

## RESEARCH STATEMENT

### Original Creative Work

#### Citation:

Fredericks, Bronwyn. 2013. Fitzroy in Flood February 2013. IDIOM 23. Rockhampton: CQUniversity Australia, page 8 and 17.

### Research Background

This work is in response to a call for creative works with a specific focus on Central Queensland and the theme 'Melancholy, Madness and Love'.

- Field – Indigenous Studies
- Context – Indigenous ecology
- Research Question – How does 'the Fitzroy River / Toonooba embody a sense of flood when it is flooding within the greater Rockhampton Region?'

### Research Contribution

These images focus on the life pathways of the Fitzroy River as it travelling across land: Country. They tell and show the story of a magnificent river within a specific geographic landscape; e.g.: The Fitzroy River and the greater river area known as Toonooba. These images seek to capture through still life photography the movement and power of the water as it moves through the Fitzroy River towards the ocean. Moreover, the emotions connected to the Fitzroy River as move back and forth between longing for rain and water in the dry season and longing for a sunny day when it floods.

### Research Significance

Research was required to find out where the best locations for viewing the river at eye height would be and where it would also be safe to gain access to the riverbanks. The television, newspapers and social media generally show images of the flooding Fitzroy River from the position of looking down from the top of the banks, or of the water as it seeps across streets to businesses and homes. They show the River as below the human eye, below humans, and attempt to demonstrate the destructive processes of flooding. Few works focus on the Fitzroy River as the central character and how it itself embodies flood? How it moves with force, speed, and works its way through managing the large amount of extra water which enters into the Toonooba / Fitzroy River system. The Fitzroy River has its own story, has its own way of dealing with the greater environment in which it is located, and in which it belongs. Toonooba is central within Dharumbal Country and Dharaumbal is central to Toonooba.

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