

## *Tappa Parruna (the Journey of Life)*



The Kurna Arts Project has been developed to further the concept of reconciliation and healing at Flinders Medical Centre (FMC). In addition to acknowledging the Kurna people, the traditional owners of the land, this artwork will benefit the entire community, providing a retreat for all patients, staff and visitors. Situated amongst the trees at the front of FMC's *Yitpi Tukkutya Parrundaiendi (The Dancing Spirits)* welcomes everyone to the hospital.

The site was selected by artists Karl Winda Telfer and Gavin Malone especially because of the trees and the creek: a place of calm within the hospital grounds.

The underlying theme of the work is symbolic of the cycle of birth, life and death. This public art project has been conceived in a number of stages:

**Stage 1:** *Yitpi Tukkutya Parrundaiendi (The Dancing Spirits)* is a sculptural feature celebrating life, the eternal spirit and nurturance. Located adjacent the creek in trees near the front entrance, two abstract figures – one male, the moon, and one female, the sun – dance with the wind and trees around a Kuri dance stick. Stage 1 was completed and launched with assistance from the Australia Council, Arts SA, the FMC Volunteers Service and Mitcham City Council.

**Stage 2:** *Purru Waiendi (The Flow of Life)* is a limestone flow pattern, which emerges from the creek bed and flows past *Yitpi Tukkutya Parrundaiendi (The Dancing Spirits)*. It was launched in June 2006.

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