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www.facebook.com/groups/nghts/

research of the people associated with the New Guinea Islands. See New Guinea Islands Historical Society: https://platform.facebook to share his plethora of knowledge and Kakabin. Gideon created a cultural forum on the social media late Gunantuna elder, historian, and computer whiz Gideon Beovetra means foreign bird. This was the name given to the Beovetra.

educator, and public speaker.

Nanilla Benson is a renowned Gunantuna media producer, Benson, Nanilla.

Gunantuna people and first contact with Baining people.

Britain island. There are many stories of the migration of the subcultural groups who originally inhabited eastern New Baining are an Indigenous people made up of several Baining.

and can be eaten at any time of the day.

sweet potato, or tapioca. Aibika is something I often crave, It is cooked in coconut milk and generally served with kau kau, Aibika is a staple food.

Aibika.

leaf package with coconut milk and root vegetables.

directly on a fire, then placing these hot stones into a banana practice for Gunantuna people, which involves heating stones Ai gir, to steam with hot stones. This is a customary cooking

Ai gir.

Included: Racism and diversity in institutional life (2012).

a cultural institution and Ahmed's publication, On Being influenced by my own personal experiences of working in of Western societies. Sisterhood Lfeline (2018) was deeply that inhibit bodies that don't blend in with the cultural norm understand the context of institutional racism and structures Sara Ahmed's writing has been crucial in helping me to

Ahmed, Sara

youtube.com/watch?v=0b9u6Edkcvk

about butterflies. Abde - stringband and style: https://www.

Mamua Telek. It's a multi-layered and metaphorical song Abde is my favourite song written and sung by Sir George

Abde.

language.

This Tolaisphere is a selected glossary of the Tinata Tuna

### Lisa Hilli with Léuil Eshrahgi

## A TINATA TUNA

# IMA

INSTITUTE OF MODERN ART

# Lisa Hilli

## *The Commute*

22 September–22 December 2018

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mama tokim, Haskim em.

port (atrad) and pamit (family). F is often replaced by P, including in (h)iron being examples. F is often replaced by P, including in which then influences how we speak English, honesty and His overaspirated in most Tok Pisin-speaking environments, Honesty.

Jacob Edward Hilli who was born in Jeppa, Finland.

Hilli.

Hilli is the surname I carry from my paternal grandfather,

related to the term "gammom" in Aboriginal English and

Yumplatok languages in Australia. in Solomon Islands Pjin and Bislama in Vanuatu. It is closely related to the term "gammom" in Aboriginal English and the late 1800s to 1914. The term "giaman" is also widely used Papuan archipelago. Official German presence lasted from Ireland) and Bougainville amongst other islands in the (New Pomerania or New Britain), Neu Mecklenberg (New Wilhelmland (mainland northern New Guinea), Neu Pommern associated with German colonists under the guise of Kaiser

by climbing up tall coconut tree trunks, detaching it from the

Kiuan is the green or unripe coconut, which is often harvested

Kiuan.

land, home or place, Tuna means true.

The true name of Tolai people, Gunantuna; Gunan denotes

Gunantuna.

in-law.

Profits from copra plantations with the assistance of Phebe Parkinson and Richard Parkinson, Emma's sister and brother-

land through trade with Gunantuna people and made vast commercial empire in 19th century New Guinea. She acquired Emma Coe was a Samoan American woman who established a

Archdiocese of Rabaul, established in 1880.

located in Kokopo as part of the Unapope Catholic

by Bishop Louis Couppe of France for Indigenous women,

FMI), was the first congregation and convent established

Daughters of Mary Immaculate (Filiae Mariae Immaculatae or

Daughters of Mary Immaculate.

and also has a significant role in customary practices.

bright red. Bual is offered to guests, similar to a cup of tea, lime. When combined together it makes your mouth and teeth valued activity. It is chewed with Daka, mustard pepper, and Bual, betelnut, is an addictive but relaxing and culturally

Bual.

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Tul system and implemented this across the whole of then 1975. Australian administrators recognised the Luluai and Tul administration was handed over to Australia from 1920 until additional colony after the 1919 Treaty of Versailles. Colonial defeat in World War I, the British gained New Guinea as an people of Neu Pommern (New Britain). After Germany's and degated several men and women to act as condults, Luluai and Tul Tul between the German colony and the local called the Luluai Decree, which he wrote in Tinata Tuna became the word for God. Governor Albert Hahl appropriated the word Luluai to implement a judicial and policing system

Luluai.

during the dry season.

liquid, and therefore are relied upon for drinking, especially lover. Green or young coconuts contain a greater amount of tree, and sending it down to an eagerly waiting relative or Kiuan is the green or unripe coconut, which is often harvested by climbing up tall coconut tree trunks, detaching it from the

Kiuan.

leave you behind.

This is one of my favorite terms in Tok Pisin. It can be used in everyday language meaning: Eat my dust, you suffer now, or, I Kai kai Das Blo Mi.

See Tinata Tuna.

Kuanua.

independent before European arrival in the mid-1800s.

the celebration event however, believing that we were

Australia. Some Papua New Guineans disagree or question Australia as a Territory on 16 September 1975. Celebratory events are held annually both in Papua New Guinea and in Papua New Guinea became politically independent of Independence Day Celebrations.

the local populations to receive Western missionaries.

missionaries to other archipelagos to proselytise and ready

in Samoa amongst others, in turn sending Indigenous out of Lahainaluna Seminary in Hawaii and Malua Seminary the London Missionary Society and related groups operated

Jesus meaning Jesus. Missionaries specifically coordinated by

Jesus.

goodbye, agreement, acknowledgement, or hello.

lauru is an interchangeable term in Tinata Tuna. Depending on the context of the conversation, it can be used for yes, ok, lauru.

lau is the prefix used before a woman's name in Tinata Tuna.

lau.

## Upcoming Events

29 September Pride Closing Symposium & Celebration

4 October First Thursdays, Carol McGregor

6 October Book Launch, Ryan Presley: *Prosperity*

### INSTITUTE OF MODERN ART

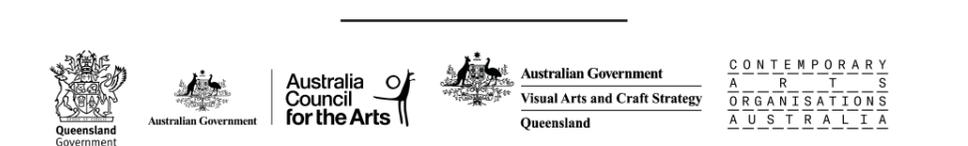
420 Brunswick Street | Brisbane QLD 4006, Australia | ima.org.au | ima@ima.org.au

### Opening Hours

Tuesday–Saturday 11am–6pm | First Thursday of the month 11am–9pm

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*The Commute* is supported by the IMA and has received assistance from the Australia Council for the Arts, Australian Government through the Australian Cultural Diplomacy Grants Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Creative New Zealand, Canada Council for the Arts, Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, and Queensland Government through Arts Queensland in partnership with Brisbane City Council.



The IMA is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, and from the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council for the Arts, and through the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian Federal, State, and Territory Governments. The IMA is a member of Contemporary Art Organisations Australia.



Na Ta.  
Na Ta signifies the deep ocean in Tinata Tuna, referring to a great body of water that is far-reaching.

Olgeta.  
Olgeta in Tok Pisin refers to everyone, the collective or a large group of people. Olgeta lain bilong hap i stap kam daun. Bai yumi kaikai plante tede long nait.

One Thousand Cultural Groups.  
Papua New Guinea is a nation of nations. With a population of 8 million people, there are over 850 languages spoken, not including their many dialects. Diversity of linguistic and cultural groups may be linked to the multiple geographies and biospheres within Papua New Guinea.

Peke vana.  
Peke vana is a phrase I often heard my mother exclaim in annoyance towards me or my other siblings when we were children. I recently came to understand what this term means, when I involuntarily said the same thing to my eight year old son when he was annoying me one morning. The literal translation means, shit go! But can also be interpreted to mean, go away, or worse, fuck off.

Plantations.  
Plantations of vanilla, coffee, sugarcane, and other staple exportable goods were introduced and run by Germans from the late 1800s to 1914 across Kaiser Wilhelmland (mainland northern New Guinea), Neu Pommern (New Pomerania or New Britain), Neu Mecklenberg (New Ireland) and Bougainville amongst other islands in the Papuan archipelago, as well as in German Samoa and other parts of the Great Ocean. Many plantations are still operational.

Rabaul.  
Rabaul was known as the Pearl of the Pacific for its stunning harbour surrounded by four volcanoes: two extinct volcanoes, The Mother and The Daughter, and two active volcanoes, Mt Tavurvur and Mt Vulcan. Rabaul was formerly named Simpsonhafen under German administration. In Tinata Tuna, Rabaul means the mangrove.

Rausim.  
Rausim means to remove or take out in Tok Pisin. Rausim olgeta masta.

Sino-Niuginean  
As a child growing up in Brisbane, my family and I regularly spent a lot of time with Chinese-Papua New Guinean families and attended cultural events, such as marriages and baptisms. The oldest and largest population of Chinese Papua New Guinean people is in Rabaul. The German New Guinea Company originally brought hundreds of Chinese indentured labourers to work in coconut and tobacco plantations under harsh conditions, beginning in 1888. The best known Chinese Papua New Guinean is former prime minister Sir Julius Chan.

The origins of Chinese migration to Rabaul can be found here: <https://gakabin.net/2017/09/18/the-chinese-of-rabaul-john-lau/>

Sisters.  
Sisters of the Vunapope Catholic Archdiocese, especially Sister Margaret of Filae Maria Immaculata or FMI, changed my negative perspective of religious impact upon my people. The arrival of the church offered an escape and relative liberation of Gunantuna women from arranged marriages, which young women did not consent to.

Susa.  
Susa means sister in Tok Pisin and is used affectionately beyond bloodlines. The male equivalent is brata for brother.

Tabu.  
Tabu means sacred, most importantly it refers to Gunantuna shell currency. Unlike Western currency within colonial capitalism, tabu's value is accrued through the time, labour and skill required to make it. This process includes collecting and preparing the shells to be thread onto cane in specific denominations. Tabu is used in exchanges for marriage, deaths and initiations, and is based on a system of communal reciprocity.

Tavurvur.  
Tavurvur is one of two active volcanoes on the eastern Gazelle peninsula of New Britain Island. It has erupted several times over the last 100 years in European documentation, beyond that, it is known through dances and songs relating to Baining and Gunantuna peoples. Mt Tavurvur together with Mt Vulcan erupted in 1994, destroying the town of Rabaul, the former capital of East New Britain province.

Tinata Tuna.  
Tinata Tuna is the language of the Gunantuna people. It is also known as Kuanua, which comes from the Ramoaina language spoken by Duke of York islanders near eastern New Britain, meaning "over there". The Tinata Tuna language was first written by missionaries in the late 1800s. For more context, see language keeper Ismael Kisikel's blog: <https://ismaelkisikel.blogspot.com/2014/?m=0>, and to learn language through memes, visit: [www.instagram.com/kuanua/](http://www.instagram.com/kuanua/)

To.  
To is a prefix for a man's name in Tinata Tuna. It can also mean mister.

Tolai.  
Tolai is the commonly known name for the Gunantuna people. Lai means friend. Some people believe Tolai is an adaption of Talai or Talaigu, a male friend or a friendly greeting, which some men used to acknowledge each other whilst working as indentured labourers in Queensland on sugarcane and cotton plantations. Gideon Kakabin recorded other possible origins of the term on the New Guinea Islands Historical Society's

platform: According to ingiat legend a man called 'Tolaii' sailed across on a stone to Mioko and then to New Britain to conduct wars. His wars took several years and he fathered three men, one at 'Ra tungunana' - malaguna area, one at Kiniginun - Kokopo area, and one on the south coast. These three men were all called 'Tolaii' and the modern Tolai is their descendant. When Rev George Brown arrived at Mioko, he met Guriraram who was a descendant of 'Tolaii'. The Baining however, have a legend which says that the Tolai is their descendant. Two brothers had a fight and one ran to the coast whereupon he fathered the Tolai.

Tok Pisin.  
Tok Pisin (Pidgin English) is a language spoken by millions of coastal and mountain peoples in Papua New Guinea, with its origins in a mix of German, English, Malay and Tinata Tuna. Tok Pisin is a lingua franca amongst Indigenous peoples in one of the most linguistically and culturally diverse regions on the planet. Tok Pisin is related to creole languages, Pijin in the Solomon Islands, and Bislama in Vanuatu. A variant of Tok Pisin was spoken on the German plantations in western Samoa by plantation workers from today's Papua New Guinea especially New Britain. Words from Tinata Tuna include garamut (slit gong drum), guria (earthquake), and divai / diwai (stick / branch).

Uncle.  
Uncle, like Aunty, is a respectful term used for any community member older than you.

Vavina.  
Vavina and vavine means woman in Tinata Tuna.

Vetuna, Pauline.  
Pauline Vetuna is a Gunantuna writer and political commentator.

Vunapope.  
Vunapope is the place of my birth and is one of the first Catholic missions established in Papua New Guinea. Vunapope means place of the pope.

**Lisa Hilli** (Gunantuna) prioritises Indigenous knowledge and matrilineal systems to subvert colonial and Western histories contained within ethnographic and archival material. The representation of the black female body and the politics of hair are ongoing themes that the artist explores through photographic and textile practices.

**Léuli Māzyār Luna'i Eshrāghi** is an artist, curator and writer visiting Kulin Nation territory who hails from the Sāmoan archipelago, Pārs plateau and other ancestries. Ia work centres on ceremonial-political practices, language renewal, and Indigenous futures throughout the Great Ocean.

Vunatarai.  
Vunatarai, the matrilineal clan system, traces to the first woman who migrated to the lands that Gunantuna people now call home. Each vunatarai has a totem that references the land, sea, animals or plants.

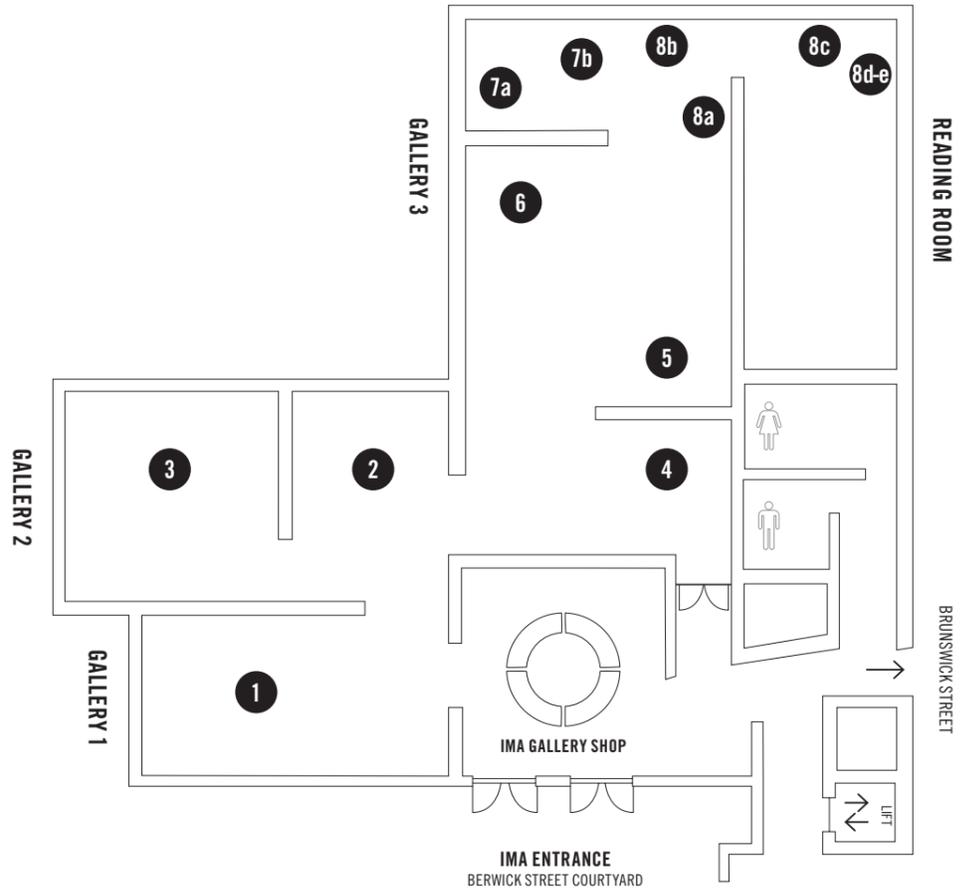
Warwargira.  
A cultural event in East New Britain that brings together the three main cultural groups; the Sulka, the Baining and the Gunantuna. Warwar means to show. Gire means to look. It's an annual celebration of song, dance, and performance through customary and renewed practices. Warwargira always varies each year in who performs.

World War I.  
Assisting German forces, up to 40 Indigenous soldiers died in the battle of Bita Paka, which was Australia's first military engagement in World War I.

World War II.  
Whilst under Japanese occupation in Rabaul, Gunantuna men and women were 'liberated' from their 'European masters'. Japan's involvement in this war was called 'The Sacred War' by Emperor Hirohito. The desire was to 'free' Western colonies in Asia and the Pacific, whilst asserting Japanese dominion. Much of Gunantuna culture has remained vibrant despite these successive wars heavily impacting our lands and our people.

Wup.  
A wup is an intricately woven Gunantuna fish trap made from cane. Today, the art of wup making is limited and held by only a few elder men. See the launching of a wup on Gideon Kakabin's Youtube account: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNkp8SmZdTs>

## Exhibition Map



- GALLERY 1**
- 1 Carol McGregor, *Skin Country*, 2018**  
Possum skins, charcoal, ochre, binder medium, waxed thread
- GALLERY 2**
- 2 Bracken Hanuse Corlett, *Qvùtix (Dance Blanket)*, 2018**  
Akoya, abalone, and mussel shell buttons, wool, digital animation, 1:45
- GALLERY 3**
- 3 Ahilapalapa Rands, *Lift Off*, 2018**  
3-channel animation, 3:25
  - 4 Chantal Fraser, *The Way*, 2018**  
Wind turbine, generator, rhinestones, steel
  - 5 Hannah Brontë, *FUTCHA ANCIENT*, 2018**  
Lightboxes, photographic prints, textiles, ink, shell
  - 6 Lisa Hilli, *Sisterhood Lifeline*, 2018**  
Latex ink on wallpaper, inkjet print on cotton rag paper, office partitions, iMac, office telephone with vocal recordings, books, Post-It notes, pens, swivel chair
- 7a) Natalie Ball, *When Harry met Sally. I mean, when my Mom met my Dad. I mean, when my Ancestors met my Ancestors. I mean, when a Lace Front met Smoked Skin*, 2018**  
Beaded elk hide moccasins, synthetic lace front wig, shell beads, metal pins, sinew thread, tube sock

- 7b) Natalie Ball, *I Bind You Nancy*, 2018**  
Coyote skull with lower jaw, sinew thread, vintage plastic dolls, beaded deer hide moccasins

- 8a) T'uy'tanat Cease Wyss, *K'axwch'k Nexw7'aj'ulh (Turtle Journeys)*, from the *Sacred Teachings* series, 2018**  
HD video, 5:59

- 8b) T'uy'tanat Cease Wyss, *Shkweh' Wéwshkem Nexw7'aj'ulh (To Explore, To Travel by Canoe)*, 2018**  
Lau hala, coconut hull fibre, sea gress, red cedar bark, wool, abalone shell, and mother of pearl buttons

- 8c) T'uy'tanat Cease Wyss, *Sk'éytl'tanaj (Medicinal Plants)*, from the *Sacred Teachings* series, 2018**  
Indigenous plant medicines gathered in Coast Salish, Kānaka Maoli, and Greater Brisbane Aboriginal lands

- 8d) T'uy'tanat Cease Wyss, *K'axwch'k Nexw7'aj'ulh (Turtle Journeys)*, from the *Sacred Teachings* series, 2018**  
360-degree VR video, 5:59

- 8e) T'uy'tanat Cease Wyss, *Nexwníw Tkwi Sxw7shen (Teachings from the Deer)*, from the *Sacred Teachings* series, 2018**  
360-degree VR video, 6:08