

TIM JOHNSON | INTERWOVEN

6 NOVEMBER – 4 DECEMBER 2022

NANCY SEVER | GALLERY

Level 1, 131 City Walk
(next door to King O'Malley's)
Canberra City ACT 2601
Open: Wednesday – Sunday: 11 am – 5
pm.
T+61 2 6262 8448
Mob.+ 61 0416 249 102
nancysevergallery.com.au
nancy.sever@inet.net.au



NANCY SEVER | GALLERY

invites you and your guest to the opening of the exhibition

TIM JOHNSON | INTERWOVEN

Sunday 6 November 2022, 12 - 4 pm

Wed - Sun: 11am - 5pm

E: nancy.sever@inet.net.au

W: nancysevergallery.com.au

Facebook: [nancysevergallery](https://www.facebook.com/nancysevergallery)

Instagram: [@nancysevergallery](https://www.instagram.com/nancysevergallery)

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M: +61 0416 249 102

Exhibition closes on Sunday 4 December 2022

Tim Johnson, *Kurukulla (detail)*. 2022 with Daniel Bogunovic and Annabelle Hau, acrylic on linen, 152 x 163cm.

The Nancy Sever Gallery is pleased to present *Tim Johnson | Interwoven*, an exhibition of recent work by one of Australia's leading artists. His extraordinarily powerful paintings, often described as 'floating worlds' embrace the spiritual iconography of a range of cultures. They are imagined syntheses of cultural and visual systems - hypothetical landscapes that freely draw upon images that are charged with meaning.

Tim Johnson's work is represented in the National Gallery of Australia, in all state and regional galleries and in major institutional, corporate and private collections in Australia and overseas. In 2009 the Art Gallery of NSW and the Queensland Art Gallery both presented a major survey exhibition of his work.

Interwoven is on show from 6 November until 4 December 2022. Gallery hours: 11am-5pm Wednesday to Sunday.

For further information please contact nancy.sever@iinet.net.au or 0416 249 102.

Artist's statement

Interwoven

The idea of using dots as a purely pointillist style has come to the fore in this exhibition. While not wishing to deny acknowledging the influence of Papunya artists on the development of a dotting technique or the influence of digital imagery which is now ubiquitous in a more or less subliminal way, I've found that encoding imagery with dots creates many possibilities. So I am exploring my own evolution as an artist where French Post-Impressionism was a huge influence that could be combined with photographic source material to allow the capture and integration of events and experiences with a painting practice.

There is a plethora of imagery ranging from Thredbo River landscapes to Buddhist iconography and symbols placed like a text in a conceptualised pointillist space. The Western Desert and the sometimes supernatural experiences I had there in the 1980's still have a place in the artificial world depicted on canvas but there are also many other influences that include other art styles such as abstraction and Abstract-expressionism, a specific approach to colour which is heightened and intended to have a psychological presence and the use of imagery as a kind of heroglyphic text or mnemonic.

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The largest work "Interwoven" depicts Heruka - "the Buddha's mind of compassion manifested as form" spread across seven panels. Interwoven with four different representations of the Tibetan deity Heruka are images of Papunya artists with their paintings and their shelters which consist of just half of a corrugated iron water tank. Things haven't things changed much since the days when I was invited into these tiny homes that also functioned as artist's studios. But the importance of the art produced then has been phenomenal and has contributed significantly to an understanding of the need for self-determination.

Another idea in this show is to paint blues singers. This makes sense when you consider how Afro-American musicians invented a musical style that became an art form that continues to grow 100 years later. This extraordinary expansion of an initially socially integrated cultural practice is about universality and the ongoing validity of sharing an innovation that grew out of the emptiness of living in poverty. Blues musicians, apart from their music, left a small but fascinating visual record that I like to explore with paint. Painting might not be good at solving social problems but it does record, document and enlighten.

If one looks at painting as an art practice in the historical sense, with style, technique, form and content, it can seem a bit anachronistic. Is this because today art can take any form at all, can use any medium, be subjective, objective, private or public and offer a totally unfettered dialogue? The idea of a lineage of art innovations might have run its course. Perhaps that's why I like to collect so much imagery, especially from the past and to bring many different ideas together.

Tim Johnson

October 222



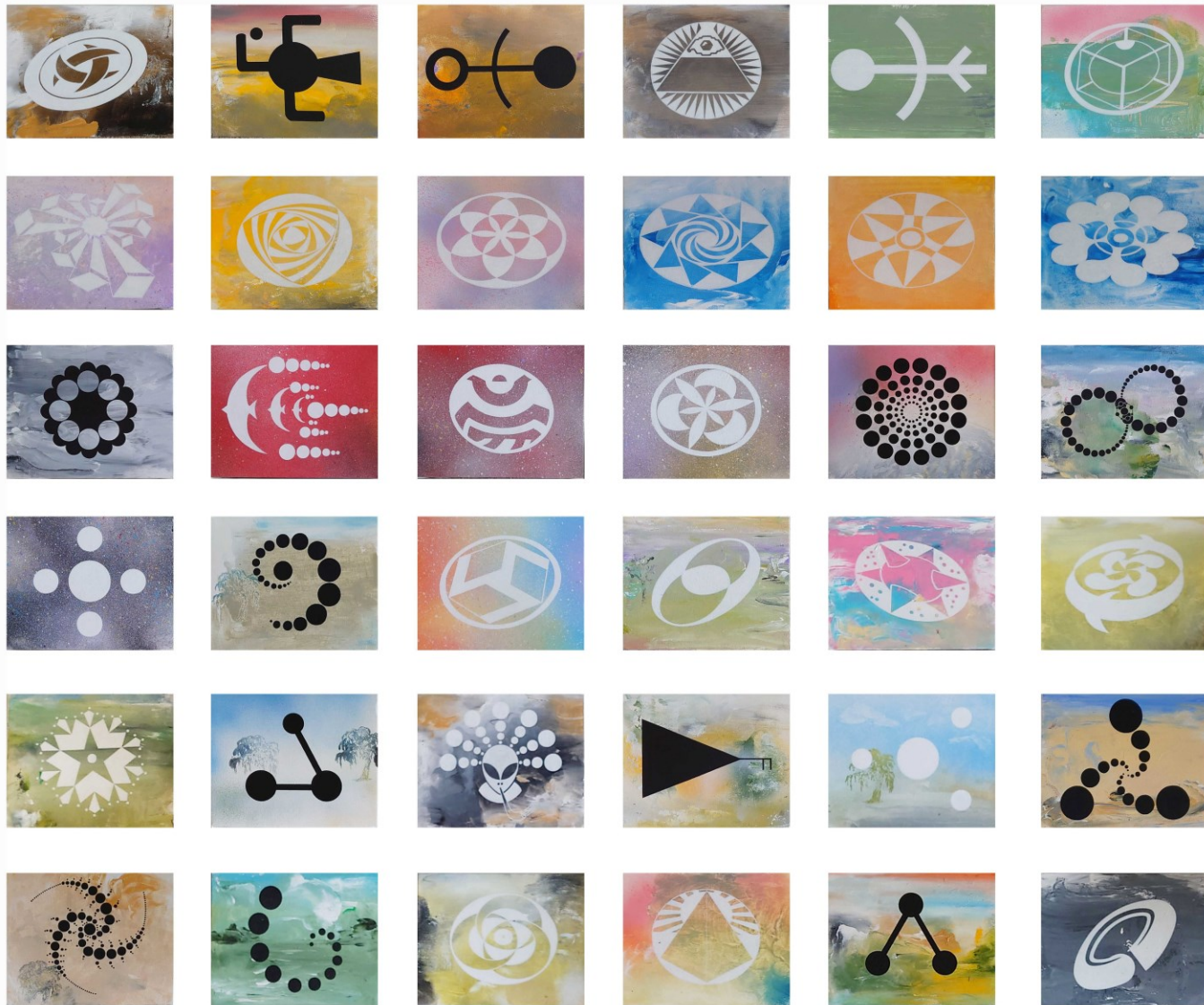
1. *Interwoven (Heruka)* (with Daniel Bogunovic) 2022, acrylic on canvas, 7 panels , each 61x183cm \$50,000



2. *Thredbo Verse* (with Daniel Bogunovic and Annabelle Hau) 2022, acrylic on canvas 183x152cm \$15,000



3. *Cosmic Sea 2022*, acrylic on linen, 183x152cm \$15,000



4. *Crop Circles*, 2022 (with Daniel Bogunovic) 36 Acrylic on canvas, each 20x25cm \$14000



5. *King Gesar*, 2021 acrylic on linen, 3 panels, each 120x45cm, \$9,000



6. *Buddha Within*, 2022, acrylic on linen, 91x122cm \$8,000



7. *White Meru*, 2022, acrylic on linen, 91x120cm \$8,000



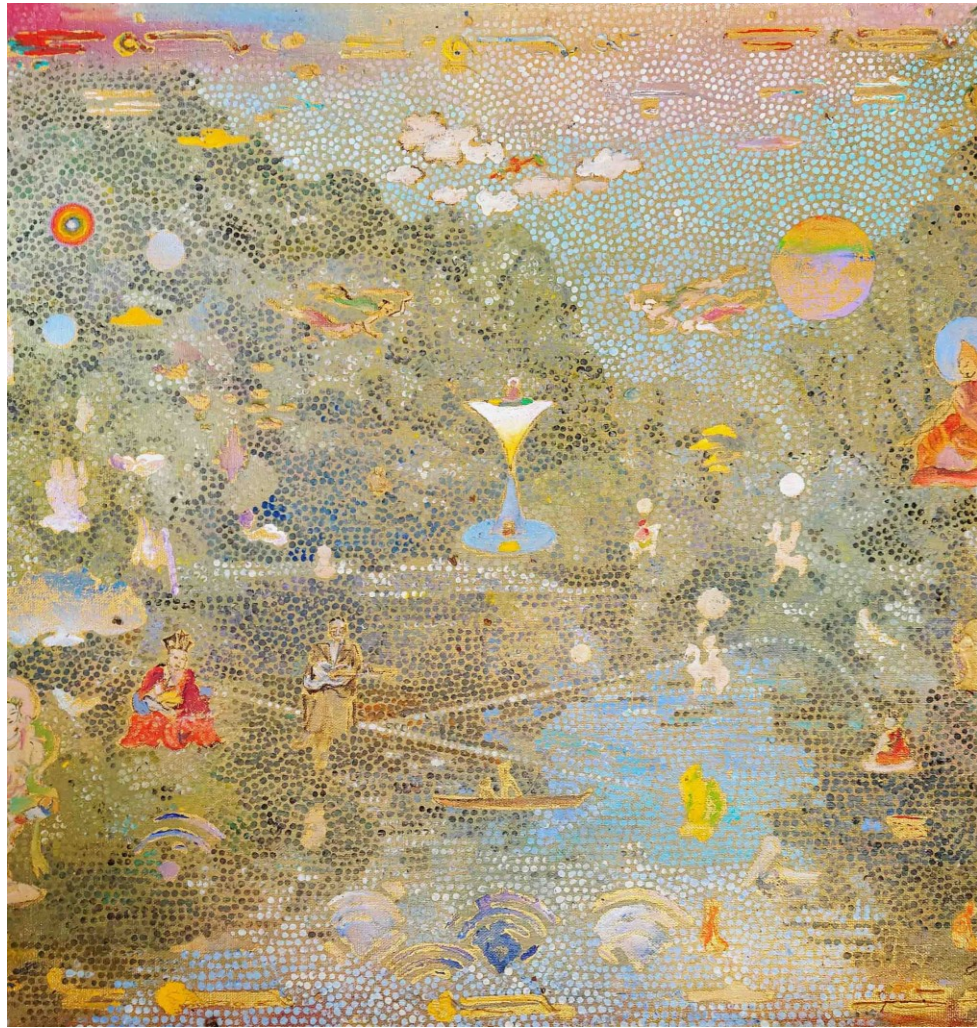
8. *New Thredbo*, 2022, acrylic on linen, 75x100cm \$6,000



9. *Medicine Buddha*, 2022, acrylic on linen, 50x60cm \$1,000 **SOLD**



10. *Tsong Kapa*, 2022, acrylic on linen, 50x60cm \$1,000



11. *Thredbo Buddha*, 2022 acrylic on linen, 50x60cm \$1000



12. *Arhat & Dylan*, 2022 acrylic on linen, 40x50cm \$800



13. *Two Riders*, 2022 acrylic on linen, 40x50cm \$800



14. Jambhala, 2022 (with Daniel Bogunovic) acrylic on canvas, 61x61 cm \$2,000



15 . *House of Blues*, 2022 acrylic on canvas, 50x50cm \$600



16. Lonnie Johnson, 2022 acrylic on canvas 50x50cm \$600



17. Robert Johnson, 2022 acrylic on canvas 50x50cm \$600 **SOLD**



18. *Henry Thomas, 2022 acrylic on canvas 50x50cm \$600*



19. *Sister Rosetta Tharpe*, 2022 oil on canvas 50x50cm \$600



20. *Elvie Thomas*, 2022 oil on canvas, 50x50cm \$600



21. Geeshie Wiley and Elvie Thomas, 2022 oil on canvas 50x50cm \$600



22. Bessie Smith, 2022 oil on canvas 50x50cm \$600