

Transcript, Journey of Mapiyal

The Burrow Soundscape

Speaker 1:

I come from Pascoe Vale South on Woi Wurrung country.

Speaker 2:

I'm from Changshu in China.

Speaker 3:

I came from in Medina City in kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Speaker 4:

I come from Narrandera on Wiradjuri country.

Speaker 5:

I come from the city of Harbin in Heilongjiang Province, China.

Speaker 6:

I come from Dongar Road, Xingsha Town, Changsha County, Hunan Province, China.

Speaker 7:

I was raised in Canberra on Ngunnawal and Ngambri country.

Speaker 8:

I come from Sutherland Avenue in Kings Langley, near Blacktown in New South Wales.

Elder Kerry Clark:

I acknowledge the Wurundjeri and Boonwurrong people as the first peoples of the land where this artwork was created. I pay my respects to the Elders past and present. My name is Kerry Clark. I am a proud Wemba-Wemba, Wergaia, Jardwadjali, and Gunditjmara woman.

The Journey of Mapiyal is a Wemba-Wemba story passed down through generations that is interwoven as part of a larger story, which travels through different nations.

Elder Kerry Clark:

Wominjeka. Welcome. I am Mapiyal, the platypus. My country is Wemba-Wemba. Here in Naarm, Melbourne, I am called Dulaiwurrung by Wurundjeri and Boonwurrong peoples.

In the time of creation, all the animals were sorting themselves into groups. I was connected to all. The land animals invited me to their group, as they shared traits of soft fur and running on the land. The birds asked me to join them, as we shared our beak and egg laying ability.

The water creatures thought I should join their group, as I could swim and dive in the water. Despite the offers, I declined, as although I shared characteristics with all the groups, I loved them all and didn't want to belong to one. My job is to teach us the lesson to be proud of our differences and respect one another, finding where we belong in ourselves.

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