



PORTRAIT OF KANGAROO

No.5

By Michael Chorney



Women's &
Children's Hospital
Foundation

Arts in Health

'PORTRAIT OF KANGAROO' is an up-close and personal series of large drawings of our national icon, the Kangaroo.

My quest in this series is to portray these animals as individuals, reflecting their unique personalities in an expressive form.

Traditionally, kangaroos have been represented symbolically. I choose to depict them in an intimately analytical yet expressive form. This, in itself, is a rewarding challenge as I am breaking new grounds as an artist. My work can be found in collections throughout Australia, UK, USA and Brazil and I am represented internationally by SaatchArt.com

I am an Australian of Ukrainian descent, born in Adelaide in 1954. My mother, Joanna, spent her working life as an artist and art teacher, so my exposure to art began virtually at birth. I clearly recall, at the tender age of six, sitting in a life drawing class with my mother, charcoal in hand, concentrating on light falling on a fruit bowl arrangement while fighting the anxiety of making those first decisive marks on paper. That was the beginning of my love affair with drawing which led to my participation in numerous exhibitions throughout my school years, and a one man show of 'Adelaide Torrens River' landscape paintings at the age of 16.

In 1976 I graduated with a Diploma in Fine Art Painting from the South Australian School of Art in North Adelaide, now in my late sixties I am still drawing and exhibiting internationally.

My partner and I live on a country property on the banks of the Murray River in Mannum, South Australia, some 80 km from Adelaide.

For many years we have surrounded ourselves with nature where my partner has a passion for rescuing injured and orphaned animals.

As a result, we have a considerable number of native animals including kangaroos living on the property. Many of these were hand raised so they are extremely quiet and accept us as family. Their trust in us makes them perfect subjects for observation of their individual characteristics.

- Michael Chorney

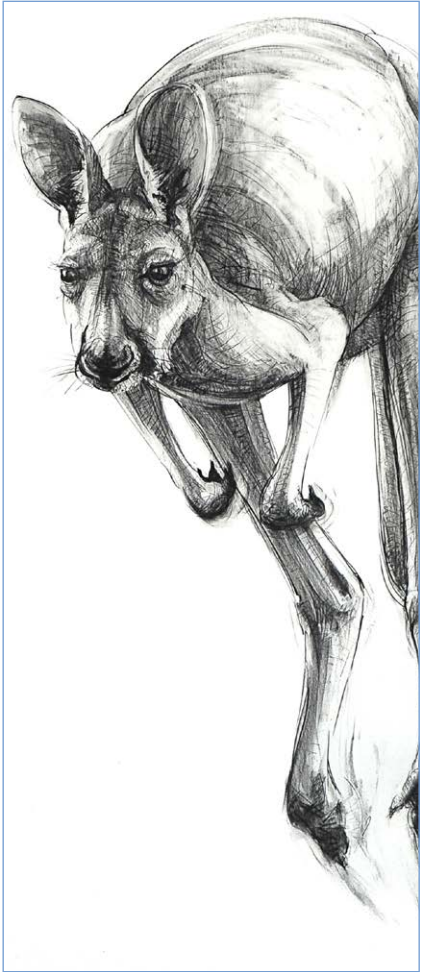
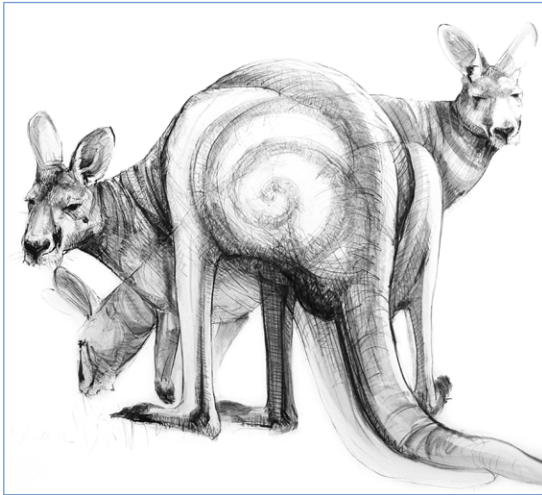


Image top left: detail of *Drawing of Kanagaroo 54*

Image bottom left: detail of *Drawing of Kanagaroo 33*

Image right: detail of *Drawing of Kanagaroo 55*

To see more of Michael's artworks visit:

www.Chorney-Studios.com.au

The Women's & Children's Hospital Foundation (WCH Foundation) raises funds in support of the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide, South Australia. The WCH Foundation is committed to ensuring that mums, children and their families have access to the very best in medical care, hospital facilities and support services at a time when they need it the most.

The WCH Foundation has developed a number of Arts in Health programs to integrate art into the life of the Hospital to improve people's health and wellbeing. We try to make the environment more 'child-friendly', making it look better and helping to make the time spent in hospital 'feel better'.

The Arts in Health program delivers a range of activities throughout the hospital across art forms such as: Visual Arts, Digital Media, Music and Performing Arts, Public Art, Literature and the Therapeutic Arts (Play Therapy, Art Therapy and Music Therapy). From providing pencils and colouring books in waiting areas, to managing Gallery spaces and art displays in the Hospital, collaborating with Hospital School on book week activities and working closely with the Play Therapy Team, the Arts in Health program delivers smiles and fun throughout the Hospital.

The WCH Foundation's Gallery program coordinates five galleries in the Hospital, providing a space away from the stresses of treatment to distract, entertain and inspire, improving the visual environment. The artworks displayed in the exhibition spaces come from a range of sources – internally from hospital staff, patients (women & children) and their families, through specific Arts in Health activities and externally from local artists and art collectives.

This exhibition was planned and exhibited on the lands of the Kaurna People, we pay our respects to the Kaurna Elders past and present and to the Elders of the lands this brochure reaches.

Cover Image: *Drawing of Kangaroo 44*



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