

Basic Detail Report



00055137

Title

Heroes of Colonial Encounters - Wife of Cullah-Aa

Date

2017

Primary Maker

Helen S Tiernan

Medium

Oil on canvas

Dimensions

Overall: 510 × 362 × 20 mm

Name

Painting

History

This painting is part of a series of portraits that make up 'Heroes of Colonial Encounters'. Helen Tiernan explores the singular European view of colonial history and the way Indigenous peoples are depicted as the 'primitive' or 'other'. The portraits she paints of Bennelong, Bungaree, Colby, Bidgee Bidgee, Ballodere and Tommy sees them equal to their European contemporaries such as Cook, Joseph Banks, William Bligh, Arthur Philip and Matthew Flinders. All portraits are to hang together on the same wall, equally ornate, equal in style and equal in history. The woman known as 'Punch' was known as being the wife of Cullah-Aa or Cullabaa. Although William Fernyhough listed Punch as being from the Broken Bay Tribe in the Sydney area, it is recorded that Punch and Cullah-Aa were originally from the Darkinjung and Kuringgai lands located north in the Brisbane Waters region.