

Liz Thompson and the work of SharingStories Foundation

A talk show on 8th April, 2016 at 4.30pm
in the IGNCA Lecture Room, 11, Mansingh Road, New Delhi

In this talk Liz Thompson, CEO of SharingStories Foundation www.sharingstoriesfoundation.org, will discuss the work of the organisation in Australia and recent work in India.

SharingStories programs are designed to support the holding of often fragile cultural heritage, stories and language using innovative new media techniques whilst transferring skills to communities that support cultural maintenance practices in the long term. The outcomes of programs are held in innovative and interactive architectures including multi touch books that help to engage young people with their heritage in new, exciting ways. Content selected by communities also features in touring and permanent public exhibitions bringing diverse audiences to a greater appreciation of the richness of Indigenous cultural heritage, and in many instances, it's fragility.

In this talk Liz will speak about SharingStories Foundation and the organisations work with communities and show some of the recent media produced. She will also talk about a recently staged exhibition at Kriti Gallery in Varanasi which included work produced by young Daikar students who learnt stories about their own heritage and ancestry, and how to record and re interpret these stories using a variety of new media techniques. The programs support inter generational transmission of important cultural heritage, transfer skills and build capacity for community based cultural maintenance and production.

Sample image from Kriti show - SharingStories work with communities in the recording of important Ancestral Songlines and Dreaming tracks, some of this work has featured in a recent exhibition at Kriti Gallery and will hopefully form part of a large scale exhibition at IGNCA..

Caption In this image from an important Wägilak funeral ceremony in remote North East Arnhem Land, Dätiwuy clan members are moving in the Nāymil/Dätiwuy (freshwater river) waters, coming down towards the salt sea area. In this dance, the spears represent the debris being carried down by the fresh water to the mouth of the river where it meets the salt water and that's where the shark of the Nāymil/Dätiwuy people comes in to feed on anything they come across.



Monu and Arjun, program participants from Jeevan Shiksha Samaj Seva Samiti School in Hari Om Nagar Colony who participated in SharingStories programs as part of the recent exhibition held at Kriti Gallery



Students participating in Varanasi programs which resulted in the production of art work and animations relating to Daikar cultural stories and practices.



sample art work produced for animations by Daikar students



Aboriginal young people in Australia participating in SharingStories programs using video and photography to record cultural stories and knowledge with their Elders



Adnyamathanha students working on interpretation of Yulu the Kingfisher Man, a major story for the Adnyamathanha people



SharingStories hopes to bring a large scale exhibition to IGNCA which will incorporate significant cultural material produced through a deeply collaborative practice with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities across the country. touch on how this work has been brought to india and how we interacted with students at BHU teaching them some basics on the ideas of supporting a self representational practice in, for, with marginalised communities... and how we worked with kids at a school on the outskirts of Varanasi... outcomes of that etc... and show media to illustrate all these points. The capacity to show media is quite imperative...