

BLOUINARTINFO

“I am Visible” at National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

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National Gallery of Australia (NGA) is currently presenting a solo exhibition by Tony Albert, titled "I am Visible", on view through March 11, 2019.

The exhibition presents 50m high images of young Aboriginal men, shown with targets on their chest, intertwined with musical lyrics and words from Indigenous languages. These works reference Albert's "Brothers" series, which includes two works of art in the NGA's collection, "Brothers (New York Dreaming)" (2015), and "Brothers (Unalienable)" (2015). The commission connects issues of racial profiling and

miscarriages of justice. The artist makes the strengths and vulnerabilities of the young men in our community visible in order to destabilize stereotypes and offer new images for now and our collective future.

Born in 1981, Tony Albert is a contemporary Australian artist working in a wide range of mediums including painting, photography, and mixed media. His work engages with political, historical and cultural Aboriginal and Australian history, and his fascination with kitsch "Aboriginalia". In 2004 he graduated from the Queensland College of Art, Griffith University, Brisbane, with a degree in Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art.

Albert is a descendant of the Girramay, Yidinji and Kuku-Yalanji peoples. Albert was a founding member of the urban-based Indigenous art collective ProppaNOW founded in 2004. ProppaNOW also included artists Richard Bell, Jennifer Herd, Vernon Ah Kee, Fiona Foley, Bianca Beeton, and Andrea Fisher. In 2014, Albert won the first prize in the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award for his work "We can be Heroes," prompted by the 2012 shooting of two Aboriginal teenagers in Kings Cross by the police. Albert's was the first photographic work to win the prize.

In 2015, Albert was commissioned by the City of Sydney to create "Yininmadyemi - Thou didst let fall", a public work for Hyde Park, Sydney. The work serves as a memorial to Aboriginal military history and features four large upright bullets and shell casings. He was the Archibald Prize finalist in 2016 and 2017. Albert's work has been the subject of nine solo exhibitions and over fifty group exhibitions.

The exhibition will be on view through March 11, 2019, at National Gallery of Australia, Parkes Place, Parkes, Canberra, Australia