

## Media Release No. 670

**8 September 2015**

### **BOLD AND COLOURFUL PATTERNS TAKE OVER THURSDAY ISLAND**

The transformative and immersive qualities of camouflage and kaleidoscopes will be explored when 'Kids on Tour: Pattern Bandits' visits the Gab Titui Cultural Centre, Thursday Island on 22 and 23 September 2015.

'Pattern Bandits' is the latest Kids on Tour program from the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA). The regional tour has been drawn from the exhibition displayed at GOMA last year, which was created by Los Angeles-based Australian artist Jemima Wyman in collaboration with the Gallery's Children's Art Centre.

The Torres Strait Regional Authority Chairperson, Mr Joseph Elu, said workshops such as these provided inspiration and insight into the world of art for a younger audience who might not normally get to experience it.

"I'm very pleased the Gab Titui is able to work with QAGOMA in delivering programmes as it brings a new perspective of art to our region," Mr Elu said.

"They also go a long way in helping children to understand and connect with the broader notion of what makes art and helps to build capacity which can ultimately grow the art industry in the region."

QAGOMA Director Chris Saines said the very popular exhibition was part of an ongoing series of Children's Art Centre projects developed with leading Australian artists, including Gordon Hookey, Fiona Hall, Pip & Pop, Callum Morton and Anne Wallace.

"Pattern Bandits' looks at how patterns are used as a marker of personal and group identity, while referring to the psychological, political and historical associations they can carry,' Mr Saines said.

The 'Kids on Tour: Pattern Bandits' program will comprise of a range of activities, developed especially for children and families by the artist and will enable regional communities to enjoy key elements of the original exhibition at their local venue.

Young visitors are able to create their own personalised bandannas and perform with the artist's instructional video *Pattern Power Moves*; create circular collages and discover how patterns can be transformed by movement, and make a digital kaleidoscopic tessellation in the multimedia activity *Harlequin Hallway*.

Workshops are free and most appropriate for children aged between 6 and 11. Bookings for the workshops are essential. For more information or to make a booking, contact the Gab Titui Cultural Centre on 07 40690 888.

## ABOUT THE QAGOMA CHILDREN'S ART CENTRE

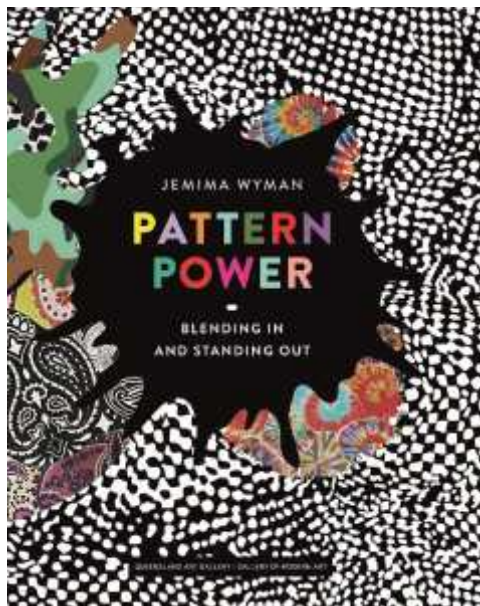
The QAGOMA's Children's Art Centre is a leader in developing interactive projects, activities and publications for children and families.

Through collaboration with artists, the Children's Art Centre helps children engage with contemporary cultures and experience the many ways artists approach their work. Since 1998, the Gallery has worked with more than 170 Australian and international contemporary artists.

Since 2007, the Children's Art Centre has presented an annual touring program throughout regional Queensland and an award-winning publishing program for young audiences.



Young visitors create collages as part of *Spinning Wall Mandala Portal* with Jemima Wyman's 'Pattern Bandits' 2014. Commissioned by the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art's Children's Art Centre. Photograph: Mark Sherwood / Courtesy: QAGOMA.



*Pattern Power: Blending In and Standing Out* 2014. Publication produced by the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art in collaboration with the artist and in association with the Children's Art Centre exhibition 'Jemima Wyman: Pattern Bandits'. Courtesy: QAGOMA.

**ENDS**

**TSRA Media Contact – Bruce Nelson telephone (07) 4069 0700**