

Aboriginal Violence Awareness Day – 10 December 2015
stand up and speak out
to end Aboriginal violence against Non-Aboriginal artists

Aboriginal violence is an umbrella term, and includes violence perpetrated by:

- real Aborigines,
- white people who pretend to be Aborigines, and
- individuals and organisations within the Aboriginal industry.

These three groups, together, perpetrate violence in all its forms, from physical violence and violent behaviour including vandalism, non-physical violence, threats of violence including death threats, to politically-driven organisational violence including censorship and ideological pressure.



Wanjina Watchers flowers installation, Wanjina paintings by Tony, Ruth, and Elizabeth Durack

Some artists mark this day by planting the Wanjina Watchers flowers. This initiative, started by Vesna Tenodi's DreamRaiser group in 2009, has become an annual event.

Vesna was nominated for the NSW Human Rights Award in 2013, and was a nominee for the Australian of the Year in 2014, for her efforts to stop Aboriginal violence against Non-Aboriginal artists.

Vesna and her artists Gina Sinozich and Benedikt Osváth have been terrorised by a group of violent Aborigines and the Aboriginal industry since 2009. These groups did not like the inconvenient truth as told by a brave Aboriginal elder Goomblar Wylo in Vesna's book *"Dreamtime Set in Stone – the Truth about Australian Aborigines"*, available on Amazon. They also attacked *Wanjina Watchers* masterpieces – paintings created by Gina Sinozich to illustrate Vesna's book, and the 8.5-ton *Wanjina Watchers in the Whispering Stone* sculpture created by Benedikt Osváth. These artworks were created as a tribute to Aboriginal tradition and to revive a forgotten spirituality, and were inspired by Wanjina and Bradshaw cave art, painted by Pre-Aboriginal races.

In response to these attacks, Vesna and her artists decided to expose the corruption in the taxpayer-funded Aboriginal industry, and call for systemic changes.

American artist Ruth, who visited Australia in 2010, realised that Aboriginal art today is devoid of spiritual content and stated that "Many of the Aboriginal artists are just now learning or re-learning the meaning of the images from the Dreamtime stories... after a long-term memory loss". Ruth is inviting fellow artists all over the world to "give themselves the freedom to create and to keep journeying courageously".

Aboriginal Violence Awareness Day is held on 10 December,
to coincide with International Human Rights Day

Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted and proclaimed by General Assembly Resolution 217 A (III) of 10 December 1948, reads as follows:

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.