

ARTIST ZANE SAUNDERS



SPIRIT

Zane Saunders

SPIRIT TRAJECTORY...

As an indigenous visual artist and performer my life's focus and creative passion has stemmed from Aboriginal culture and spirituality. I grew up with Aboriginal mysticism. Through an identity nurtured by the stories and experiences that were shared with my people, I have gained insight into my Spirit. The result is a passionate creative desire that has stirred within me.



Above: Zane Saunders, Spirit, exhibition and performance art, KickArts COCA, Cairns 2018

The 'Spirit' 2018 presentation responded to the project theme through wall and floor artworks in a performative installation. The performance elements give life to visual elements and provides a context for a deep esoteric language and visual play. With each iteration of Spirit, my intention is to emphasise the visual language so that it projects its own visceral qualities and space.

Developing in multiple stages, the current production of 'Spirit: Cure' included a residency at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, Brisbane 2019 and a virtual recording for Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) 2020 during COVID 19.



Above: Zane Saunders, Spirit, exhibition and performance art, KickArts COCA, Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair 2018

For CIAF 2022 'Spirit: Cure' premieres before a live audience in its entirety at the Cairns Performing Arts Centre. Spirit: Cure will be further refined and developed to reach its full potential as a touring work. Resources and opportunities are being sought to achieve this ambitious outcome for the project.

I'm hoping that people who have the opportunity to experience the work, will be inspired and appreciate the artistry and vision that has been invested into this intimate and challenging project.

Since 2004 I've been producing performance art. A lot of my earlier works were smaller in scale and improvised in nature and production. I am now seeking to have exposure within major art institutions, programs, education and training. Current opportunities have given me the confidence and drive to present my work on a larger scale.

“A PROFOUND EXPERIENCE TO HELP SHIFT SOMETHING WITHIN...”



Above: Zane Saunders, Spirit: Cure, performance installation, Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair 2020

When I perform I prefer audiences to be immersed amongst the elements and the performance. ‘Spirit’ the orchestrator, speaks through the work in ways that are innovative and contemporary, but draws on the way of the ancestors. Audiences may find the work powerful and intriguing, and I see myself providing a profound experience to help shift something within them.

“MY ART IS ALIVE AND EXPERIENTIAL IN NATURE...”

The project ‘Spirit’ celebrates our unique differences and contextualises a persona borne by the perspective of ancestral ‘Dreaming’. Spirit identifies the importance of culture and spirituality as attributes handed down through Indigenous bloodlines. By embracing the spiritual values as contemporary beliefs along side interest in our ancestors, we envelope ourselves in wisdom that is deeply contextualised in Country.

When we have the privilege to research the knowledge of elders, community cultural resources, stories and experiences, we discover the greatness of Culture. Spirit campaigns for indigenous peoples to value our culture and spiritual worth. When spiritually integrated opportunities are created, hope and purpose for community shine. We are remind of who we are, to be proud and stand strong with confidence.



Above: Zane Saunders, Spirit : Cure development, performance installation, CIAF 2020

Adhering to indigenous contextual truths, nurture true cultural legacies. I admire spiritual leadership, ensuring that indigenous people keep a devotion to community and learning about their culture.

“SPIRIT: CURE IS AN INSTALLATION WORK OF SCALE WITH TWO ELECTROMECHANICAL DEVICES...”

Spirit: Cure is an installation work of scale with two electromechanical devices metaphorically representing the right and wrong rainbow. The artist performs on and around the installation with ritualistic movement. The metaphor depicts a relationship between universal and cosmic forces as an unhinged moral compass.

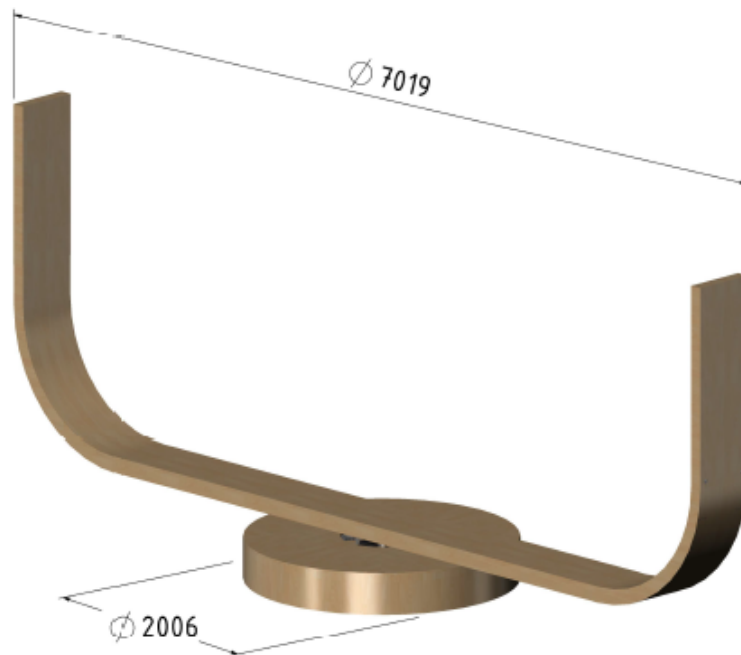


Above: Zane Saunders, Spirit : Cure development, performance installation, CIAF 2020

“Some are already home, some on their way home, others do not understand they have a home and keep roaming not knowing of their true worth stuck in an eternal dance of discovery... Let us help them get their Spirit home”.

The artist now invites interested presenters to start a supportive dialogue. The project seeks to engage in initiatives that exemplify the signature values of Spirit series.

ELECTROMECHANICAL DEVICES



Spirit:Cure, diagram representing Element 2, Wrong Rainbow, electromechanical device, 2019

Element 1 & 2 dimensions

measurements and requirements when considering venue installation:

Element 1: (Right Rainbow)

Weight: 324kg

Ground bearing pressure: 1.2kPa (approx. 115kg/m²)

Concentrated point load: 2.0kN (approx. 205kg)

Base diameter: 2.0 m

Base footprint area: 3.3 m²

Rotating assembly diameter: 10.1 m

Element 2: (Wrong Rainbow)

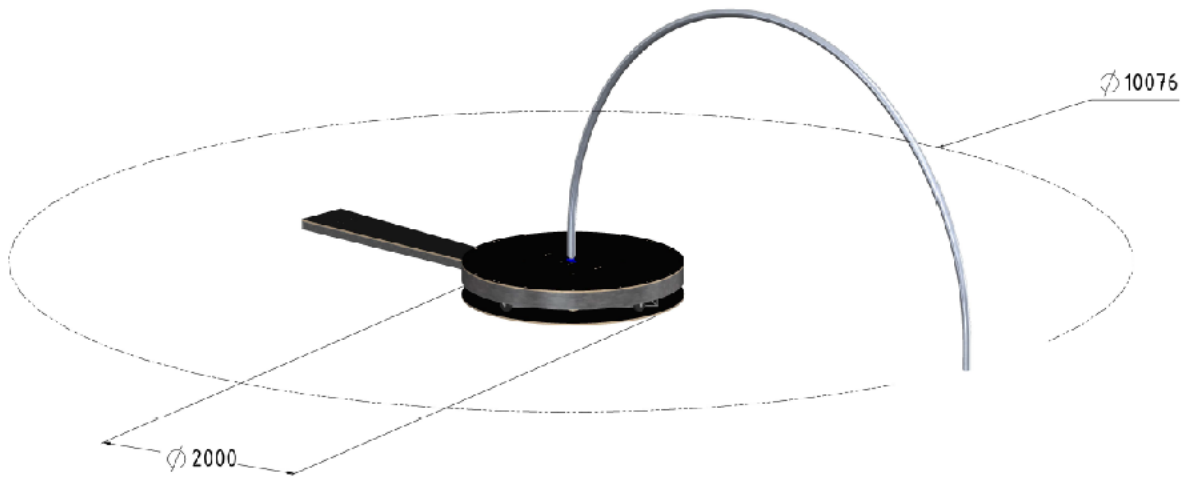
Weight: 361kg

Ground bearing pressure: 1.5kPa (approx. 152kg/m²)

Base diameter: 2.0 m

Base footprint area: 3.3 m²

Rotating assembly diameter: 7.0 m



Spirit:Cure, diagram representing element 1, Right Rainbow, electromechanical device, 2019

Contact

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Spirit: Cure, Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, Brisbane 2019

with thanks

The *Spirit* series and current work *Cure* has been developed with the support from: Cairns Indigenous Art Fair, Bulmba-ja, Judith Wright Arts Centre Arts Queensland (JWCAQ), Victor Steffensen, Arts Queensland, Justin Bishop, Miriam Carter, Bonemap, Dancenorth, Nicholas Mills, Culture Mechanics, Cure music composed and performed by Cameron Deyell, Jiva Sztraka, Greg Hillman, Kuranda Conservation Community Nursery, NorthSite Contemporary Arts, Djabugay Corporation, TRACQS, Hanby Welding & Engineering, EDMS Engineering, the Australia Council for the Arts, family and indigenous communities, elders, healers & teachers and the many other unnamed associates.

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERFORMANCES

2022 - Dancenorth A.R.T. in the Tropics Residency Program, 'Seed' developed 16-27 May, Townsville
 2022 - Mixed Grill, Muir Head Space, Cnr Lake and Florence Street, 'Seed' new sketch 7 May
 2021 - Memorial Service for Arone Raymond Meeks - "Blue Man" June 2, Cairns Tanks Art Centre
 2021 - Dancenorth A.R.T. in the Tropics Residency Program, 15-26 February, 'Beautiful Mess', Townsville
 2020 - Dancenorth A.R.T. in the Tropics Residency Program, 'Mirror' February 24-6 March, Townsville
 2019 - Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, "Cure", Brisbane, 28-30 November
 2019 - Dancenorth A.R.T. in the Tropics Residency Program, 5-16 August Townsville
 2019 - Mixed Grill, Muir Head Space, Cnr Lake and Florence Street
 2018 - Dancenorth A.R.T. in the Tropics Residency Program, Townsville
 2018 - "Spirit" series KickArts Gallery 1, Cairns Indigenous Art Fair satellite exhibit, July
 2018 - "Spirit" series interactive performance/exhibit, KickArts Gallery 2, April 21 - May 19
 2017 - KickArts Members Exhibition 25 years celebration "Torrid Zone", interactive performance
 2017 - "Spirit" series CIAF Cairns Indigenous Art Faire, "Core" Muir Head Space - Pop-up Gallery
 2015 - "Get Kickn", KickArts Membership Exhibition, opening performance
 2014 - "Still Presence", collaboration performance, Arthouse, Cairns
 2014 - "Sense/Place", collaborate Nicholas Mills, solo exhibition, Canopy Artspace, Cairns
 2014 - "Leydin's Discovery Exhibition, opening performance, Canopy Artspace, Cairns
 2014 - "NAIDOC" performance, Department of Immigration and Border Protection, Cairns
 2013 - "Mixed Grill", Arthouse performance, Cairns
 2013 - "House Lab", collaboration performance, Arthouse, Cairns
 2013 - Jute Theatre COCA, collaboration with Bonemap performed - "Lodestar"
 2012 - CIAF Cairns Indigenous Art Faire, "Handbrakes", Cairns Regional Art Gallery
 2012 - National Health Conference, Cairns Convention Centre, Mulong
 2012 - "I Alien", collaborative performance, Nicholas Mills, KickArts, Cairns
 2011 - New York Residency at Location One, exhibit and performance work - "Time Walk"
 2010 - Performance at Canberra National Gallery, Canberra
 2010 - "Hrvatski" Studio's Opening, Cairns
 2010 - "Submerge", Monthly performances, Cairns
 2009 - "Parcel" Mofo Studio's, Cairns
 2009 - 'On Edge' "Blue Print", Crate 59 Studio's, Cairns
 2009 - "On Edge", LAPS, Cairns
 2009 - "Submerge", On Edge, Cairns
 2009 - "X-Plore Arts", Atherton Tablelands
 2009 - Wontulp - Cultural Talents Celebrations
 2008 - On The Edge Exhibition, Tanks Art Centre
 2008 - Yarrabah Community
 2007 - 'Being a Medium' Contemporary Performance + Media
 2006 - Envirofiesta, Cairns
 2006 - On Edge Contemporary Performance + Media (Live Art in Public Spaces)
 2006 - NAIDOC Day Celebration, Kuranda
 2006 - Dance Week, Tanks Art Centre, Cairns
 2006 - 'Lone Guinea Fowl', Kick Arts Gallery, Cairns
 2006 - 'Habitus Habitat', Great Walks, Kick Arts Gallery, Cairns
 2006 - ABAF, Tanks Art Centre
 2005 - On Edge, Tanks Art Centre
 2004 - 'Corresponding Latitudes' Kick Arts Gallery, Cairns

COMMISSIONS

2019 - Mareeba Shire refurbishment of Kuranda Centenary Public Female and Male Toilets, Artworks
 2016 - Marine Debris Public Art - Mural, Reef Guardian Councils, GBRMPA
 2009 - 'CIAF', Tanks Art Centre, Cairns, "theming"
 2009 - Creative Recovery 'Mural', Aurukun, QLD Health
 2005 - Irene & George Aklis (private)
 2004 - Cairns Regional Gallery (Street front windows)
 2003 - Kuranda Streetscape, with 2 artists and 4 fabricators, Mareeba Shire Council, Arts Nexus
 2002 - Parrot Fish Lodge, Port Douglas permanent exhibition
 2001 - Stained Glass Window design, St Saviours Church, Kuranda

2000 - Art, sculptural pieces for Cairns City Council Reconciliation Project, displayed throughout region
 1998 - Graff'n'Arts Wall murals and street sign, Cairns City Council
 1997 - St Saviours Kuranda, canvas painting
 1997 - Street Art Banner, Cairns City Council, Tanks
 1996 - Cairns Convention Centre 2 large lino prints
 1995 - Brisbane International Airport 2 canvas paintings, mural 1995 - Textile design, Cairns Regional Gallery
 1995 - Logo design Cairns Regional Gallery
 1994 - Undersea World, Cairns - 6 paintings
 1999 - 2003 - Mural workshops/artist in residence - Cairns North, Redlynch, Woree State School, Mooroolbool Community Centre
 1993 - Cairns Airport - painted helicopter
 1993 - National AIDS campaign poster, canvas painting P.R. Works, Weston, ACT
 1993 - Wet Tropics and Marine Heritage Management, Laura, 2 canvas paintings "Caring for land sea and sky"
 1993 - Tjapukai Dance Theatre 2 large canvas paintings
 1990 - Kumagai - Royal Pines Resort, Gold Coast, Qld
 1989 - Ramada Renaissance Sydney, lino prints
 1989 - Kuranda Tjapukai Dance Theatre curtain (4 m x 11 m) Reproduced to t-shirts, posters, fabric, and various Merchandise, 'most reproduced and sold artwork'
 1988 - Mural painting Smithfield High

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018 - "Spirit" series KickArts Gallery 1, Cairns Indigenous Art Faire, July
 2018 - "Spirit" series interactive performance/exhibit, KickArts Gallery 2, April 21 - May 19
 2009 - "Parcel" Mofo Studio's Cairns
 2006 - 'Lone Guinea Fowl' KickArts Gallery, Cairns
 2004 - "Spirted Earth", Parrot Fish Lodge, Port Douglas
 1995 - 'The Bauhaus Gallery' George St Brisbane Qld
 1990 - Hogarth Galleries Sydney, (with Andrew Williams)

PUBLICATIONS

2006 - "Peacemaker Story", illustrator, Wontulp Bi - Buya College
 2004 - Queensland Government Calendar 2000 - "Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Contemporary Art" Edited by Anna Eglitis (inclusion)
 1996 - Postcard Cairns Convention Centre, lino print, QAA, Avant Card Publishing
 1993 - "New Tracks, Old Land" Contemporary Prints from Aboriginal Australia (inclusion)
 1990 - "Balance" 1990 (Views, Visions, Influences), Queensland Art Gallery (inclusion)
 1988 - "Aboriginality" Contemporary Aboriginal Painting and Prints, Jennifer Isaacs (inclusion)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2014 - "Four Rooms", Adelaide Festival
 2011 - Location One, New York, USA
 2011 - Stations of the Cross, Sydney
 2010 - Hrvatski Studio's Opening, Cairns
 2009 - CIAF, Tanks Art Centre, "Total Being"
 2008 - On The Edge Exhibition, Tanks Art Centre
 2006 - 'Gatherings 2' (Touring Contemporary ATSI Art Qld) KickArts Gallery, Cairns
 2006 - Cairns Naidoc, Tanks Arts Centre
 2006 - 'Habitus Habitat' Great Walks, Kick Arts Gallery
 2005 - Cairns Naidoc, Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns
 2004 - 'Corresponding Latitudes' Kick Arts Gallery, Cairns
 2004 - Cairns Naidoc, Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns
 2002 - "Ngerr Warr Kung" Early Day Story, Hilton Cairns
 2001 - Goodwill Games, Brisbane
 1999 - "From Sand to Bitumen" Baangu Minjaani Gallery
 1997 - "Shadows in the Dust" Touring Show
 1997 - "Kicking Cans" KickArts Collective Touring Show
 1996 - "Linkage Leakage" Kick Arts Collective Touring Show
 1995 - "Lingo Getting the Picture" Qld Art Gallery Brisbane Touring
 1995 - "Now Days - Early Days" Cairns Regional Gallery

1994 - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award Selected Exhibition Canberra ACT
 1994 - "Epama Epam!" Everything has meaning, The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, and Alcheringa Gallery, Canada
 1993 - "Old Land New Tracks" Touring Prints Exhibition
 1992 - "Turning Tides " Australian Landscape Gallery, Brisbane 1990 - "You came to my country and you didn't turn black Queensland Museum Brisbane
 1990 - 'Visions of Australia Landscape 11' Riverside Ctr, Bris
 1990 - "Balance" Qld Art Gallery Brisbane
 1989 - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
 1989 - Rockhampton Community Arts Centre
 1988 - Cairns Art Society 42nd Annual Art Exhibition
 1988 - South Pacific Festival of Art, Townsville
 1988 - "Ageless Are' Queensland Museum, Brisbane
 1987 - 90 - Pacific International Hotel Cairns

REPRESENTED

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
 National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
 Northern Territory University Collection, Darwin
 Griffith Artworks, Griffith University, Brisbane
 OTC Collection
 Telstra Corporation Collection
 Gold Coast City Art Collection
 Dreamspeakers Conference, Alberta Canada
 Darwin Print Symposium, Northern Territory,
 Holmes-a-Court Collection
 Rock Painting, Hall of Fame, Longreach
 James Cook University Fibre Art Collection, Townsville
 Cairns Regional Gallery Collection
 Queensland Art Gallery

EDUCATION, TRAINING, RESIDENCY & WORKSHOPS

2021 - Australia Council for the Arts Custodianship Program Block 3 March 8-14, Wagga Wagga, NSW
 2021 - Dancenorth Arts in the Tropics residency program February 15-26, Townsville
 2020 - Dancenorth Arts in the Tropics residency program February 24-6 March, Townsville
 2020 - Australia Council Custodianship Program Feb 6-11 March, May 13-19, November 4-11
 2019 - Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, Residency program November 4 - 1 December
 2019 - Milparanga Leadership Program, Australian Rural Leadership Foundation & Australia Council for the Arts
 2019 - Dancenorth Artist residency in the Tropics Program, 5-16 August, Townsville
 2018 - Springfield Tech Centre (Metal Shaping, Welding) Ipswich
 2018 - Dancenorth Artist residency in the Tropics Program, 15-26 October Townsville
 2018 - Australian Performing Arts Market APAM, Powerhouse Museum, Brisbane, Queensland
 2017 - Yirramboi Festival, First Nations Readiness Program - Ausco, Melbourne
 2016 - Signature Works 'Story Innovation Lab', Sydney
 2011 - Artist Residency New York, Location One
 2010 - A.O.A Cert 3, Wontulp Bi- Buya College
 2009 - "Indigelab", Author Boyd's Studio Residency, Performance workshop
 2009 - Artist Role Modelling Workshops, x3 Schools
 2008 - "TPS" - Time Place Space, Brisbane, Performance workshop
 2006 - Certificate - C.O.D/Theology, Wontulp Bi - Buya College, Cairns
 2004 - Workplace Trainer and Assessor Certificate Cairns TAFE
 2000 - Computer graphics TAFE
 1998 - 1999 - Pottery TAFE
 1997 - Creative Merchandising Tanks Art Centre Cairns
 1994 - Instructional Skills
 1993 - 3rd year certificate Cairns TAFE
 1991 - 2 year associate Diploma (Printmaking) Canberra ACT (incomplete)
 1987 - 2 year associate Diploma, Faculty Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies, Cairns