

Warmun Traditional Artists

Catalogue Number : RT0104

Artist Name : Rover Thomas

Age : 70 years

Language : Kakatja-Wangkagungka

Sub Section : Joolama

Artist Background :

Born in the desert region of the Warburton Ranges, at a place called "Three Wells" on the community of Jigalong, as a young boy, Rover hunted and gathered the desert food with his Father and family.

"Gudiyas" (white men) would roam and "take" young boys for work on Kimberley cattle stations, Rover was one of these boys, brought to Texas Downs where he learnt about fencing and droving, and here he underwent tribal initiation and was accepted as one of the Kija people of "Warramun" (Warmun).

Artwork Name : "Baba" (Dogs)

Image Id(s) : ,RT0104

Date Completed : 5/7/96

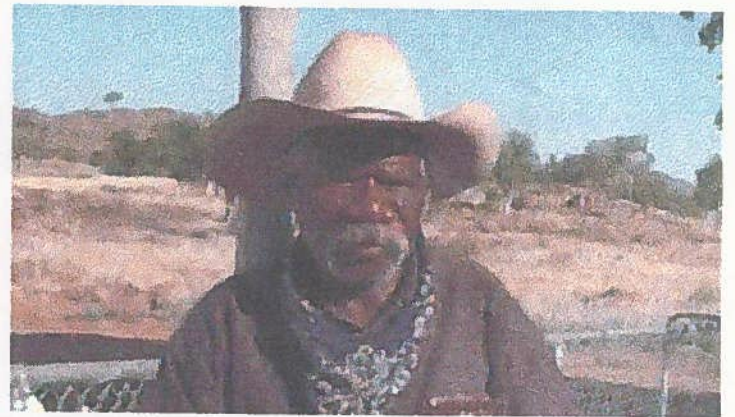
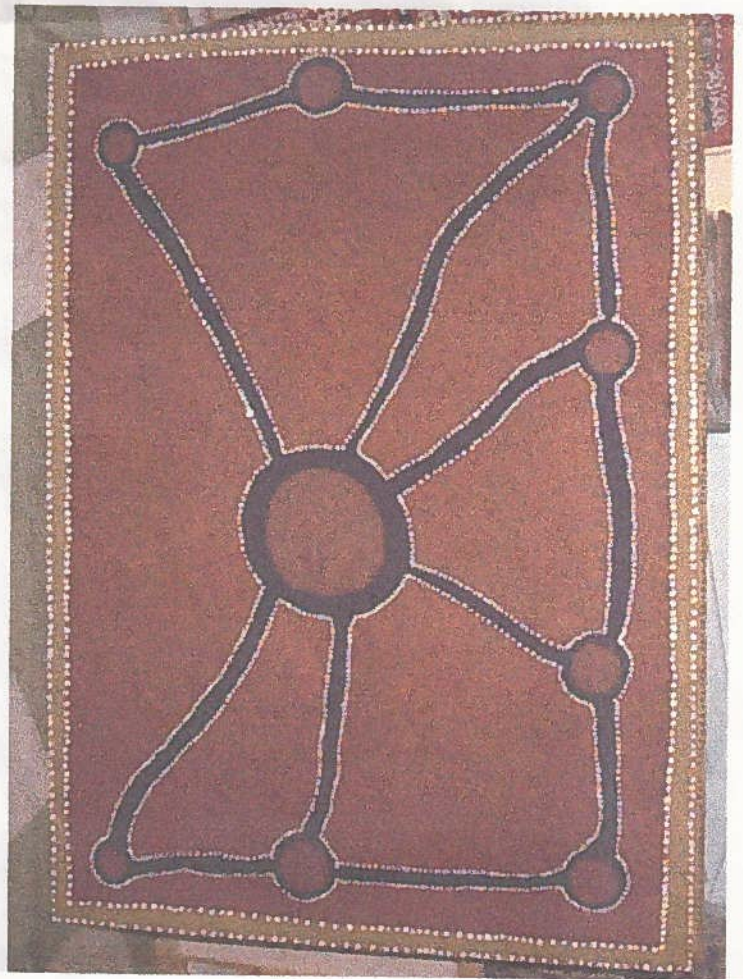
Size :140/100cm.

Medium : Ochre on Canvas

Artwork Story :

Rover depicts a scene from his days as a desert wanderer, Mother and baby dingoes and the well-worn tracks made as they play and hunt.

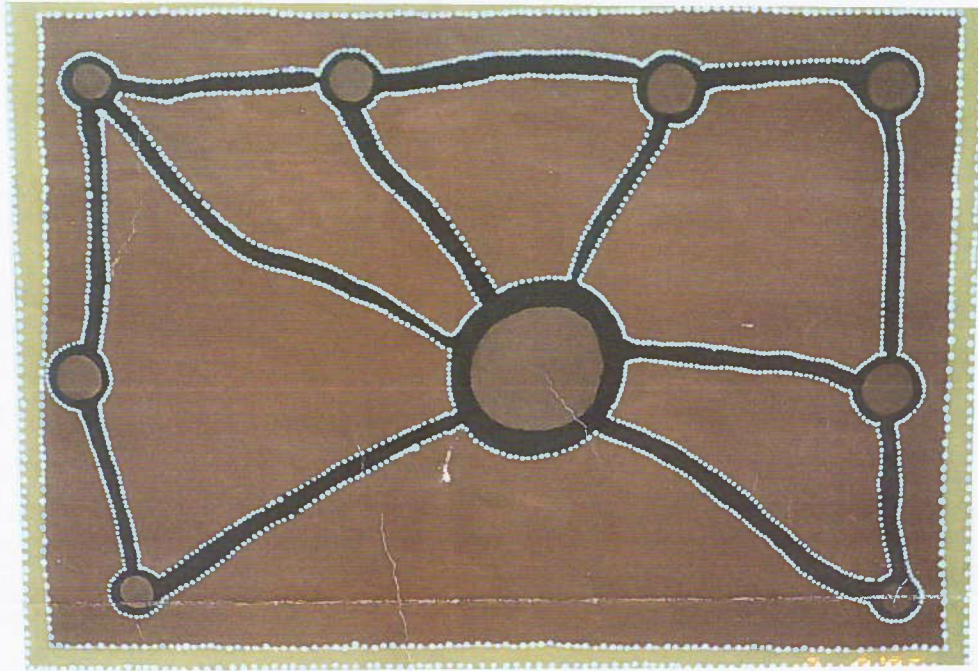
Price : \$



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K I M B E R L E Y
AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL ART

VALUATION



Artist: Rover Thomas
Language: Kukatja /Wangkajunga
Skin Name: Joolama
Birthplace: Kuka-banyu (Well 33 on the Canning Stock Route) W.A.
Birth Date: Approx. 1926
Domicile: Warmun Community (Warrmarn), Turkey Creek, W.A.

Painting Details

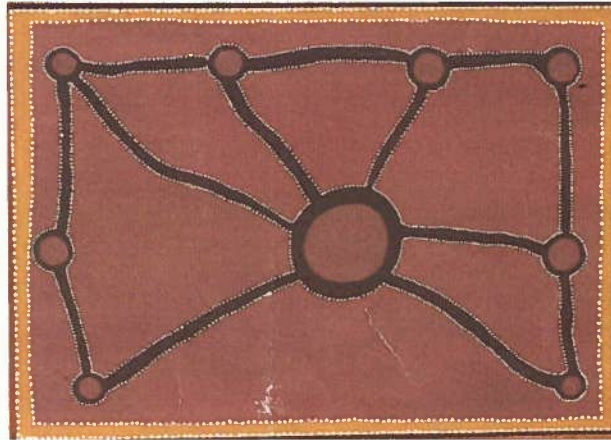
Title: "Baba" (Dogs)
Medium: Ochre on canvas
Size: 140 x 100 cm
Date: 1996
Cat.No: KA.RT.0104/96
Story: Rover depicts a scene from his days as a desert wanderer, mother and baby dingoes and the well-worn tracks made as they play and hunt.

Valuation:

Peter Harrison
Peter Harrison
Gallery Director 22/7/98



CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY



LOT NUMBER: 199
ARTIST: **ROVER THOMAS (JOLAMA) (1926 - 1998)**
TITLE: *Dingo Dreaming, 1996*
MEDIUM: natural earth pigments on linen
SIZE: 100 x 140 cm

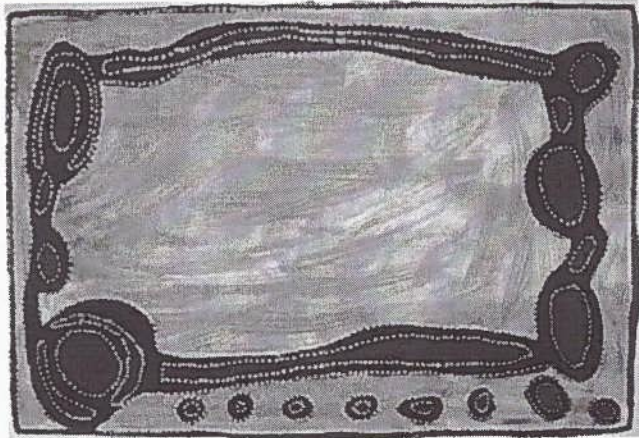
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I certify that this is an original work of art by the above artist.

Adrian Newstead
(Senior Aboriginal Art Specialist)
31 May 2005



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SAME
THEME AS
CURRENT
WORK

Artist Rover Thomas
Title Jaandoo - Wild Dog Dreaming
Date 1995
Medium lithograph, edition of 40
Image size 63 x 103 cm
Price \$13,200 **SOLD**
Print No PM 47 (signed)

This work shows Wild Dog Dreaming places in the artist's traditional country around Yalda Soak (near well 33 on the Canning Stock Route). The Wild Dog or dingo is the artist's dreaming from which he derives his first name. When he first came to the East Kimberly as a young man, he was so fond of talking about the Dingo dreaming that the local Aboriginal people nicknamed him "Rover" (or Roba as it is pronounced in aboriginal kriol) and he has used the name ever since.

In 1995 the artist revisited his birthplace and the Wild Dog dreaming sites for the first time in 40 years and created a series of works based on the trip. This print shows a series of rock holes formed by Mother Wild Dog and her "puppy dogs" in the dream-time. These rock holes are found up on ridges and were vital sources of watering the harsh desert climate as well as important dreaming places. At the lower left is the dreaming place of the Mother Wild Dog which is said to be linked to its "puppy dogs" by subterranean passages. The smaller circles at the bottom are rounded stones which are also associated with this country.