



ABORIGINAL ARTIST BETTY MUFFLER PAINTS HOPE FOR THE COVER OF VOGUE AUSTRALIA

For the first time in the title's 60-year history, an original work of art will feature on the cover of *Vogue Australia* – and it will be the work of renowned Anangu (Aboriginal) Pitjantjatjara artist, Betty Muffler.

As a part of a global campaign for hope in the age of coronavirus, Vogue commissioned painter and spiritual healer, Muffler to paint the September cover, titled *Ngangkari Ngura (Healing Country)*, with the assistance of the National Gallery of Australia.

"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists are integral to the history – and future – of Australia's culture and visual arts scene," said National Gallery of Australia Director, Nick Mitzevich. "It is exciting to see a growing international audience for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, and it is with great pleasure that we could work with an iconic brand like Vogue to showcase Betty and her art on a world stage."

In April, the editors of Vogue met virtually to discuss how they could work together to offer their readers a message of optimism, and as a result, the word 'hope' appears on each of Vogue's 26 specially commissioned September issues published around the world.

Muffler was commissioned for two works – the cover and one other – that will both be included in the international 'Hope' portfolio to be published in every Vogue region.

"For Vogue Australia, looking to illustrate this word led us to the work of Betty Muffler. We worked closely with the National Gallery of Australia to commission Betty, who when the world went into lockdown, painted to heal herself, her people, and her Country." said Edwina McCann, Editor-in-chief, Vogue Australia. "Our heartfelt thanks to Betty for believing Vogue is a deserving home for her work, and message. The artwork has been hung and gifted to the Gallery, and therefore to all Australians."

"I'm so happy for my painting to be on the cover of Vogue Australia! I've been working for a very long time as a Ngangkari and an artist, and I can't believe my artwork is going to be on the magazine. Through my paintings you can see my Ngangkari work: watching over people and also looking after Country. My Country. This place is very important – we all need to look after each other and respect our home." said Ms Muffler.

Find the full story and a feature on the Gallery's upcoming [Know My Name: Australian Women 1900 to now](#) exhibition in Vogue Australia's September issue, on sale Monday 14 September. Betty Muffler's *Ngangkari Ngura (Healing Country)* is now on display at the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Images available via download [here](#).

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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