

YORK STREET BANNERS

PURPOSE OF THIS UPDATE

The purpose of this update is to inform the community of the status of projects within the City of Albany city centre.

Our Vision: *'Albany aims to be Western Australia's most sought after destination to live, work and visit.'*



COMMUNITY UPDATE

MARCH 2018



PHOTO ALEX GOTT GUMBERS

NOONGAR SEASONAL BANNERS

The City of Albany working together with local artist Michael Cummings, commissioned these beautiful paintings representing the six Noongar seasons of the Albany Region. These local seasons are referenced through extensive studies with UWA and match those published by Nind (1831) for Kinjarling (Albany) and used by Mokare.

The interpretation by Michael Cummings reflects each season through colour, flora and fauna. The Swan River Colony season names are widely used throughout Western Australia and are referenced within the banners. The images have been used in the first of a series of York Street banners bringing together culture and the new "the Amazing South Coast" branding.

The Amazing South Coast stretches from Walpole through to Bremer Bay, and inland to the Stirling Range. The Amazing South Coast campaign, which launched January 2018, aims to strengthen and diversify the economic base of the Amazing South Coast through unified promotion and development of unique experiences.

the Amazing South Coast.com



ABOUT THE ARTIST

MICHAEL CUMMINGS

I first started painting at 19 years of age as a form of relaxation – with encouragement from my oldest sister. I have always had a keen interest in Aboriginal art & craft as one of my first positions was as an assistant in an Aboriginal art & craft shop in Albany, Western Australia.

Contemporary Art, to me reflects the modern interpretation of my culture & traditional values of where I am from, Albany Western Australia. We have carvings on rocks & used ceremonial body paint to acknowledge our dreaming and storylines. I use the modern mediums such as acrylics and oils on canvas to convey animals (totemic), land & events that impacted within the region (Kinchinup). I like using a bold (colourful) palate of acrylic paint using additives to enhance the painting. I mix my own themes and styles to gain further insight into art to convey my meanings."



Born: 1972, Albany, Western Australia
 Artist Name: NUgen
 Dialect: Nyoongar
 Tribal Group: Bibbulmen (Torndirrup, Albany)
 Domicile: Perth, Western Australia
 Medium(s): Acrylic and Oil including Pen

BERUC

December - January

The 'hot and dry' was characterised by the onset of hot easterly winds. The signals of this season were the Christmas and Paperbark trees blossoming (inside frame - yellow and white dots). Noongar people burnt mosaic sections of scrubland through fire-stick farming (Black shapes with orange paintwork and yellow dots). An abundance of food was found along the coastal lakes and river estuaries. The Menang used dolphins (main focus) to shepherd fish into nearby rocks and beaches. Colours of this season are green, blue, orange and yellow.



MEERTILUC

February - March

The 'fruiting' was characterised by hot easterly conditions with afternoon sea breezes. Noongar people moved to coastal estuaries (Yellow dotted black shapes representing fish trap rocks) and reefs where fish (main focus) and abalone constituted a portion of the seasonal diet. This was also the salmon and herring season. Large fish could be speared from overhanging trees along river banks. The Menang celebrated the Rainbow Trout Dreaming along the Kalgan River within this season. Colours of this season are yellow, orange and red.



POURNER

April - May

'First rains - first dew' began when the weather became cooler with winds from the southwest. Fishing continued, the goanna's were fat and the Zamia palm nuts (main focus), bulbs, and other seeds were collected and prepared for food. Colours of this season are red, brown and grey.



MAWKUR

June - July

During the 'cold and wet' Noongar people moved inland from the coast to the Darling Scarp to shelter from the cold coastal winds. The flowering sheoak trees (inside frame) meant the kangaroos (main focus) were ready to eat. This painting depicts the Menang using fire and the terrain to track and hunt the Yonga (grey Kangaroo towards Lakes or bodies of water such as swampy areas). Wild carrots and several species of wild potato were ready for harvesting. Colours of this season are grey and black.



MEERNINGAL

August - September

As the weather started to get 'warmer' Noongar groups moved to the drier areas. This calmer weather allowed the bush to rejuvenate (plant rejuvenation depicted) the plants begin to bloom. Eggs from water fowl, emus, swans and ducks (depicted) were collected. This painting depicts a Menang man sitting near a lake with his fire going (center colours of yellow and orange) getting ready to gather eggs and hunt wild fowls. Tortoises, berries and roots also supplemented the larger game of kangaroo, emu and ringtail possum. Colours of this season are black, blue and green.



MAUNGERAN

October - November

The 'Flowering' is the height of the wildflower season. Quandong trees were ripening (depicted by red circles), ready for harvesting later in the season, as well as other small shrubs that produced berries. Families moved towards the coastal lakes (Menang country was Lake Seppings) where frogs, turtles (depicted) and freshwater crayfish or gilgies and blue marron were caught. Snakes and goannas were also a source of food during this season. Colours of this season are blue and green.

