

REGINALD KNOX, better known as Uncle Reg was born and grew up on the Toomelah Mission, near Boggabilla just across the border from Goondiwindi. He entered his first art competition in 1968 winning first prize at the Toowoomba Show and in 1970 he won first and second prizes in the Brisbane Captain Cook Bi-Centennial Celebrations Art Competition. He attended classes at the Queensland College of Art during the 1970s and later worked for the Queensland Government in the Arts portfolio and in Aboriginal Affairs as a project officer. Uncle Reg moved to Kingston the same year as Erik Berg, in 1972. He officiated at the opening of Juurpa Wankaru Juku, the first Indigenous art exhibition in the newly opened Logan Art Gallery in 1995. A year later the Gallery organised a major survey of his work from 1988-1996. Logan City Council commissioned him to paint the beautiful Scrubby Creek 1997 for the Logan Art Collection. In 2000, he was honored with Logan City's Citizen of the Year Award and was inducted into Logan City's Wall of Acclaim in 2004, in recognition of his lifelong community work, and particularly for his promotion and enhancement of educational and vocational opportunities for young people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds. He was further honoured with the 2009 NAIDOC award, Aboriginal Elder of the Year and an Australia Day Award a year later.



Reginald Knox,
Scrubby Creek, 1997,
oil on canvas,
152 x 122cm.
Commissioned by
Logan City Council.
Logan Art Collection

COLLECTIVELY these four elders of our community have greatly enhanced our cultural environment and made significant contributions to the twenty-year history of the Logan Art Gallery. They produced important works of art that uniquely interpret the nature

and character of our region but have also given their time to volunteer or teach many thousands of gallery visitors and local students. On our 20th Anniversary, Logan Art Gallery salutes our legends.

Michael Wardell, Art Gallery Coordinator
Logan Art Gallery, 2015

Visit *Our legends* on display at Logan Art Gallery for a limited time only from Jan 23 to Feb 28.

Cnr Wembley Rd and Jacaranda Ave,
Logan Central QLD 4114

Open 10am to 5pm Tuesday to Saturday

For more information visit:

www.logan.qld.gov.au/artgallery

or phone (07) 3412 5519



logan art
gallery



CELEBRATING **20** YEARS
Our legends
A HOMAGE TO FOUR SIGNIFICANT LOCAL ARTISTS



L. IRVINE

logan art
gallery



FEATURING THE ARTWORKS

of Erik Berg, Lola Irvine, Esther Austin and Reginald (Uncle Reg) Knox. These senior artists, all born between 1924 and 1934, have played significant roles in the development of the Logan Art Gallery over the past 20 years. Each of these artists have paintings that are part of the Logan Art Collection, which features major works frequently reproduced as iconic images of Logan City. *Our legends* celebrates the memorable exhibitions each have held at the Gallery.

ESTHER AUSTIN was born in Sydney and studied art at East Sydney Technical College in the mid-1940s. Moving with her family to Queensland in the late-1960s, they settled in the Logan region in 1974. As a local artist she attended the first meetings of the Logan Art Gallery Society in 1995 and contributed to a group exhibition of the Logan Art Gallery Society in that first year. Esther exhibited her *Kandinsky Series*, on display in *Our legends*, in another group exhibition and later went on to have five solo exhibitions at the Gallery. In 2005 she completed a Master of Visual Arts Degree from the University of Southern Queensland Toowoomba and in the same year became a Fellow of the Royal Queensland Art Society. Esther was the recipient of the Logan City Australia Day Cultural Award in 2005. Her iconic painting *Daisy Hill*, a finalist in the Winsor and Newton Art Award in 1993, depicts the beauty of this local suburb bathed in strong Queensland sun.



Erik Berg, *Mayes Cottage*, 1996, oil on canvas board, 59 x 90cm. Acquired 1996. Logan Art Collection



ERIK BERG was born in Denmark and migrated to Australia with his family in 1969, settling in Kingston three years later. A self-taught artist, Erik was one of the enthusiastic group of artists who first lobbied Logan City Council to set up an art gallery. As a founding member of the Logan Art Gallery Society, and a Gallery volunteer, Erik quickly became the driving force behind the volunteer installation crew. He contributed an artwork to a group exhibition of local artists in the first year of the gallery and went on to have three solo exhibitions. Erik's much loved painting *Mayes Cottage* from 1996, celebrates the pioneering spirit of the early settlers who lived in our local area when the land was farmed, before it was subdivided.



LOLA IRVINE was born in London and attended Wimbledon School of Art from 1940–1945. In 1947 she travelled to Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) to visit her father who had immigrated there before the Second World War. It was here in 1951 Lola married her husband Douglas Irvine. The couple left Rhodesia in the 1980s and after a brief return to London they immigrated to Australia in 1986. Lola specialises in still life flower painting and has produced a remarkable body of work that belies her oft repeated claim that her occupation was being a housewife and her hobby was painting. In 1999, Lola held a solo exhibition at Logan Art Gallery and in the same year she was commissioned to paint a still life of the floral emblem of Logan, *Banksia integrifolia* for the Logan Art Collection. Lola is one of five current volunteers who have been at the Gallery for its entire twenty year history.



Lola Irvine, *Banksia integrifolia*, 1999, oil on canvas, 60 x 50cm. Acquired 1999. Logan Art Collection



Esther Austin, *Daisy Hill*, 1993, oil on canvas, 85 x 101cm. Acquired 2004. Logan Art Collection

