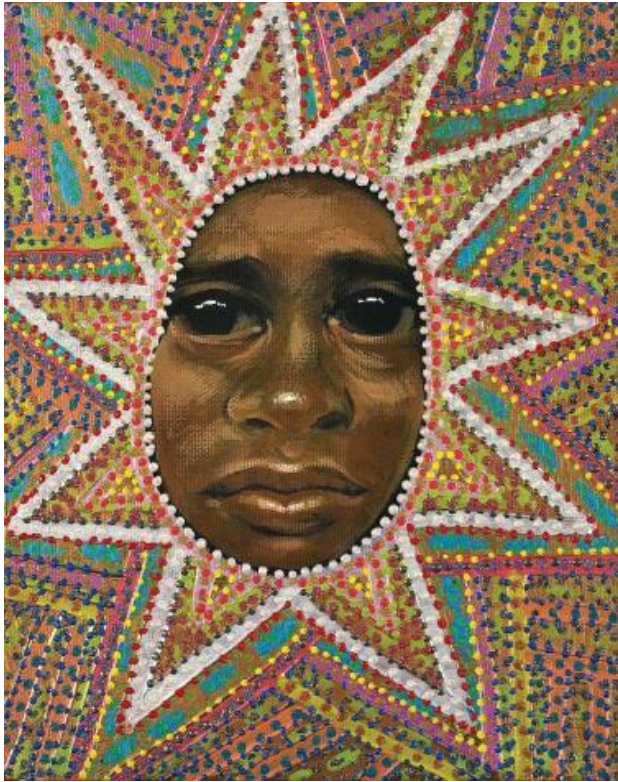


In recent years Julie Dowling has emerged as one of Australia's most sought after and accomplished painters, and a leading light of the contemporary Indigenous art movement. The subjects of her paintings deal with the Aboriginal identity and the Indigenous perspective of Australian history as reflected in the experiences of her ancestors, her family and her people over time. Thus, the emphasis on portraiture in her work; both of individuals and of groups of people where Dowling consciously merges her European-style training with Indigenous concepts of picture making. References to classical Western art, Renaissance art, the Dutch masters and Caravaggio permeate her work. Dowling's art is at once intimately personal and universally resonant.

Dowling was born in 1969 in Perth and belongs to the Badimaya language group. She studied at the Claremont School of Art in Perth and received a Bachelor of Fine Art from Curtin University in 1992.

Widely collected, Dowling's work is found in most major Australian public art collections, including the National Gallery of Australia (which recently acquired her Stations of the Cross, 2005, series of paintings), as well as several private collections including the Kerry Stokes Collection and the Kelton Foundation (USA) among many, many others.



*Icon to a stolen child: Renae, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

REANE: Variant spelling of latin Rena, meaning 'reborn'.



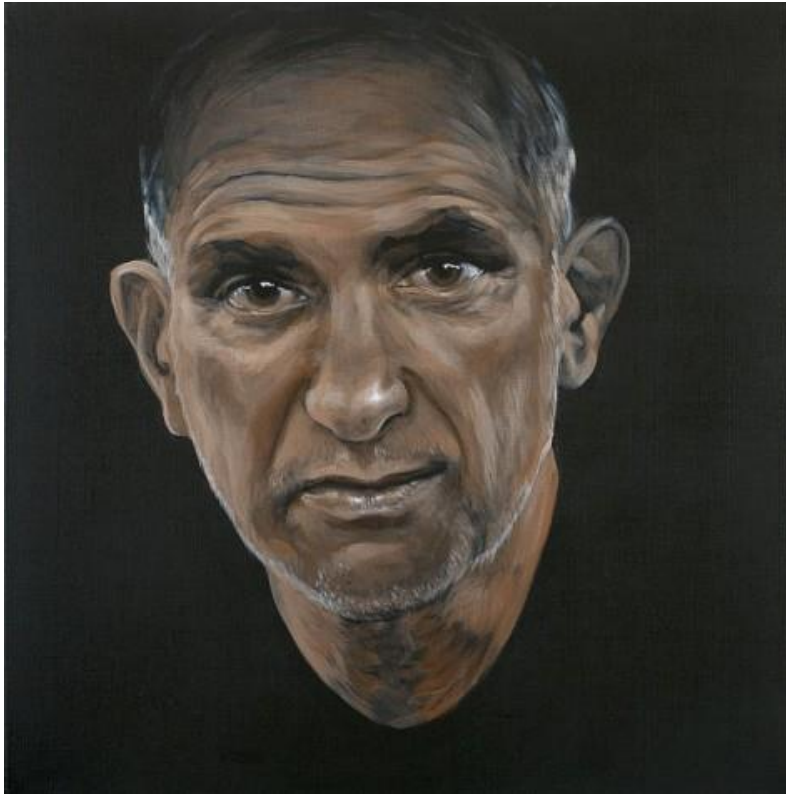
*Claimed Up*, 2013

acrylic and red ochre on canvas

91.0 x 71.0 cm



*Jack Thompson, 2013*  
acrylic, red ochre on canvas  
61.0 x 61.0 cm



*Paul Kelly, 2013*

acrylic and red ochre on canvas

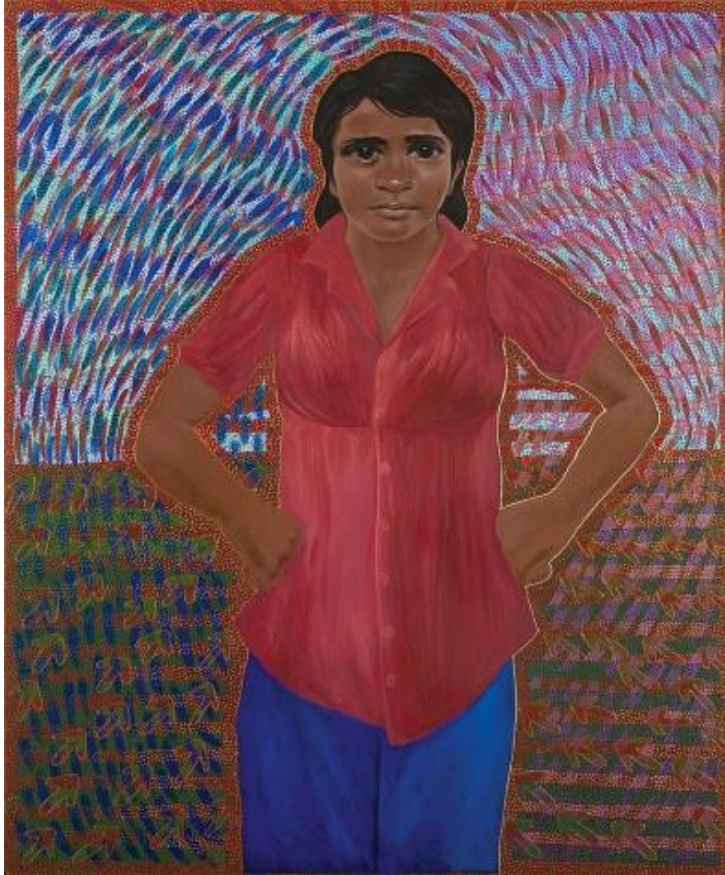
61.0 x 61.0 cm



*Wall flower*, 2013

acrylic and red ochre on canvas

111.0 x 153.0 cm



*The nanny*, 2010

acrylic and plastic on canvas

120.0 x 100.0 cm

This picture shows a representation of a Nanny. Many Noongar women and girls worked for local wealthy land owners in the Maddintong area from the earliest times of colonisation to the recent past.

This image is set in the 1970's and shows a young woman as if telling her charges to do as she asks them. She is perhaps asking that they clean up their room or finish off their food. It reflects the limited power that she held within such a dynamic. I wanted to show her as a dignified individual in these circumstances.



*Warrida*, 2011  
oil on canvas  
25.5 x 20.0 cm





*Clean Hands, 2012*

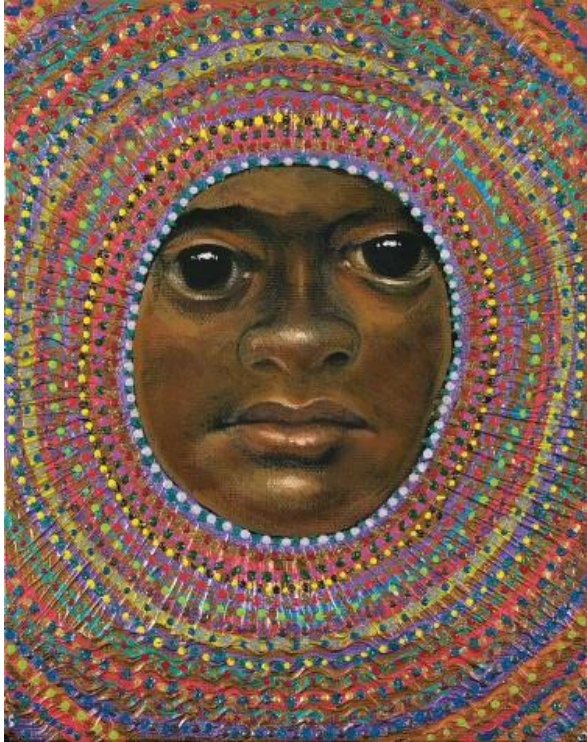
oil, acrylic and plastic on canvas

122.0 x 92.0 cm

In Maddington there were a number of women employed as servants in the 1930's, 40's and 50's from the local people who returned after being pushed off of the Maddington area due to development in the milk, fruit and chicken industry.

The image shows the local fires that were the rational ways the local Noongar people used to farm (fire-stick farming) and around her body are the symbols for the Canning River which runs through Maddington at a considerably reduced size since colonisation.

Clean hands because the protestant farmers would inspect the servant's hands before preparation for food or handling small children in case they were 'unclean' to do so. She stands holding her hands up for inspection so I put a print of my own hand on hers as both my ancestors were both servants and the landowners.

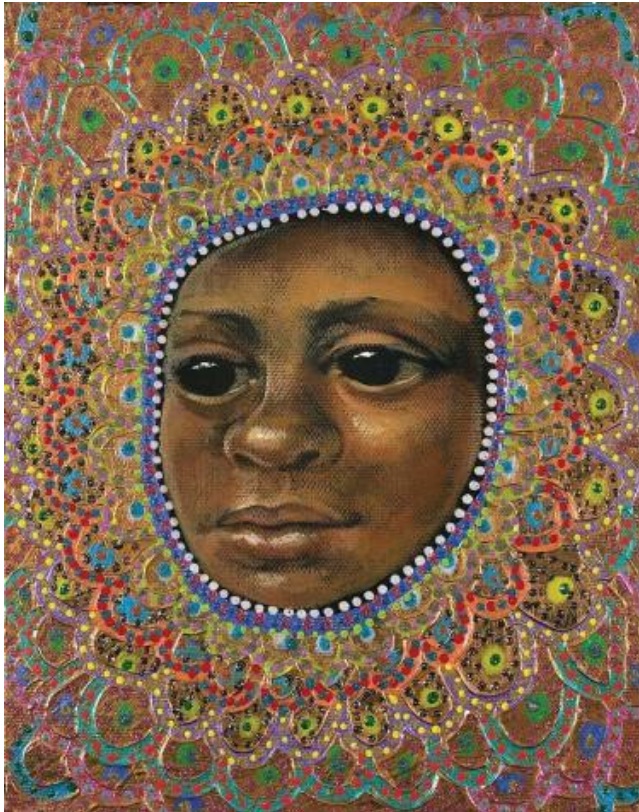


*Icon to a stolen child: Amatus, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

AMATUS: Latin form of Frenche Ame, meaning *beloved*

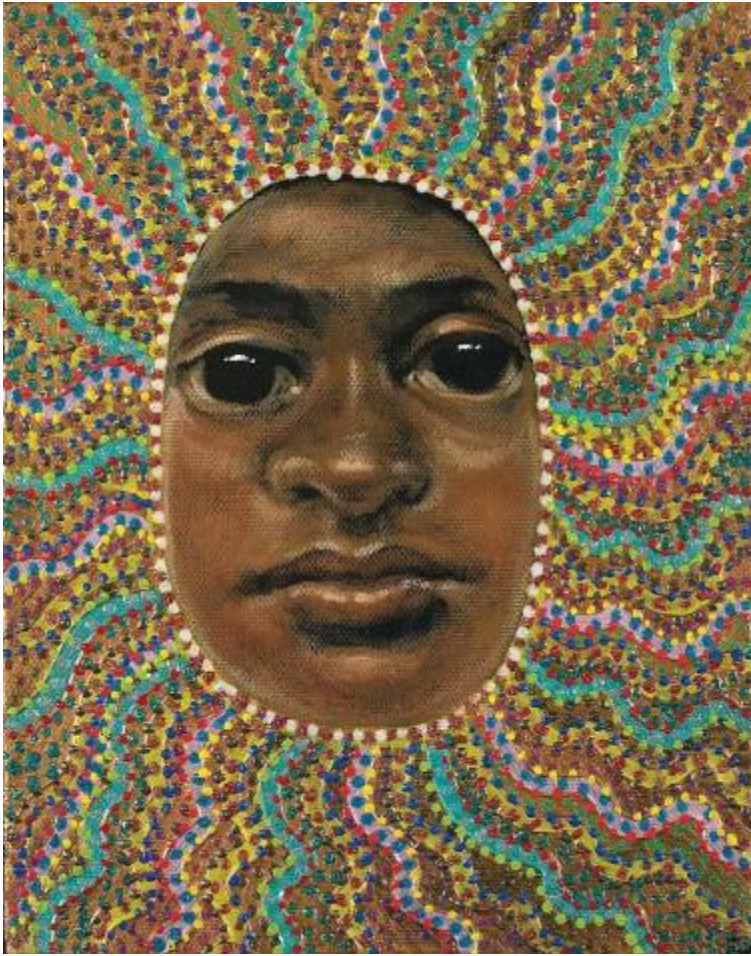


*Icon to a stolen child: Charis, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

CHARIS: Latin form of Greek Kharis meaning 'charm, grace, kindness'. In mythology, this is the singular form of plural Kharites (Charites), a name for the goddesses of charm.

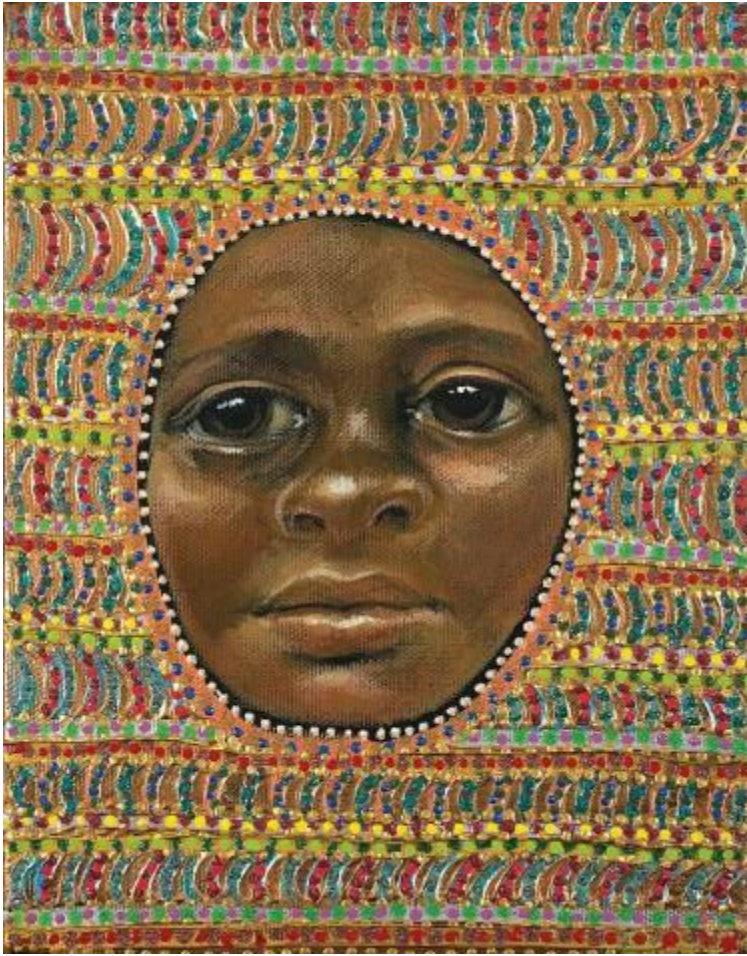


*Icon to a stolen child: Idetta, 2012*

acrylic and pastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

IDETTA: Latin form of French Idette, meaning 'work'

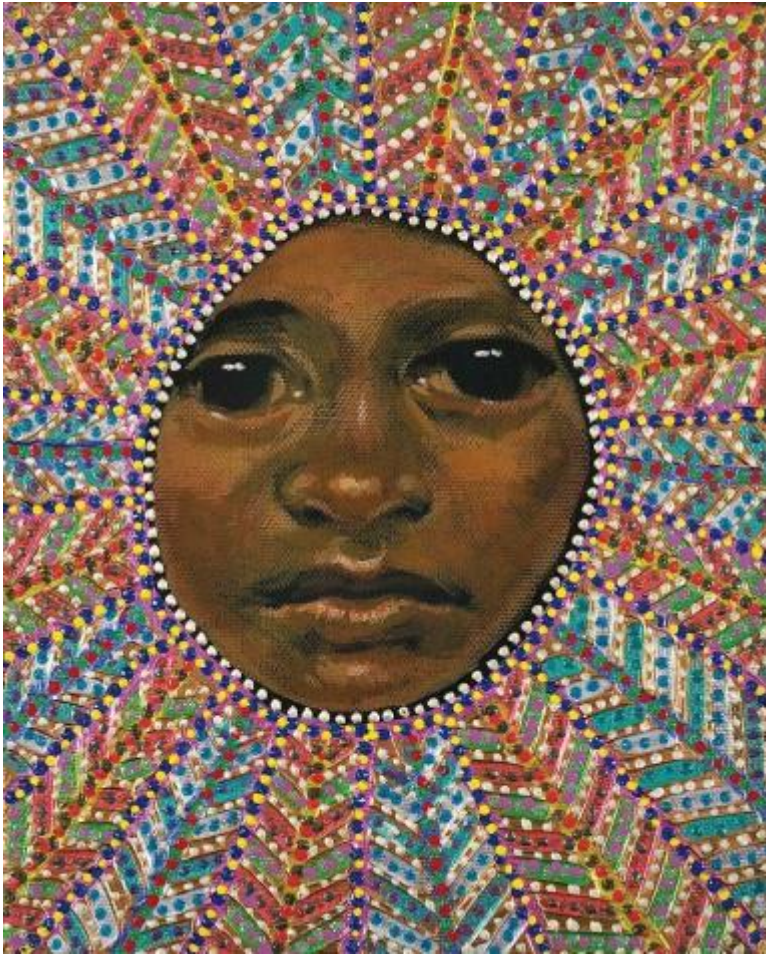


*Icon to a stolen child: Leta, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

LETA: Variant form of Latin Leto, meaning 'the hidden one'. Compare with another form of Leta

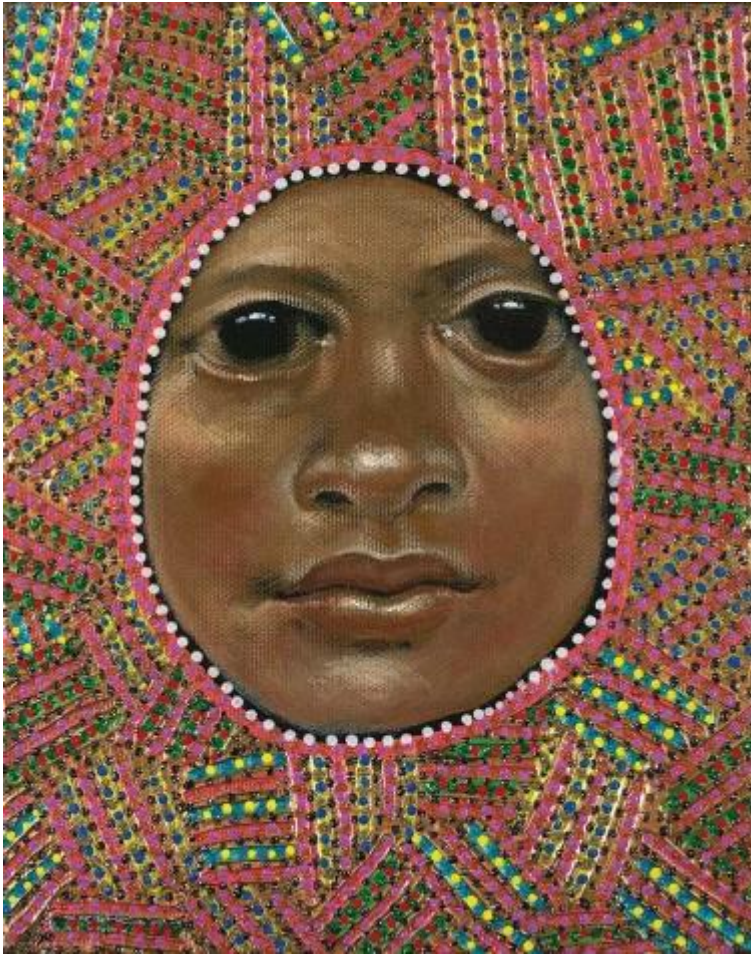


*Icon to a stolen child: Lora, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.0 x 20.0 cm

LORA: Latin name meaning 'sorrowful'

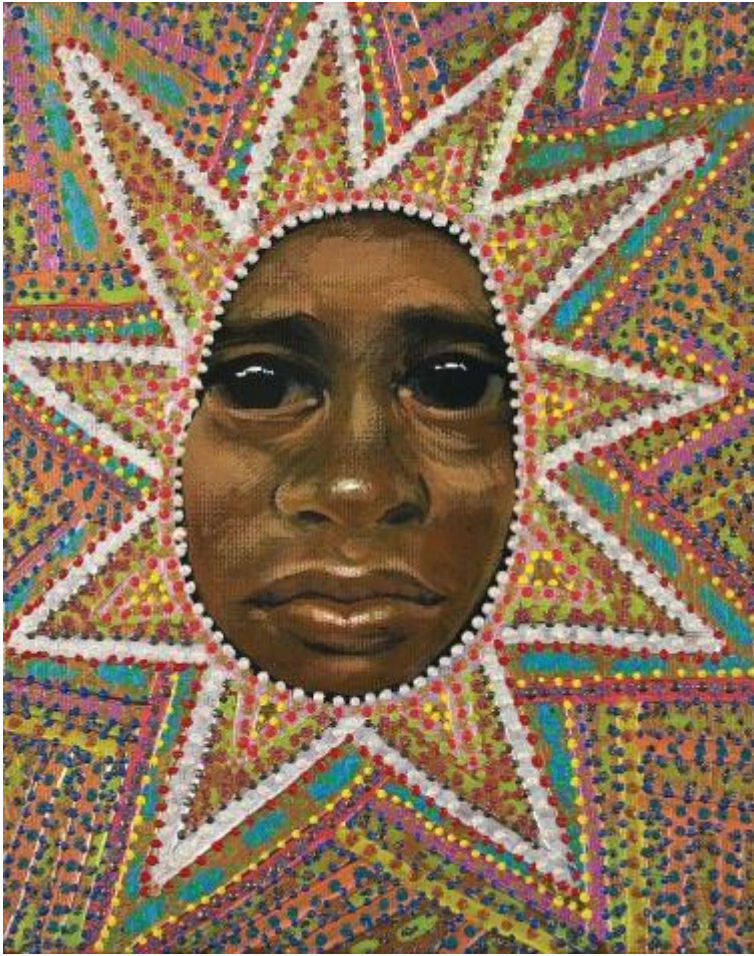


*Icon to a stolen child: Mneme, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

MNEME: Latin form of greek Mneme, meaning 'memory'. In mythology, this is the name of one of the three original Muses.



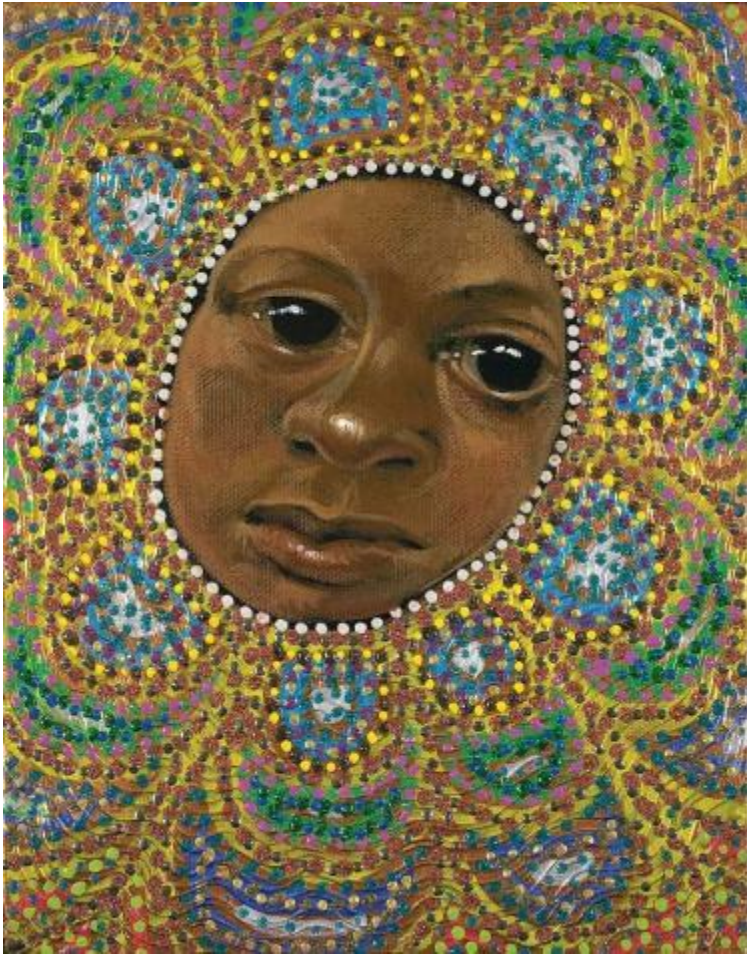
*Icon to a stolen child: Renae, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

REANE: Variant spelling of latin Rena, meaning 'reborn'



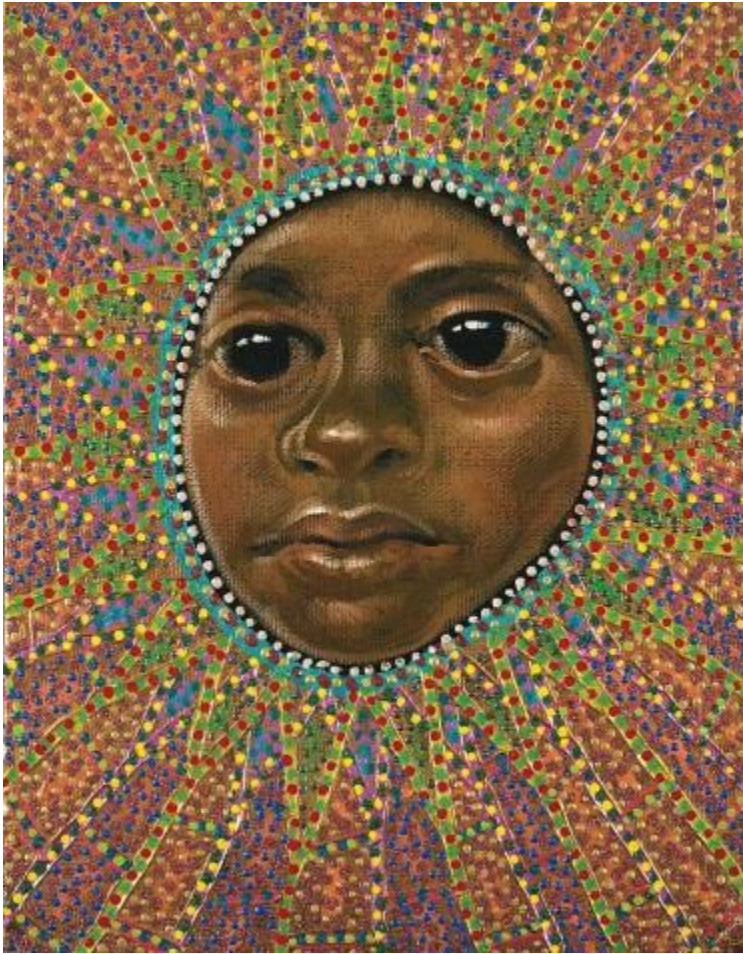


*Icon to a stolen child: Seema, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

SEEMA: variant spelling of Latin Cyma, meaning 'sprout' or 'wave'.

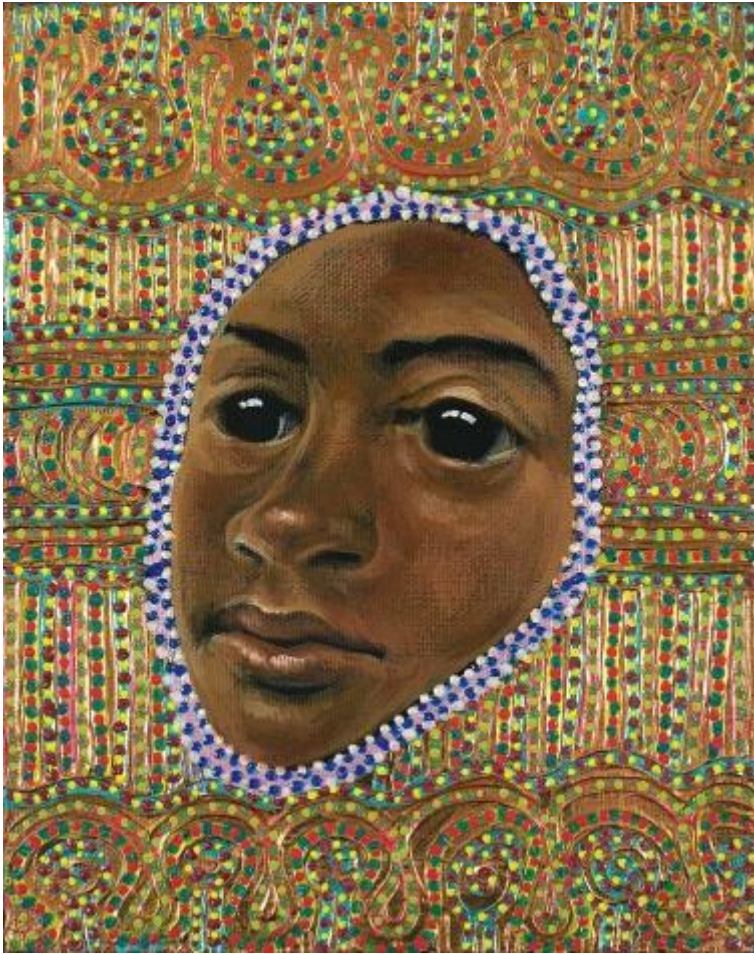


*Icon to a stolen child: Tacita, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

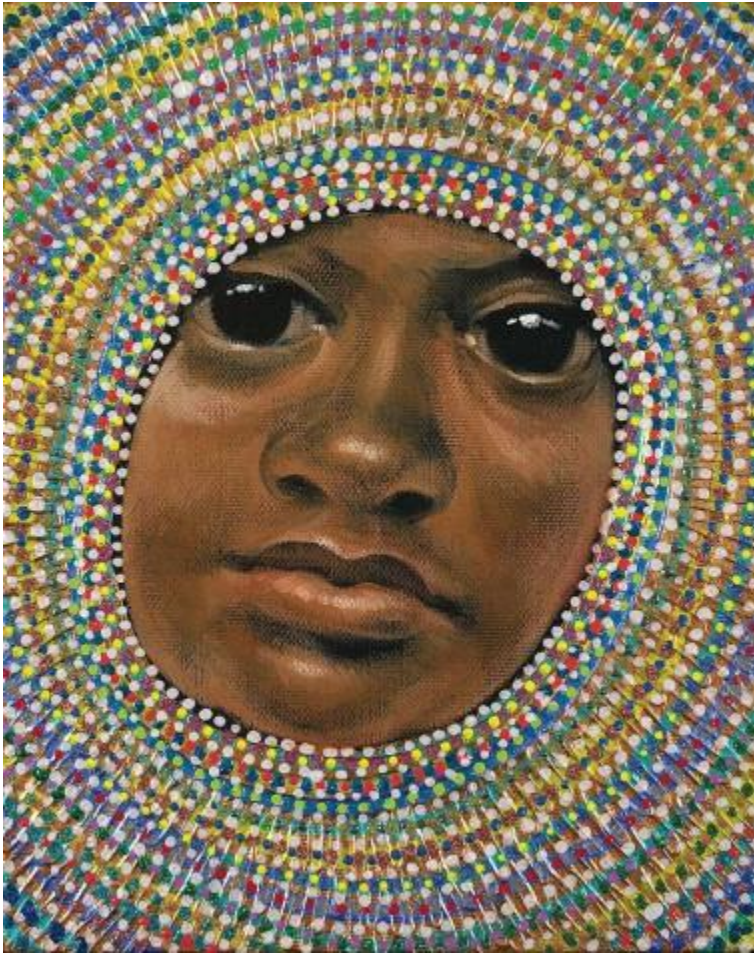
25.5 x 20.0 cm

TACITA: Feminine form of Roman Latin Tacitus meaning 'mute, silent'



*Icon to a stolen child: Undine, 2012*  
acrylic and plastic on canvas

UNDINE: This name was created by the author Paracelsus, derived from Latin unda meaning 'wave'

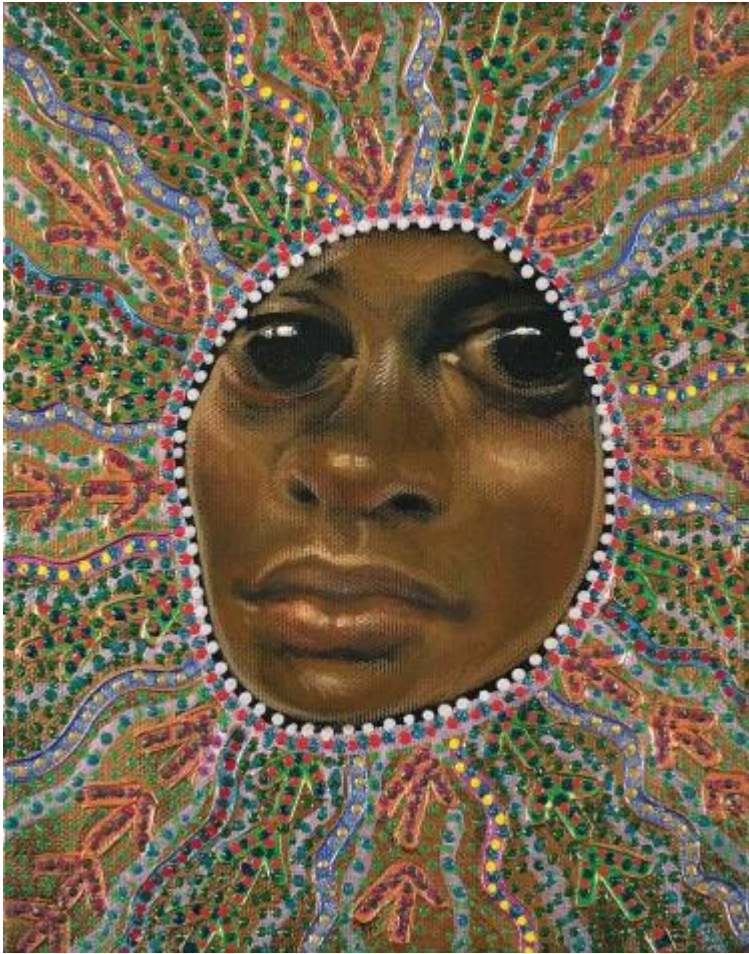


*Icon to a stolen child: Aegle, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

AEGLE: Latin form of Greek Aigle, meaning 'radiance, splendour'

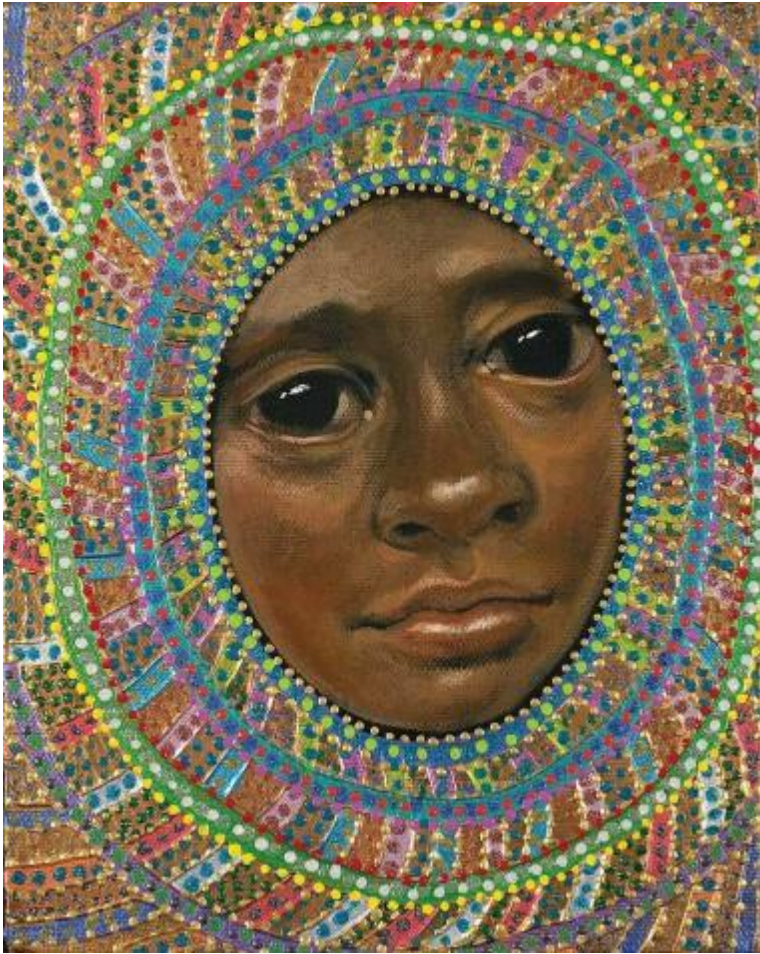


*Icon to a stolen child: Aello, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

AELLO: Latin form of Greek Aello, meaning 'storm wind, whirlwind'

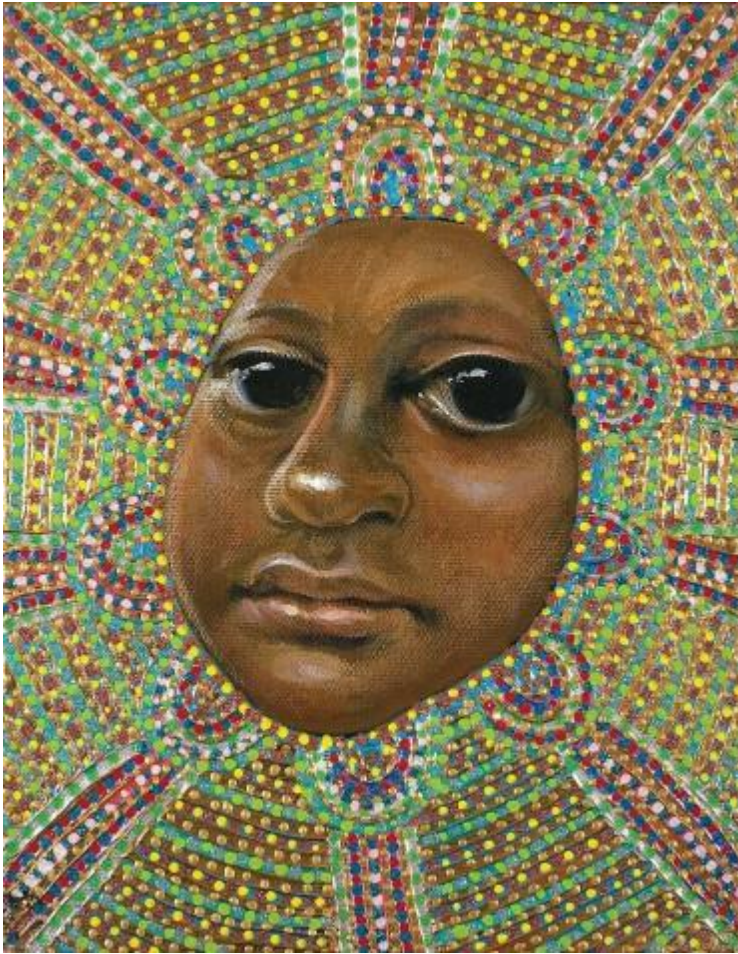


*Icon to a stolen child: Cyra, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

CRYA: Feminine form of Latin Cyrus, meaning 'like the sun'

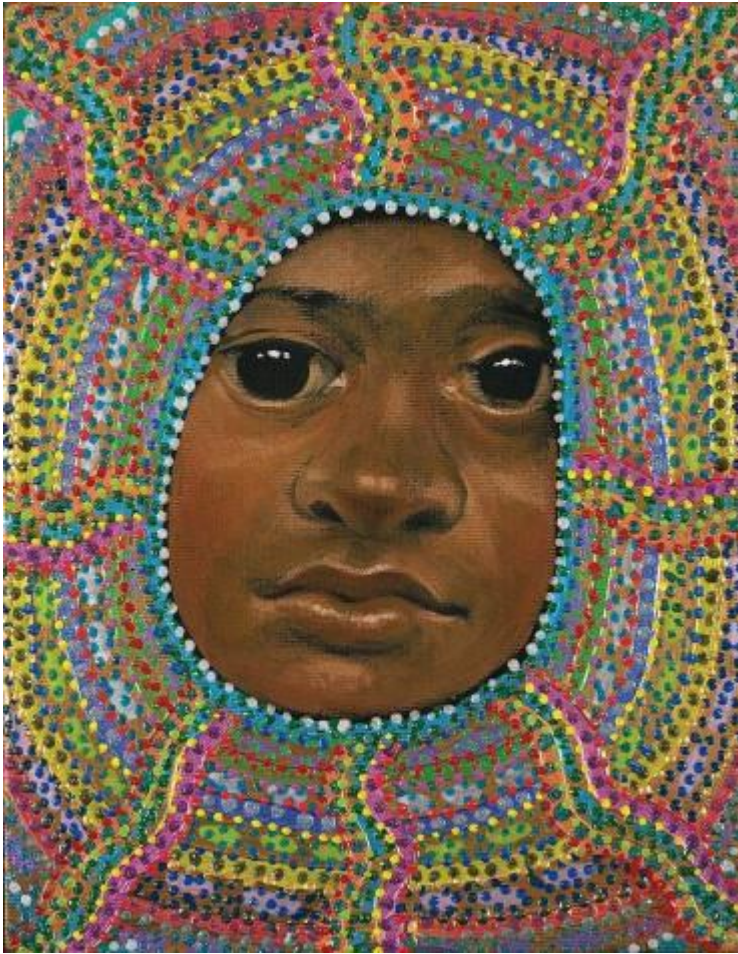


*Icon to a stolen child: Iuturna, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

IUTURA: Roman myth name of a goddess of fountains, springs and wells, derived from Latin iuvare, meaning 'to help'



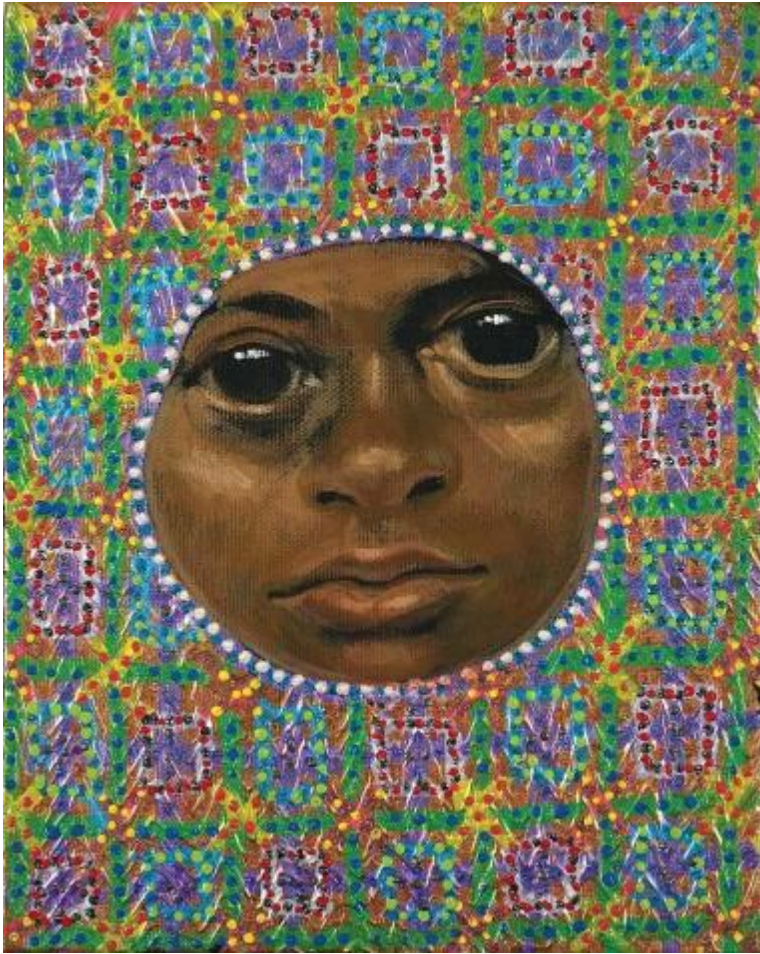
*Icon to a stolen child: Clytie, 2012*

acrylic and pastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

CLYTIE: latin form of Greek Klytie, meaning 'famous'





*Icon to a stolen child: Agatha, 2012*

acrylic and plastic on canvas

25.5 x 20.0 cm

AGATHA: Latin form of Greek Agathe, meaning 'good'



*Dispossession Series: Me, Myself, Julie, 2004*

acrylic and red ochre on canvas

120.0 x 100.0 cm

no. 1, set of 5

Text: *'I have the right to practice my own land lore'*

"This is a self-portrait dealing with my own practice of enquiry onto the notion of hybridity and fusion art. it is about questioning whether postcolonial and post-modern concepts can be at all unified. I say without the rights to my land and its lore, I will continue to be a spiritual fringe-dweller. What is stopping me is legislation and this work is an act against imperial enlightenment. It is part of a series making comment using individual portraits of family and friends directly asserting their views on dispossession from culture, country and lore" JD



*Dispossession Series: My sista, Carol, 2004*

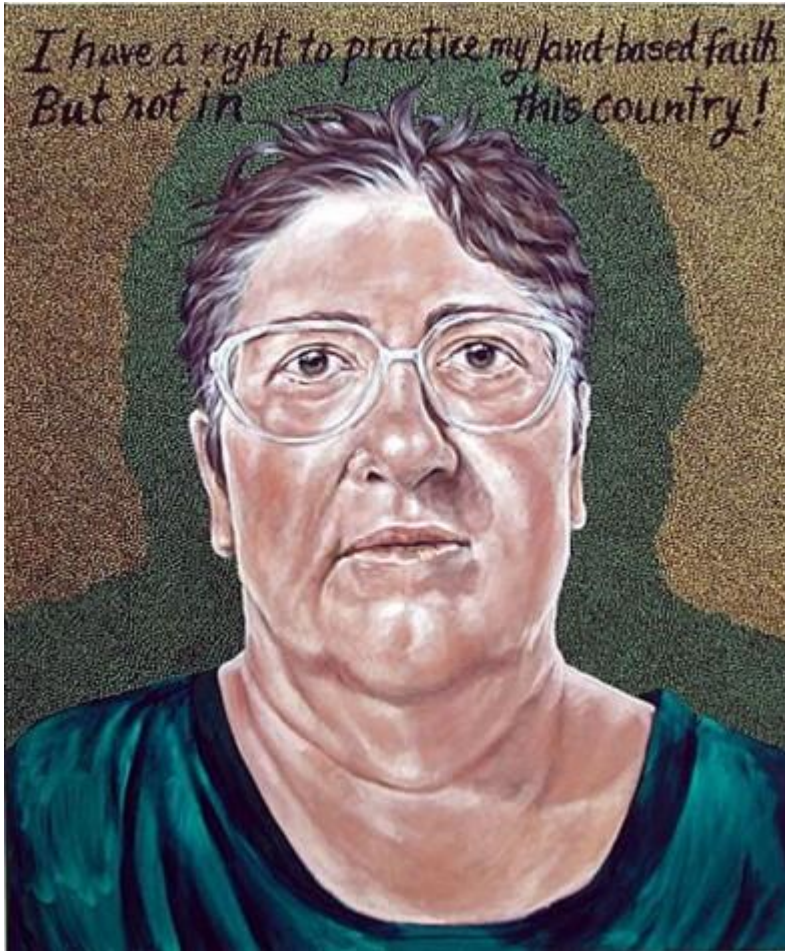
acrylic and red ochre on canvas

120.0 x 100.0 cm

no. 2, set of 5

Text: *'Democracy means majority rule with minority rights'*

"This painting is a portrait of my twin sister, Carol Dowling and shows her about to leave to deliver a lecture at Curtin University. Carol believes that democracy is under challenge in Australia because of the conditions and treatment received by her people in Australia today. The national government wants us to be part of a liberal democracy rather than for us to be recognised as distinct nations who have never ceded sovereignty." JD



*Dispossession series: My Mum, Ronnie, 2004*

acrylic and red ochre on canvas

120.0 x 100.0 cm

no. 3, set of 5

Text: *'I have the right to practice my own land based faith, but not in this country'*

"This painting is a portrait of my mother, Veronica Mary Dowling and the words she spoke in our kitchen. This painting talks about how my mother has felt hopeless about the boundaries that exist preventing her from continuing the knowledge she learnt from her grandmother in her own country". JD



*Self Portrait: The Extreme Sport, 2013*

acrylic and red ochre on canvas

77.0 x 51.0 cm