

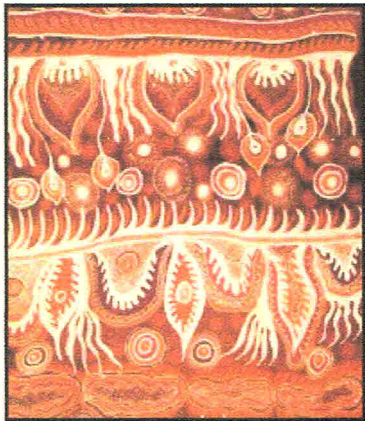
Let The Earth Speak

The Fabric Of Life

Collaborative cloths made by Brahma Tirta Sari & Ernabella Arts Inc

Until 19 March 2006

Introduced to remote Aboriginal communities during the early 1970s, batik - the wax-resist dye technique for textiles, was taken up with much enthusiasm, particularly in response to Australia's white urban craft revival at the time. As such, it allowed Indigenous communities to gain economic independence, with Ernabella housing a community art centre that has utilised the medium for 33 years. In September of last year Ernabella Arts Inc hosted artists from Brahma Tirta Sari, Jogjakarta, to work collaboratively with batik. Let



The Earth Speak incorporates batiks stemming from that collaboration, along with recent batiks typical of Ernabella Arts Inc, and some rare pieces from the Ernabella archives. The detail and delicacy of batik conveys Indigenous subject matter in a way many viewers are perhaps not familiar with. Batik is certainly very much a part of the Indigenous art genre and in this exhibition is beautifully presented.

Nerina Dunt

Yilpi Adamson, silk batik, image courtesy The Fabric of Life