



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **STOCKYARDS AND SADDLES: A STORY OF GIBB RIVER STATION**

Presented by the Berndt Museum

21 July - 8 December 2018 at Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery

The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery is pleased to host the exhibition *Stockyards and Saddles: A Story of Gibb River Station*, a photographic exhibition presented by the Berndt Museum at the University of Western Australia.

The images in the exhibition explore the lives of those living and working on the remote cattle station of Gibb River in the East Kimberley region from the early 1900s until the 1980s.

As the last generation of cattlemen recall distant memories of dusty stockyards, saddle sheds, wet seasons, and those who have passed before them, this exhibition celebrates their lives through the photographic image.

“We often undervalue the importance of amateur photography as a record of our Australian history”, says Dr Vanessa Russ, Associate Director of the Berndt Museum of Anthropology.

“This exhibition which sets the scene for remote cattle stations and dusty stockyards shows the complex ways that culture is exchanged, and how it transitions over generations. It’s why some stories are retold and some are left behind.”

Focusing on the Russ family and a close-knit community of Aboriginal stockmen and women, the exhibition sets the scene for new understandings around remote station life.

“We have tried to present this exhibition as a positive story, which is the most common experience shared by those who were there”, says Russ.

“*Stockyards and Saddles: A Story of Gibb River Station* is another in the ongoing program of exhibitions at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery that documents the lived experience of the communities of the western half of this continent,” says Chief Cultural Officer Ted Snell.

“Together, these projects contribute to the complex narrative about this country and its peoples.”

The exhibition includes public and private collections from Colin Russ, Sylvia Russ, Andreas Lommel, The Western Australian Museum and the State Library of Western Australia.

## Opening Night

Friday 20 July 6pm at Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery

## Exhibition runs:

Saturday 21 July – Saturday 8 December 2018

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11am – 5pm

## Additional Information

[Exhibition Website](#)

[Introductory essay by Dr Vanessa Russ](#)

[Images \(review, research and promotional purpose only\)](#)

## MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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