone
	Museum of Art, Ishibashi Foundation, Tokyo, Japan
	Sasha Grishin, 'Tillers and Riley at the National Gallery', <i>Art and Australia</i> , vol.44, no.2, Summer 2006, pp. 168-171
	Brenda L Croft, Michael Riley: Sights unseen, National Gallery of Australia,
	Canberra
	Dan Edwards, 'Michael Riley: Photographer and Filmmaker part 1: Spirit,
2005	Land Image', <i>Realtime</i> , no.76, 1 December 2006
2005	Judy Annear, <i>Points of View: Australian Photography 1985-95</i> , exh. cat., Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 2005
2004	Djon Mundine OAM, 'Obituary: Michael Riley', <i>Realtime</i> , no. 63, 1 Oct
	2004
	Jonathan Jones, 'Michael Riley', Traditional today: Indigenous art in Australia,
2002	Sydney, 2004, p. 126
2003 2002	Dan Cameron (curator), <i>Poetic justice</i> , 8th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey Rachel Kent, Russell Storer and Vivienne Webb (curators), <i>Meridian: Focus</i>
2002	on contemporary Australian art, Sydney Festival, Museum of Contemporary
	Art, Sydney
	Alasdair Foster, Gael Newton and Daniel Palmer, <i>Photographica Australis:</i>
	Exposición Sala de Exposiciones del Canal de Isabel II, February–April 2002,
	Australian Centre for Photography, Syndey, Sala del Canal de Isabel II, Madrid, Spain
	Avril Quail 'Michael Riley: the extraordinary Mister Riley (Wiradjuri)', APT
	The state of the s

2002: Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Lynne Seear, ed.,

Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane

2001 Paco Barragan, El arte que viene, Subastas Siglo XXI, Madrid, Spain

Doreen Mellor, *Across: An exhibition of Indigenous art and culture,* Canberra School of Art Gallery, Institute of the Arts, Australian National University,

Canberra

Brenda L Croft, *Beyond the pale: Contemporary Indigenous art*, Adelaide

Biennial of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Djon Mundine OAM, Cloud: Michael Riley, exh. cat., Australian Centre for

Photography, 2000

1999 Art Gallery of New South Wales and authors, *Living here now: Art and*

politics, Perspecta '99, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

Michael Riley (photography), Yarns from the Talbragar Reserve, Dubbo

Regional Gallery, Dubbo

1997 Gabrielle Pizzi (curator), Beyond myth: Oltre il mito, 48th Venice Biennale

satellite exhibition by Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, at Palazzo

Papadopoli, Venice, Edizioni Multigraf, Venice, Italy

1996 Kay Campbell (ed.), Abstracts: New Aboriginalities, South West Arts Project

(SWAP), United Kingdom

Nick Waterlow OAM and Ross Mellick (curators), Spirit + Place: Art in

Australia 1861–1996, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney

1994 Sandra Philips, ed., *Racism, representation and photography*, Sydney, 1994,

p. 145

1990 National Gallery of Australia, After 200 years: Photographs of Aboriginal and

Islander Australia today, National Gallery of Australia and Australian Institute

of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra

Avril Quaill, A Koori perspective tour: An Artspace touring exhibition, NSW

Artspace, Sydney

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2004 Grand Prize at 11th Asian Art Biennale 2004 in Bangladesh

COMMISSIONS

2000

Musée du quai Branly, Paris

COLLECTIONS AAMU: Museum for Contemporary Aboriginal art

Adelaide Festival Centre Works of Art Collection

Art Gallery of New South Wales Art Gallery of Western Australia

Corrigan Collection Dubbo Regional Gallery Edith Cowan University

Flinders University Art Museum

Monash Gallery of Art, City of Monash Collection

Moree Plains Gallery Musée du quai Branly National Gallery of Australia National Gallery of Victoria

National Portrait Gallery, Canberra

Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art

State Library of New South Wales University of Technology Sydney