

Basic Detail Report



00018152

Title

Drawer for Mabo

Date

1991

Primary Maker

Fiona Foley

Medium

Newspaper, paint, wood

Dimensions

130 mm, 7.5 kg Display Dimensions: 132 x 501 x 672 mm

Name

Sculpture

History

The Drawer For Mabo is significant in showing the political culture of an island community. It is a collage of newspaper articles collected after the Australian High Court decision on the Murray Island status. During this case the myth of Terra Nullius was dispelled after a ten year court battle and 204 years of colonization. This allowed the community on the island to regain their land and water rights. What Fiona is saying with the sculpture is that, it is important in Indigenous and Australian history to acknowledge this pivotal shift in the Australia collective psyche. By opening a draw in our closet of skeletons we can observe a cross section of opinion and optimistically give the next generation of indigenous children hope from a wholistic point of view of their birth right.