

Maaman Weitj

NOONGAR LULLABIES FROM SWAN





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CAN acknowledges the Noongar people of the Bibbulmun nation as the traditional custodians of the land and waters on which we live and work. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and honour all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the First People of this nation. CAN is proud to work with people from all cultures, but we do so on the understanding of First Peoples, first.

Kalyakoorl Kwadja Be, Kalyakoorl Boorda Be.
Always Was, Always Will Be.

WARNING

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this publication contains images and names of people who are deceased.

SPELLING

We acknowledge that the spelling and interpretation of Indigenous language can vary from community to community. We honour differences in individuals' preferred spellings of the word Noongar and consequently its spelling varies within this songbook.



During the project beloved matriarch and member of the Maali Deadly Yorgas Group, Cheryl Dickie passed away. We honour her with this dedication. We miss you Aunty.

ABOUT THE COVER ART

Artwork **The Moorditj Maaman Men's Group**, Lawry Halden, Cyndy Moody and Kobi Arthur Morrison.

The artwork is inspired by the *Maaman Weitj (Man Emu)* album, which is the first Noongar Lullabies album to be created by an all-male group. The album's title is inspired by its creators – fathers, uncles and brothers who will always be there to care for their children. Some of these men are single dads, like the father emu who incubates his eggs for eight weeks and then continues to raise his chicks on his own for up to eighteen months.

Wrapping around the songbook's back and front cover, the artwork tells the story of a male emu's journey. On the back cover we see the Swan River, the emu in the sky and a nest of emu eggs; it is Mookaroo season. It was during Mookaroo season that the Moorditj Maaman were creating their lullabies, like the father emu incubating his eggs.

Turning to the front cover we see the emu chicks with Dad, following in his footsteps. In both the artwork and in real life at the time we were painting, it is Djilba. The emu chicks and our lullabies have hatched. Rehearsed and recorded, the lullabies are ready to be shared with family and community, just as the father emu proudly shows off his chicks.

Another feature of the artwork is Yagan, standing on the hill with his family, protecting them as the men who created this album protect their families. Yagan's story forms part of the inspiration for this album, and one of the group songs is about this important Noongar icon. Like the men who have created these lullabies, Yagan was a son, a father, a brother. They feel Yagan's strength within them.

Maaman Weitj is a strong statement of a father's love, care and protection for his children and family. These are the traits of Yagan, our leader, brought down from generation to generation, giving men pride within their community and leaving a great legacy of continuity of leadership and fatherhood.

Maaman Weitj

NOONGAR LULLABIES FROM SWAN

There's something different about the Swan edition of Noongar Lullabies. The clue is in the album name *Maaman Weitj* (Man Emu).

Maaman Weitj is the eighth edition of Noongar Lullabies, a program designed by Community Arts Network to revive Noongar language and culture through story, music and song. Led by Noongar artists, the program sees Noongar community members create and record original songs, written and performed in language. What's special about this edition of Noongar Lullabies is that it's the first time that all those community members are men.

Like the male emu of the album's title, who shares responsibility for both incubating eggs and raising young, this album challenges gender assumptions, celebrating the strength of Noongar men as caregivers and nurturers, as well as leaders.

The lullabies in *Maaman Weitj* were written and recorded by members of the Moorditj Maaman Men's Group, a joint venture between Indigo Junction and the City of Swan, led by Noongar creatives Cyndy Moody, Kobi Arthur Morrison and Sharyn Egan. Workshops covering song-writing, language, doll-making and storytelling fuelled the creative process, seeding an idea about honouring the revered Noongar leader Yagan, whose story appears in the song *Booraka Yagan*.

We're proud to invite families to sing along with these gentle yet powerful lullabies.

Lullabies Swan is presented by CAN in partnership with Indigo Junction, Midland Junction Arts Centre and the City of Swan.



GLOSSARY

bandang
all

Birdiya
Elder

booraka
brave

djinda
star

kalyakoorl
always

kedala
day

kedalak
night

koondarm
dream

koorlangka
children

kwobidak
beautiful

maaman
man

maawit
baby

moort
family

ngaangk
mum

ngoorndiny
lay down

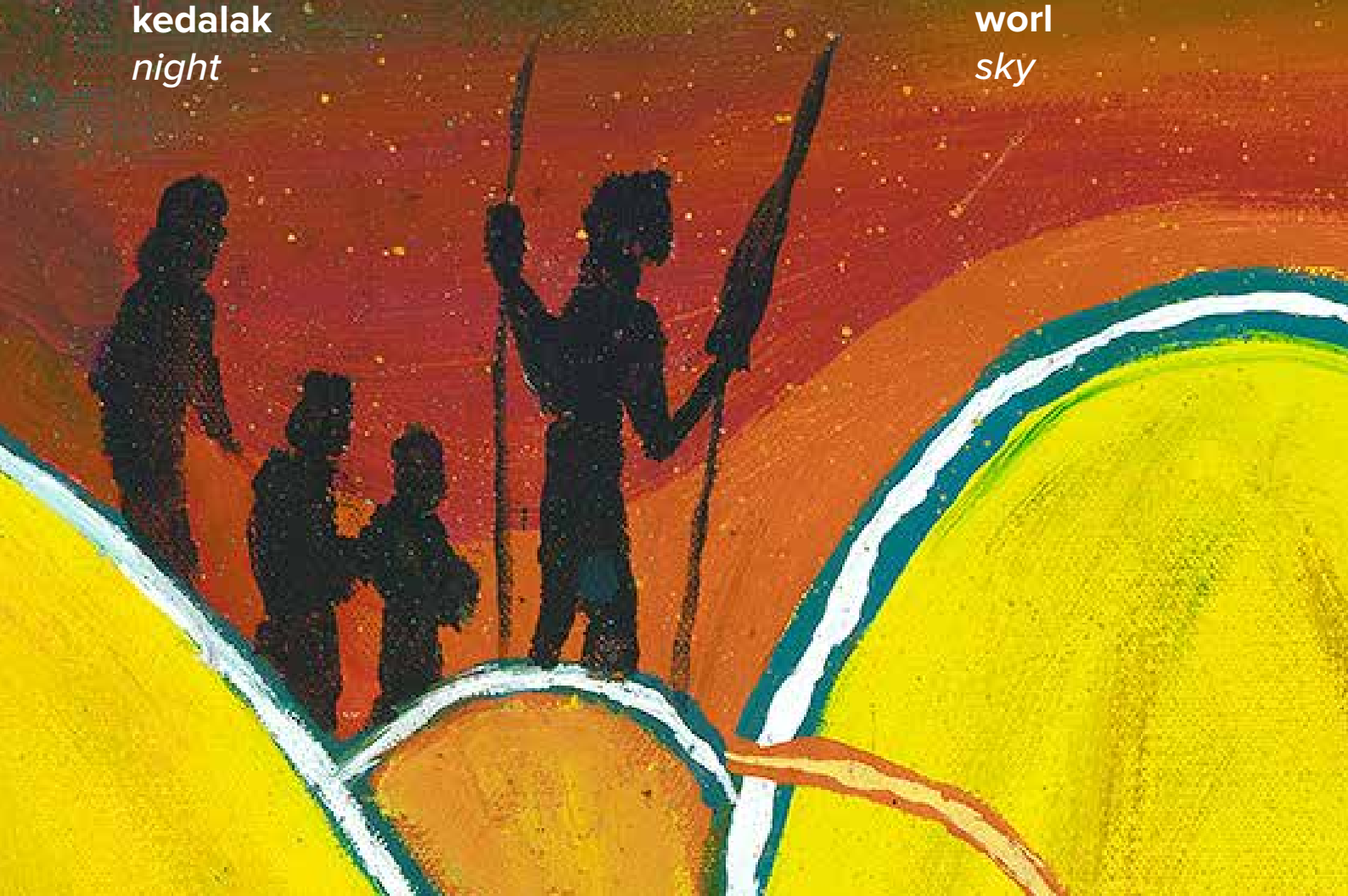
nidja
here/this is

nookert
sleep

noonook
you

woonya
love

worl
sky



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1. Keyn Waangkan First Words

Kobi Arthur Morrison

Ngalaang nidja-k windang boodja

We are here on an ancient land

Nidja boodja mayak kalyakoorl malayin

This land home is continuous culture

Koora koora baalap kaaditjiny kaaradjiny bandang

Historically they understood caring for everything

Yeyi nidja kedala ngalaang karadjiny kalyakoorl

Now, today, our care continues

Ngalaang bandang moort karadjiny moorditj

Our entire family are caring

Bandang ngaangk maambart wer yeyi ngalaang yorga wer maaman

All mothers, fathers, and now, our women and men

Ngalaang moorditj maaman koorliny bidik ngalaang windang Birdiya Yagan

Our strong men walk path of our ancient leader Yagan

Nidja baal karadjiny booraka wer moorditj naatj nidja ngallak warangka

This person was caring, brave and strong, for this, we sing

CREDITS

Lyrics **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Arranged **Jonathon Blurton and Cyndy Moody**

Composed **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Vocals **Jonathon Blurton**

Tapping sticks **Cyndy Moody**

Didgeridoo **John Mogridge**

String quartet **Belinda Allen, Stuart Fenner, Alexander Hey and Kristy Hughes**

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2. Booraka Yagan Brave Yagan

Collaborative

Key of Bb

Capo 3rd fret

WHISPER

Em

Booraka Yagan moorditj Birdiya
Brave Yagan, strong leader

Em

Booraka maaman yokai Yagan wirn
Brave man, shout, spirit of Yagan

VERSE 1

Em C

Koora koora
Long time ago

G D
Baalap djinang ngalaang
They see us

Em C
Boorna wer barna
Forest and animals

Bm D
Malayin bakadjoo
Culture fight

Em C
Baalap maaloop
They unknown

G D
Koora nganiny wangkaniny
Long time ago sitting, eating, talking

Em C
Maaloop barna
Unknown animal

Bm D
Yoowart kaaditjiny
No knowledge

CHORUS

G Em C G
Booraka Yagan moorditj Birdiya
Brave Yagan, strong leader

Bm C Em D G
Booraka maaman yokai Yagan wirn
Brave man, shout, spirit of Yagan

CHANT

G
Booraka Yagan moorditj Birdiya
Brave Yagan, strong leader

Booraka maaman yokai Yagan wirn
Brave man, shout, spirit of Yagan

VERSE 2

Em C
Nidja birdiyabiny
Here leader becoming

G D
Djinanginy bandang
Looking all

Em C Bm D
Warabiny boodjera
Bad becoming land

Em
Moort kaaditjiny
Family knowledge

D
Kalyakoorliny
Always going

Am C D
Yoowart nganop
No stop

CHORUS

G **Em** **C** **G**
Booraka Yagan moorditj Birdiya
Brave Yagan, strong leader

Bm **C** **Em** **D** **G**
Booraka maaman yokai Yagan wirn
Brave man, shout, spirit of Yagan

MUSIC INTERLUDE WITH CHANT

G **Em** **C** **G**
Bm **C** **Em** **D** **G**

CHORUS (VARIATION)

G **Em** **C** **G**
Booraka Yagan moorditj Birdiya
Brave Yagan, strong leader

Bm **C** **Em** **D**
Booraka maaman yokai yokai
Brave man, shout, shout

CHORUS

G **Em** **C** **G**
Booraka Yagan moorditj Birdiya
Brave Yagan, strong leader

Bm **C** **Em** **D** **G**
Booraka maaman yokai Yagan wirn
Brave man, shout, spirit of Yagan

WHISPER

G
Booraka Yagan moorditj Birdiya
Brave Yagan, strong leader

Booraka maaman yokai Yagan wirn
Brave man, shout spirit of Yagan

CREDITS

Lyrics Collaborative

Arranged Kobi Arthur Morrison and Cyndy Moody

Composed Kobi Arthur Morrison

Vocals Jonathon Blurton, Lyell Bowie, Michael Cross,
Troy Coleman, Tony Culbong, Stuart Fenner,
John Mogridge, Kobi Arthur Morrison, Darren Tyson
and Cyril Wingo

Acoustic guitar Kobi Arthur Morrison

Bass Kobi Arthur Morrison

Didgeridoo John Mogridge

Drums Peter Spence

Rainshaker Kobi Arthur Morrison

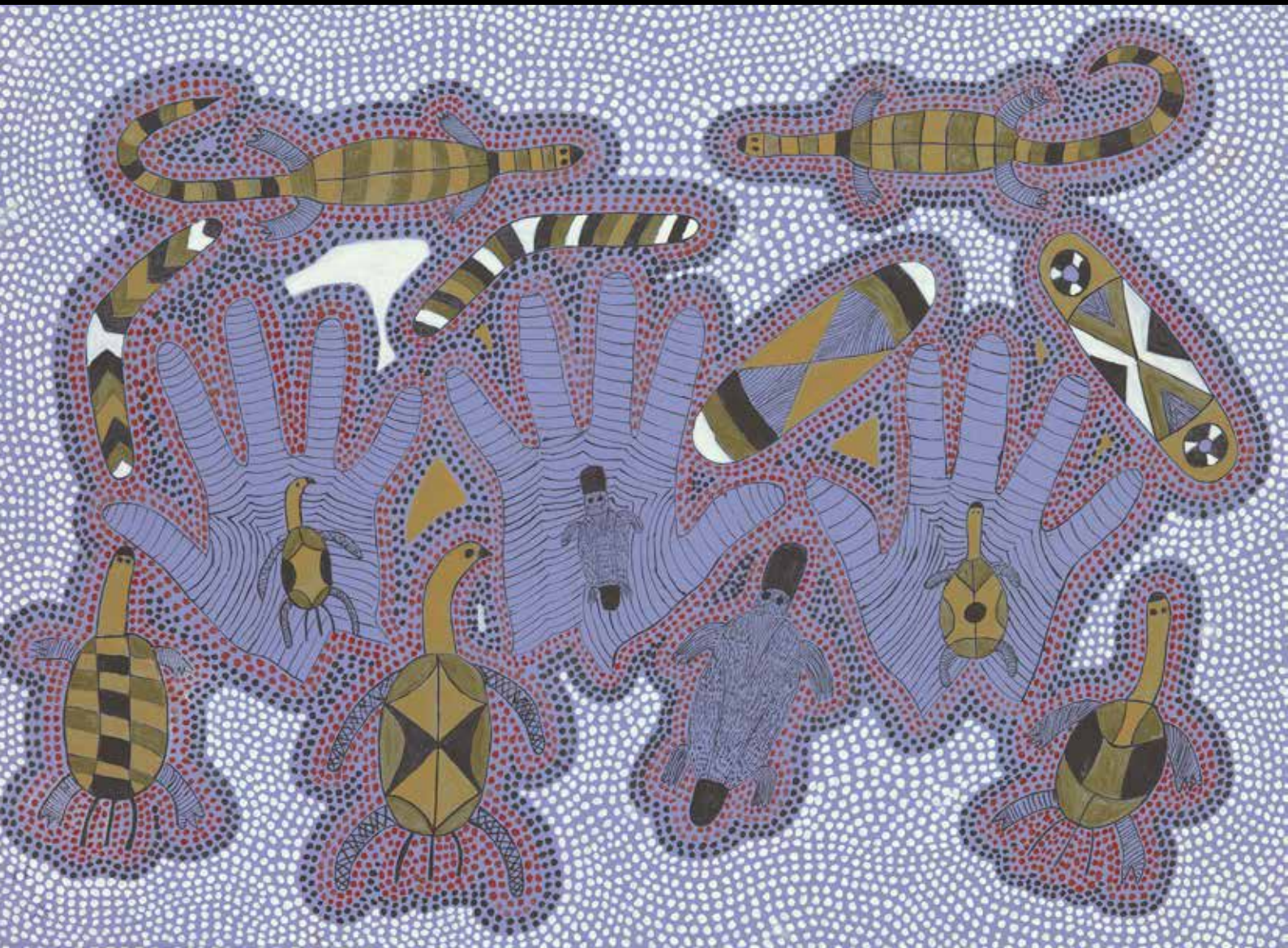
Tapping sticks Kobi Arthur Morrison and Cyndy Moody

String quartet Belinda Allen, Stuart Fenner,
Alexander Hey and Kristy Hughes

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Members of the Moorditj Maaman Men's Group and Kobi Arthur Morrison recording *Booraka Yagan* // credit CAN team



Artwork by Constance Coleman (née Smith)



TROY COLEMAN

Constance, my mother, started her life at Forrest River Mission in 1930. Her heart was always in her Country she came from. I try to do my part in honour of my mother and father.

3. Maawit Kedala Baby Day

Troy Coleman

Key of C#
Capo 1st fret

INSTRUMENTAL

VERSE 1

C
Maawit biyoo biyoo biyoo
Baby awake awake awake

F **G** **C**
Maawit djoorabiny biyoo yeyi
Baby happy awake now

VERSE 2

C
Maawit waabiny waabiny waabiny
Baby playing playing playing

F **G** **C**
Maawit djoorabiny waabiny yeyi
Baby happy playing now

VERSE 3

C
Maawit ngaarniny ngaaniny ngaarniny
Baby eating eating eating

F **G** **C**
Maawit djoorabiny ngaarniny yeyi
Baby happy eating now

INSTRUMENTAL

VERSE 4

C
Maawit yaawiny yaawiny yaawiny
Baby laughing laughing laughing

F **G** **C**
Maawit djoorabiny yaawiny yeyi
Baby happy laughing now

VERSE 5

C
Maawit waaliny waaliny waaliny
Baby crying crying crying

F **G** **C**
Maawit winyarn waaliny yeyi
Baby poorly crying now

VERSE 6

C
Maawit nookert nookert nookert
Baby sleep sleep sleep

F **G** **C**
Maawit djoorabiny nookert yeyi
Baby happy sleep now

INSTRUMENTAL

C F G C

CREDITS

Lyrics Troy Coleman

Composed Kobi Arthur Morrison

Vocals Troy Coleman

Acoustic guitar Kobi Arthur Morrison

Electric guitar Kobi Arthur Morrison

Didgeridoo John Mogridge

Rainshaker Kobi Arthur Morrison

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4. Yoowart Winarak Not the Same

Jonathon Blurton

Key of B

Capo 4th fret

VERSE 1

C **Em**
Birdiya bidi wano
Elders paved the way

C **Em**
Baalap barang ngalaang naatj moort nitja
They showed us what family was

C **G**
Kwobidak woonya kaaradjiny moort
The genuine love, caring connection

Am **D** **B**
Ngany kaaditj ngirn nganyang moort
I knew who my family was

CHORUS

Em **C** **G** **D**
Nyorn nitja yoowart winarak yeyi
Nyorn it's not the same now

Em **C** **G** **D**
Moort yeyi djinang yoowart winarak
Family now seems different

Am **C** **G** **D**
Yoowart waangka yoowart djinang baalap moolymari
Miss the talks, miss seeing their faces

Am **C** **Em** **D**
Nitja nyin ngarda kadak waangka
Just sitting down having a yarn

Am **C** **G**
Woonya dji alidja ngaalak yonga
Appreciated the memories that we shared

VERSE 2

C **Em**
Ngany djinanginy djila
I look for the signs

C **Em**
Maradanginy noonook koorl
To feel if you are around

C **Em**
Noonook kalyakoorl-ak nganyang kaaditjiny
You are always in my thoughts

Am **D** **B**
Warda kaaditjiny koora koora
Honouring the memories of the passed

CHORUS

Em **C** **G** **D**
Nyorn nitja yoowart winarak yeyi
Nyornit's not the same now

Em **C** **G** **D**
Moort yeyi djinang yoowart winarak
Family now seems different

Am **C** **G** **D**
Yoowart waangka yoowart djinang baalap moolymari
Miss the talks, miss seeing their faces

Am **C** **Em** **D**
Nitja nyin ngarda kadak waangka
Just sitting down having a yarn

Am **C** **G**
Woonya dji alidja ngaalak yonga
Appreciated the memories that we shared



Photographs supplied by Jonathon Blurton

BRIDGE

D **G**
Benang benang baalap baaliny kanaarn
Sometimes they feel real

A **D**
Wer ngany nitja djinang malayin
And I see it in our culture

C **Em**
Djidi djidi ngalaang djakoorliny
Our messenger the djidi djidi

G **D** **B**
Ngany kaaditjiny windja ngany kardakor
I know where I am meant to be

CHORUS

Em C G D
Nyorn nitja yoowart winarak yeyi
Nyorn it's not the same now

Em C G D
Moort yeyi djinang yoowart winarak
Family now seems different

Am C G D
Yoowart waangka yoowart djinang baalap moolymari
Miss the talks, miss seeing their faces

Am C Em D
Nitja nyin ngarda kadak waangka
Just sitting down having a yarn

Am C G
Woonya dji alidja ngaalak yonga
Appreciated the memories that we shared

CREDITS

Lyrics **Jonathon Blurton** and **Cyndy Moody**

Arranged **Cyndy Moody**

Composed **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Vocals **Jonathon Blurton**

Backing vocals **Cyndy Moody**

Electric guitar **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Bass **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Drums **Peter Spence**

Tapping sticks **Cyndy Moody**

Shaker **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

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and **Cyndy Moody** 2024





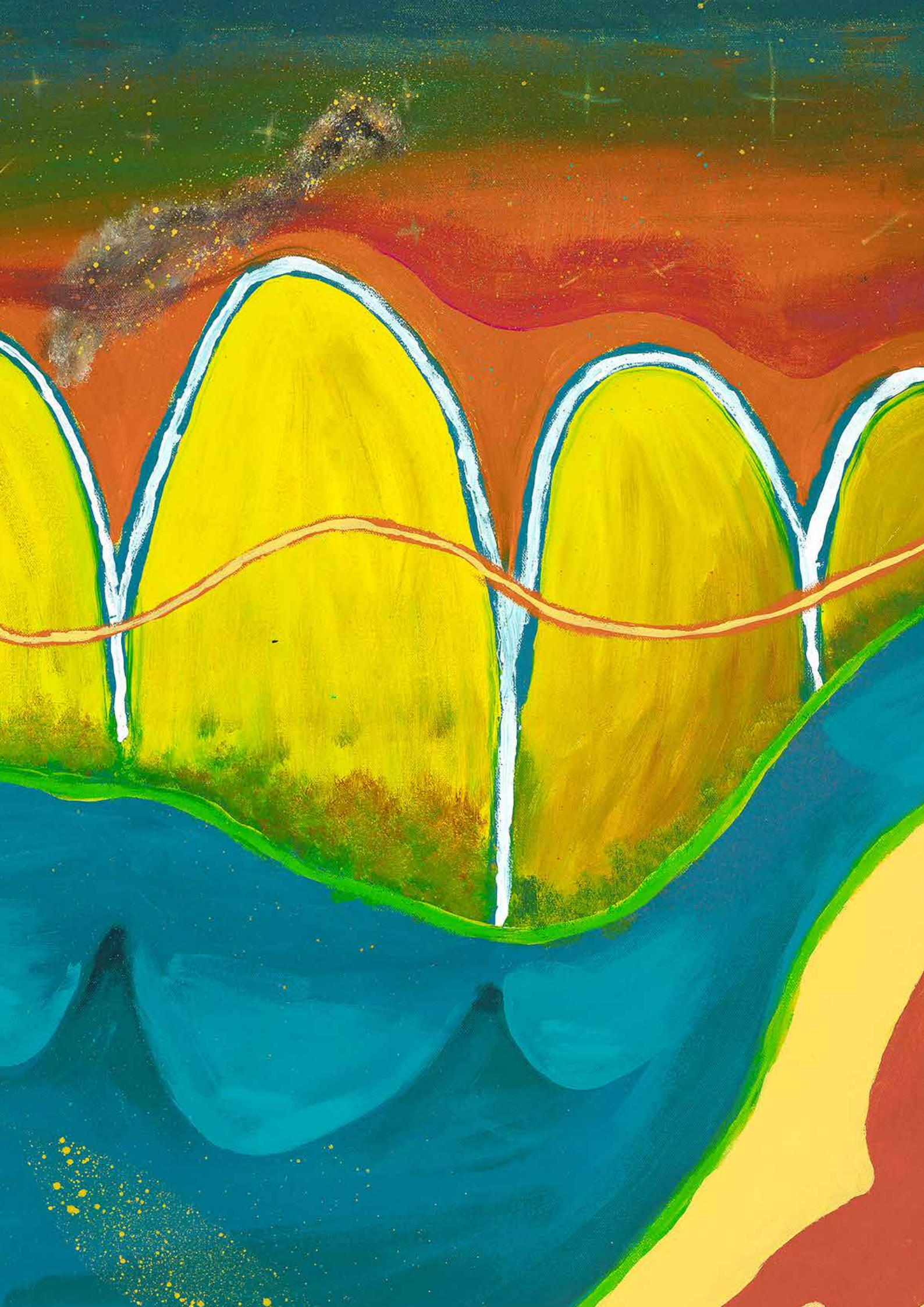
Photograph supplied by Jonathon Blurton



JONATHON BLURTON

My name is Jonathon Blurton, I am a Noongar maaman with connection to Yued, Ballardong and Wadjuk.

I wrote this song in memory of our people who have passed away and are no longer with us. Proud to be involved in such a moorditj program.



POEM

Baldja Wirn United Spirit

Collaborative

Djook baalap yaawiny
Sisters they laughing

Koora koora baalap koorlangka
Past they children

Baldja wirn
United spirit

Koorl naakal
Go gently

Boodjak
On land

Ngooni baalap waabiny
Brothers they playing

Koora koora baalap koorlangka
Past they children

Baldja wirn
United Spirit

Koorl naakal
Go gently

Boodjak
On land

Bakadjoo boort kordorn moort
Peaceful big family

Ngalak birdiya kalyakoorl
We're leader always

Baldja wirn
United Spirit

Koorl naakal
Go gently

Boodjak
On land

5. Koondarm Djinda Dream Star

Stuart Fenner

Key of D
Capo 2nd fret

INTRO

C
F G C
F C Am
C G C

VERSE

C
Ngoorndiny maawit
Lay down baby
F G C
Kwobidak kedalak worl
Beautiful night sky
F C Am
Koondarm djinda yeyi
Dream star now
C G C
Noonan moort woonya noonook
Your family loves you

VERSE

C
Ngoorndiny maawit
Lay down baby
F G C
Kwobidak kedalak worl
Beautiful night sky
F C Am
Koondarm djinda yeyi
Dream star now
C G C
Noonan moort woonya noonook
Your family loves you

INSTRUMENTAL

C
F G C
F C Am
C G C

VERSE

C
Ngoorndiny maawit
Lay down baby
F G C
Kwobidak kedalak worl
Beautiful night sky
F C Am
Koondarm djinda yeyi
Dream star now
C G C
Noonan moort woonya noonook
Your family loves you

VERSE

C
Ngoorndiny maawit
Lay down baby
F G C
Kwobidak kedalak worl
Beautiful night sky
F C Am
Koondarm djinda yeyi
Dream star now
C G C
Noonan moort woonya noonook
Your family loves you

OUTRO

F **C** **Am**
Koondarm djinda yeyi
Dream star now

C **G** **C**
Noonan moort woonya noonook
Your family loves you

CREDITS

Lyrics **Stuart Fenner**

Arranged **Cyndy Moody**

Composed **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Vocals **Cyndy Moody**

Backing vocals **Stuart Fenner** and **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Acoustic guitar **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Violin **Stuart Fenner**

String quartet **Belinda Allen, Stuart Fenner, Alexander Hey** and **Kristy Hughes**

Tapping sticks **Cyndy Moody**

Shaker **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

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STUART FENNER

The great thing about lullabies is that the words and ideas are simple but profound. Themes of love, family, relationships, Country and our place in the world, these are the things that are important to all of us. To write about these things in Noongar language with a group of men who trust and care for each other has been a great privilege for me.

6. Djoorabiny Happy

Michael Cross

Key of G

VERSE

C **G**
Koorndin moort
Big family

D **G**
Koorlangka
Children

C **G** **D**
Yowarl ngany djen
Come around my feet

C **G**
Wangkany ngany
Talking to me

D **G**
Kaaditjiny bandang
Knowing all

C **G** **D**
Ngardama nginda
All the time there

CHORUS

C
Bandang ngany moort
All my family

G
Ngarniny merany
Eating food

C
Ngany koort djoorp
My heart happy

Koorlangka
Children

D
Danjoo ngany
Together me

CHORUS

C
Bandang ngany moort
All my family

G
Ngarniny merany
Eating food

C
Ngany koort djoorp
My heart happy

Koorlangka
Children

D
Danjoo ngany
Together with me

VERSE

C **G**
Koorndin moort
Big family

D **G**
Koorlangka
Children

C **G** **D**
Yowarl ngany djen
Come my feet

C **G**
Wangkany ngany
Talk to me

D **G**
Kaaditjiny bandang
Acknowledge all

C **G** **D**
Ngardama nginda
All the time there

CHORUS

C

Bandang ngany moort
All my family

G

Ngarniny merany
Eating food

C

Ngany koort djoorp
My heart happy

Koorlangka
Children

D

Danjoo ngany
Together me

CHORUS

C

Bandang ngany moort
All my family

G

Ngarniny merany
Eating food

C

Ngany koort djoorp
My heart happy

Koorlangka
Children

D

Danjoo ngany
Together me



MICHAEL CROSS

Kaya ngany kwerl Michael Cross. My mob is from Geraldton, Yamatji mob on my mum's side and my dad's side is Noongar family. I wrote this song because I love my nephews and nieces. I love them to pieces.

CREDITS

Lyrics **Michael Cross**

Arranged **Cyndy Moody**

Composed **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Vocals **Michael Cross**

Backing vocals **Cyndy Moody and Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Acoustic guitar **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

Piano **Cyndy Moody**

Tapping sticks **Kobi Arthur Morrison**

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7. Nookert Maawit Sleep Baby

Graham Cox

Key of B

Capo on 4th fret

INTRO

VERSE 1

G **Em**
Ngany djoorabiny noonook djinanginy
I am happy to see you

Am **D**
Nganyang djedari maawit mamal
My brown baby son

C **D** **G**
Ngoorndiny nookert
Lay down sleep

CHORUS

C **D** **G** **Bm**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

C **D** **Em** **D**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

Am **D** **G**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

VERSE 2

G **Em** **D**
Wer koondarm wardiny ngolanga noonook
The dreaming looking after you

G **Em** **D**
Wer koondarm wardiny ngolanga noonook
The dreaming looking after you

Am **Em** **D**
Wer koondarm wardiny ngolanga noonook
The dreaming looking after you

CHORUS

C **D** **G**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

C **D** **Em**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

Am **D** **G**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

CHORUS

C **D** **G** **Bm**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

C **D** **Em** **D**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

Am **D** **G**
Nookert maawit nookert
Sleep baby sleep

CREDITS

Lyrics Graham Cox

Arranged Cyndy Moody

Composed Kobi Arthur Morrison

Vocals Cyndy Moody and Kobi Arthur Morrison

Acoustic guitar Kobi Arthur Morrison

Tapping sticks Cyndy Moody

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and Cyndy Moody 2024



GRAHAM COX

Kenang Noongar Maaman from Kojonup

I left Kojonup at 17 years old and moved to Perth. The only thing I took from Kojonup was memories of racism, hate and pain, but that left me as I travelled on a tough life, knowing that I had to change my lifestyle, not responding to abuse from uneducated people who had no idea of my past, they only disliked me because of the colour of my skin. To give you an idea of the colour of my skin, it is beautiful caramel brown.

What we're doing here is we're showing our young kids, our koorlangkas, that it can be done. To hear men singing like this together, it's absolutely brilliant. We hear our yorgas singing but for us guys walking alongside other guys, they can see what is happening here in Midland and that's very powerful.





Members of The Moorditj Maaman Men's Group painting the artwork for the Maaman Weitj songbook cover // credit Cassandra Edwards

8. Koodjal Koort Yoowarl Danjoo

Two Hearts Coming Together

Jeremy Garlett

This piece is about bringing people together, and it's about people and animals coming together, with different sounds and feelings.

The didgeridoo is all about bringing people together with other people. The didgeridoo is a language that everyone can understand, white people and black fellas, and that's how it is. It's the most beautiful moment I can see. It's a gift.



CREDITS

Composed Jeremy Garlett

Didgeridoo Jeremy Garlett

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9. Nganyang Kwarat My Daughter

Don Narrier

Key of D

Capo 2nd fret

VERSE 1

C **F**
Maaman nitja kaaditjiny bandang ngany yok
As a father I think about all my girls

Em **F** **G**
Alidja koodjal-koodjal noonook
There are four of you

C **F**
Nitja nganyang miyal noonook bandang kwobidak
You are all so beautiful in my eyes

Em **E** **F** **G**
Ngany maawit yok barang ngany koort
But my baby girl has my heart

CHORUS

C **F**
Jasmin noonook nganyang booraka
Jasmin you are my bravest

Dm **G**
Noonook warn ngany booraka
You make me strong

C **F**
Ngaangk, maaman wer noonan djookan
Mum, dad and your sisters

Dm **G** **C**
Woonya noonook
Loves you



VERSE 2

C **F**
Naatj noonook koodjal-koodjal
Even though you are the fourth

Em **F** **G**
Nitja boola woonya
There is still enough love

C **F**
Noonook nganyang kwarat
For you my daughter

Em **E** **F** **G**
Noonook warn ngany koort moorditj wer booraka
You make me strong and proud

CHORUS

C **F**
Jasmin noonook nganyang booraka
Jasmin you are my bravest

Dm **G**
Noonook warn ngany booraka
You make me strong

C **F**
Ngaangk, maaman wer noonan djookan
Mum, dad and your sisters

Dm **G** **C**
Woonya noonook
Loves you



BRIDGE

Dm **G**
Winin koram warabiny
Life was tough

Am **G**
Widing noonan kwarat yowarl koorl
Then your daughter came along

Dm **F**
Baal boorda be noonan boya
She will be your rock

G
Baal boorda be noonan boordakan
She will be yours forever

CHORUS

C **F**
Jasmin noonook nganyang booraka
Jasmin you are my bravest

Dm **G**
Noonook warn ngany booraka
You make me strong

C **F**
Ngaangk, maaman wer noonan djookan
Mum, dad and your sisters

Dm **G** **C**
Woonya noonook
Loves you

OUTRO

C **F**
Ngaangk, maaman wer noonan djookan
Mum, dad and your sisters

Dm **G** **C**
Woonya noonook
Loves you

CREDITS

Lyrics Don Narrier and Cyndy Moody
Arranged Cyndy Moody
Composed Kobi Arthur Morrison
Vocals Kobi Arthur Morrison
Acoustic guitar Kobi Arthur Morrison
Piano Cyndy Moody
Bass Kobi Arthur Morrison
Drums Peter Spence
Tapping sticks Cyndy Moody
Copyright Don Narrier, Kobi Arthur Morrison
and Cyndy Moody 2024





Members of the Moorditj Maaman Men's Group in the Noongar doll-making workshop // credit Michelle Troop

10. Koorlal Ngany Follow Me

Darren Tyson

Key of E

Capo 4th fret

VERSE 1

C F C
Ngalaang koorlal Birdiya
Our Elders we follow

Am F C
Ngalaang koorliny danjoo
Our march together

C G Dm F
Yoowart djinang barang baal
We don't need a navigator

CHORUS

Am G C
Koorlal ngany noonook koorl yoowartkeyn
Follow me, you will never walk alone

Am G C
Koorlal ngany noonook koorl yoowartkeyn
Follow me, you will never walk alone

INSTRUMENTAL

C F C

Am F C

VERSE 2

C F C
Noonook windang Birdiya
Your ancestors

Am F C
Noonookal kalyakoorl
Are always with you

C G Dm F
Baalap bidi ba noonook
Their path and yours



CREDITS

Lyrics Darren Tyson and Kobi Arthur Morrison
Arranged Kobi Arthur Morrison and Cyndy Moody
Composed Kobi Arthur Morrison

Vocals Darren Tyson
Backing vocals Cyndy Moody and Kobi Arthur Morrison

Acoustic guitar Kobi Arthur Morrison

Electric guitar Kobi Arthur Morrison

Bass Kobi Arthur Morrison

Drums Peter Spence

Copyright Darren Tyson, Kobi Arthur Morrison and Cyndy Moody 2024

Artwork Darren Tyson's children

CHORUS

Am G C
Koorlal ngany noonook koorl yoowart keyn
Follow me, you will never walk alone

Am G C
Koorlal ngany noonook koorl yoowart keyn
Follow me, you will never walk alone

VERSE 3

C F C
Ngalaang djinda barang
We got the stars

Am F C
Ngalaang bilya barang
We got the rivers and streams

C G Dm F
Ngalaang koondarm barang birdiyak
We got our ancestors dreams

INSTRUMENTAL

Am G C

Am G C

CHORUS

Am G C
Koorlal ngany noonook koorl yoowart keyn
Follow me, you will never walk alone

Am G C
Koorlal ngany noonook koorl yoowart keyn
Follow me, you will never walk alone

CHORUS

Am G C
Koorlal ngany noonook koorl yoowart keyn
Follow me, you will never walk alone

Am G C
Koorlal ngany noonook koorl yoowart keyn
Follow me, you will never walk alone

11. Yeyi Yokai Now Celebrate

Collaborative

Key of G

VERSE 1

G

Djinang yira wooyarn worl
Look up, blue sky

Em

Kanangoor ngaangk
Sun shining

Am

Bandang nodjam boodjak
All country green

D

Boola kwobidak barna
Lots of beautiful animals

G

Ngalaang wara kaaditjiny
We had bad thoughts

Em

Benang ngalak nyit winyarn
Sometimes we are a little sad

Am

Yeyi noonook djinanginy
Now you see

D

Bandang kwobidak
All is beautiful

CHORUS

G

Em

Yeyi yokai yeyi yokai
Now celebrate, now celebrate

Am

D

Nidja djoorabiny kedala
This happy day

G

Em

Yeyi yokai yeyi yokai
Now celebrate, now celebrate

Am

D

Kalyakoorl ngalaang nidja
We will always be here

VERSE 2

G

Yoowart weyarn ba karang
Not sad and angry

Em

Noonook moort barangwart
You family honoured

Am

Kaaditjiny windang Birdiya
Understanding the ancient Elder

D

Bandang baalap koondarm
All that they dream

G

Koora koora
Long time ago

Em

Baalap booraka
They brave

Am

Bidi warn ngalak
We make path

D

Ngalak kwob mila
We good future

CHORUS

G **Em**
Yeyi yokai yeyi yokai
Now celebrate, now celebrate

Am **D**
Nidja djoorabiny kedala
This happy day

G **Em**
Yeyi yokai yeyi yokai
Now celebrate, now celebrate

Am **D**
Kalyakoorl ngalaang nidja
We will always be here

CHORUS

G **Em**
Yeyi yokai yeyi yokai
Now celebrate, now celebrate

Am **D**
Nidja djoorabiny kedala
This happy day

G **Em**
Yeyi yokai yeyi yokai
Now celebrate, now celebrate

Am **D**
Kalyakoorl ngalaang nidja
We will always be here

OUTRO

G
Yeyi yokai
Now celebrate

CREDITS

Lyrics Collaborative

Arranged Cyndy Moody and Kobi Arthur Morrison

Composed Tony Culbong and Kobi Arthur Morrison

Vocals Kobi Arthur Morrison and Cyndy Moody

Chorus vocals Jonathon Blurton, Lyell Bowie,
Michael Cross, Troy Coleman, Tony Culbong, Stuart
Fenner, John Mogridge, Kobi Arthur Morrison,
Cyndy Moody, Darren Tyson and Cyril Wingo

Lead guitar Tony Culbong

Acoustic guitar Kobi Arthur Morrison

Bass Cyndy Moody

Didgeridoo John Mogridge

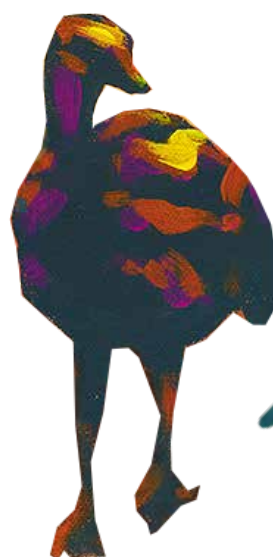
String quartet Belinda Allen, Stuart Fenner,
Alexander Hey and Kristy Hughes

Drums Peter Spence

Tapping sticks Cyndy Moody

Shaker Kobi Arthur Morrison

Copyright Tony Culbong, Kobi Arthur Morrison and
Cyndy Moody 2024





Top: Members of the Moorditj Maaman Men's Group sharing their lullabies with students from Governor Stirling Senior High School // credit CAN team. Bottom: Noongar Lullabies from Swan project launch workshop // credit Cole Baxter.

POEM

Nidja Korndin This Much

Collaborative

HORIZON

Nganyang koorlangka
My child

Djinang moombaka
Look horizon

Koomba bokadja
Big over there

OCEAN

Nganyang koorlangka
My child

Kaaditjiny wardan
Carry on back our knowledge

Bokadja ngardak
Over there down low/underneath

REFRAIN

Yira, ngardak wer bokadja
Up, underneath and over there

Koora koora wer mila
Long, long time ago and the future time

Noonook kaaditjiny
You knowledge

Nganyang kaaditjiny
My knowledge

Nganyang koorlangka
My child

SPACE

Nganyang koorlangka
My child

Djinang worl moordang
See sky at dark time

Bokadja djinda
Long way away star

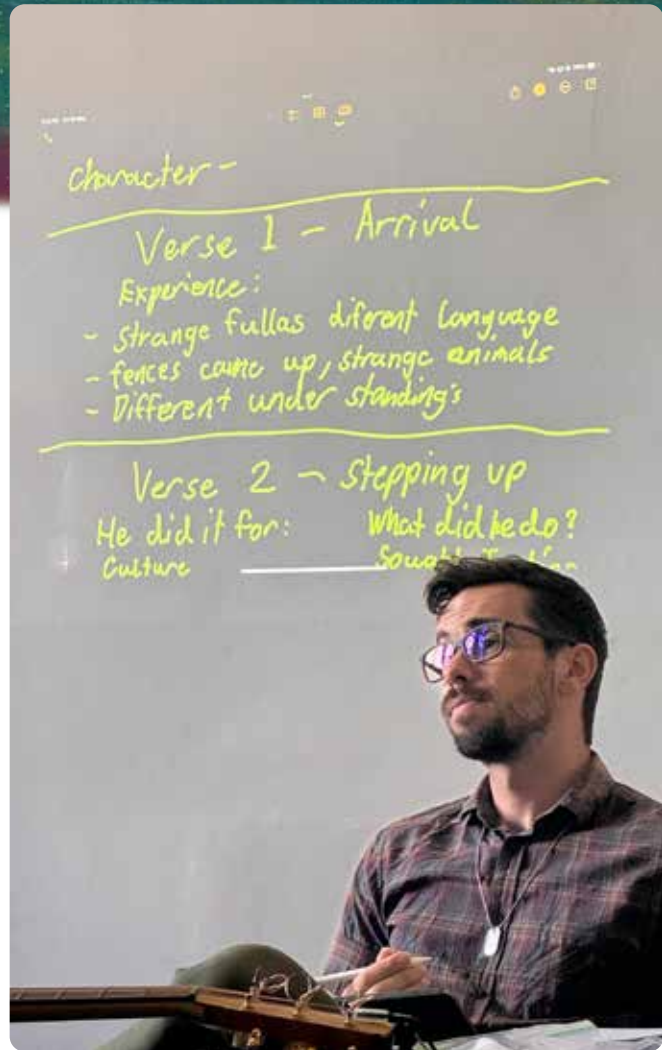
TIME

Nganyang koorlangka
My child

Kaaditjiny koora koora
Learning long long time ago

Windang kedala
Old daytime





Top left: John Mogridge playing the didgeridoo during album recording session // credit CAN team.

Top right: Kobi Arthur Morrison facilitating creative song-writing workshops at Midland Junction Arts Centre // credit Yeraldin Casallas.

Bottom: Noongar Lullabies from Swan project team and participants in the recording studio // credit CAN team.



Top and bottom left: The Moorditj Maaman Men's Group, Cyndy Moody and Kobi Morrison on a rehearsal day-trip
 // credit Karen Hayden. Bottom right: Doll-making workshop with Sharyn Egan // credit Michelle Troop.

MOORDITJ MAAMAN MEN'S GROUP

The Moorditj Maaman Men's Group is a group of local Aboriginal men who get together to deliver a range of cultural activities that includes art, dance and language. The Moorditj Maaman Men's Group is a joint venture between Indigo Junction and the City of Swan.

The group has successfully delivered camps, BBQs and art projects. Moorditj Maaman is about creating space for men to talk about health and wellbeing, and to build cultural connection among local Aboriginal men, families, young people and children.

MAAMAN WEITJ NOONGAR LULLABIES FROM SWAN

When the workshops first started, there seem to be apprehension in the group as we weren't sure about what the lullabies project was really going to bring to the group.

Our men started the workshops with Kobi, Cyndy and the crew, and as we got to know the process and started building relationships with the Community Arts Network facilitators, we started to think about what songs we would write both singularly and collectively.

Seeing the growth of the men and the pride they take in the lullabies/songs that are so meaningful to them, and hearing the work that they have produced gives us all a great sense of achievement.

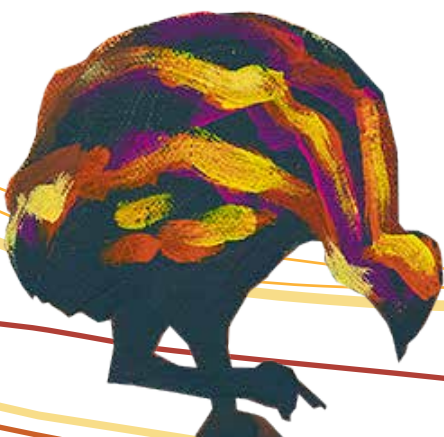
The opportunity to share with high school and primary schools from our local area was extremely valuable as we

became examples of positive men for our community. The relationships built with the Community Arts Network facilitators and our Midland men's group have been so positive and the outcomes for the men will last long after this program has finished.

I would like to thank Cyndy Moody, Elly Jones, Lidia Castro, Kobi Arthur Morrison, our artist Lawry Halden and the Moorditj Maaman Men's Group for a product that we can be proud of now and into the future. Thank you also to Auntie Sharyn Egan – your support, time and effort was very much appreciated, teaching us to sew our little art pieces.

Thank you, Community Arts Network for reaching out to Indigo Junction and bringing your project to the City of Swan.

JOHN MOGRIDGE ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP





Snapshots from the project featuring the Moorditj Maaman Men's Group, Cyndy Moody and Kobi Arthur Morrison
 // credit (left to right, top to bottom) CAN team, Michelle Troop, Karen Hayden, Guan hao Cheng, CAN team.

LULLABIES TEAM



Credit Hugh Sando

Kobi Arthur Morrison

Kobi is a Bibbulmun Noongar who was born and raised in Perth. While working at the UWA Centre of Social Impact and Propel Youth Arts WA, Kobi spends his spare time playing music, being involved in various music projects such as Moombaki, Koondarm, Koolong, Madjiti Moorna and Endeavourous. These are projects that earned him the 2018 Perth NAIDOC Youth of the Year award.

*Yedi kalyakoorl, wer nidjal, ngalak
kaaditjiny boya-biny, ngalang
moorditj maarman djinang nidja wer
koorliny bidik warniny, maar-koorliny
wer warangkiny, nidja baal naatj
waarn ngalak malayin moorditjabiny.*

*Songs are forever, and with this, our
understandings are solidified, our
strong men see this and walk this
path of creation, writing and singing,
this is what makes our culture
stronger.*



Credit Hugh Sando

Cyndy Moody

Yued, Balladong, Whadjuk yorga Cyndy Moody is a Noongar language speaker and singer/songwriter sharing language and music straight from the heart. A former Noongar Lullabies project participant, Cyndy joined the Lullabies team in 2022 as a language facilitator in her hometown of Northam. In 2021 Cyndy won WAM Country Song of the Year, for her song *Ngany Koorlangka/My Kid* (featuring Phil Bartlett) composed and recorded during the Lullabies Online project.

*What a great journey it has been for
me. Since I was a little girl, I have
been brought up with music. Playing
instruments and singing has been
a huge part of my life, and I am so
privileged to be a part of this unique
all-men lullaby album.*

*I love seeing the confidence in the
maaman as each of them is brave
enough to try new things. This makes
a big statement, not only for Noongar
men, but for all Aboriginal men. What
an honour it has been for me journeying
alongside them, creating songs in
language and assisting them to leave
a legacy for generations to come.*



Credit Michelle Troop

Sharyn Egan

Sharyn Egan is a painter, weaver and sculptor. As a member of the Stolen Generation much of her artwork is a commentary on her life as a Nyoongar woman and the associated trauma, emotions and deep sense of loss and displacement experienced by Aboriginal people. In recent years Sharyn has been awarded several prestigious and prominent public art commissions, and is a frequent exhibitor and invited artist at Sculpture by the Sea – Bondi and Cottesloe.



Credit Hugh Sando

Lidia Castro

Lidia is originally from Brazil. She is an enthusiastic and vibrant community worker who loves connecting different people through culture and the arts. Her career has been built on the development of multicultural and vulnerable communities, where she found her purpose in sharing her knowledge to impact the world around her positively. Her inspiring story is a testament to the power of believing in your journey.



Credit Hugh Sando

Elly Jones

Elly grew up in the UK and has lived on Noongar boodja for the past eight years. She is passionate about creating spaces for connections to grow and people to be heard and has had the privilege of being connected to CAN's Noongar Lullabies and Place Names projects since 2020.

THANKS

Noongar Lullabies is a journey, shared by so many over many months. Thank you to everyone who made this project possible – the dedicated participants, the incredibly talented artists and our local supporters.

A special thanks to everyone who attended the Lullabies sessions. Whether you were able to make one session or many, you all brought something unique that made this iteration of Lullabies so special.

Aaron Tawhai
Adam McGorrigan
Alex Farrell
Anthony Culbong
Barry Smith
Brandon Holmes
Cheryl Dickie - in memory
Cyril Wingo
Daniel John Simmonds
Danny Ausgustyne
Darren Tyson
Don Narrier
Graham Cox
Jeremy Garlett
Joe Walley
John Mogridge
John Morrison
Jon Blurton

Karen Hayden
Lakesha Phillips
Lyell Bowie
Lync Robson
Malcom Michael
Marty Carroll
Michael Cross
Racheal Lorraine Bennell
Richard Smith
Shane Phillips
Sheldon Pickett
Stuart Fenner
Tim Noble
Trisha Riddock
Troy Coleman
Tyson Martin
Utah John-Furnace



Noongar Lullabies from Swan project launch // credit Cole Baxter.

Language Facilitator and Musician

Cyndy Moody

Language Facilitator, Composer and Musician

Kobi Arthur Morrison

Recording and mixing

Ronan Charles, Aerial Recording

Mastering Engineer

Rob Shaker, Shake Down Records

Cover artwork (used throughout)

Moorditj Maaman Men's Group
with Lawry Halden, Cyndy Moody
and Kobi Arthur Morrison

Textile Art Facilitator

Sharyn Egan

CAN Project Coordinator

Lidia Castro

CAN Team

Elly Jones, Danielle Antaki, Michelle White,
Miranda De Baughn, Rebecca Lyon Augustus
Pauline Sikweti and Yeraldin Casallas

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Partners and supporters

Indigo Junction
Moorditj Maaman Men's Group
Maali Deadly Yorgas Group
City of Swan
Midland Junction Arts Centre
Mandoon Estate

Maaman Weitj: Noongar Lullabies from Swan

Album and songbook can be accessed at can.org.au or via this QR code.

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