Indigenous Significance

Yindinji (Carpet Snake)

Yindinji (Carpet Snake) is of very high cultural and spiritual significance to Badtjala (Butchulla) people because it is an important spiritual being that provides enduring spiritual and living guidance to Aboriginal people, animals and birds to live the proper way.

Understanding Country

Place

Yindinji is a powerful spiritual being whose spiritual and living guidance continues to influence Badtjala people and all living things today.

In 'the Beginning', when all things began, Yindinji had the great responsibility to give information to Badtjala people so that all could live the proper way on country.

These lores and Indigenous living principles have survived the sands of time by being orally passed down through traditional storytelling to the next generation. Yindinji's wisdom and proper living way messages speak to us through our ancestors and 'old people' spirits.

Yindinji is a living spiritual companion who challenges us to live the proper way, create sustainable living spaces at places we belong to, respect all and look after country as if it were a very special friend.

Yindinji's strong caring spiritual energy continues to live on in country long after it has returned up into the sky.

The spiritual importance of Yindinji is very significant. It is a creation being with highly developed senses and abilities to change the essence and fabric of all living things.

Yindinji's spirit lives on today.



Yindinji (Carpet Snake)

Photo: Shawn Wondunna-Foley

Living Connections

Badtjala and members of the Indigenous community understand that when travelling on country, it is best to look for helpful messages to safely guide your journey.

Yindinji's spirit lives on in carpet snakes we see today. As they go about their daily business on country their presence is a sign that links everyone to the beginning of creation, when all things began.

It is important to remember, should you encounter one, that they are 'good luck' positive spirits.

Badtjala people believe that to harm a living Yindinji is to invite bad things in to one's life.

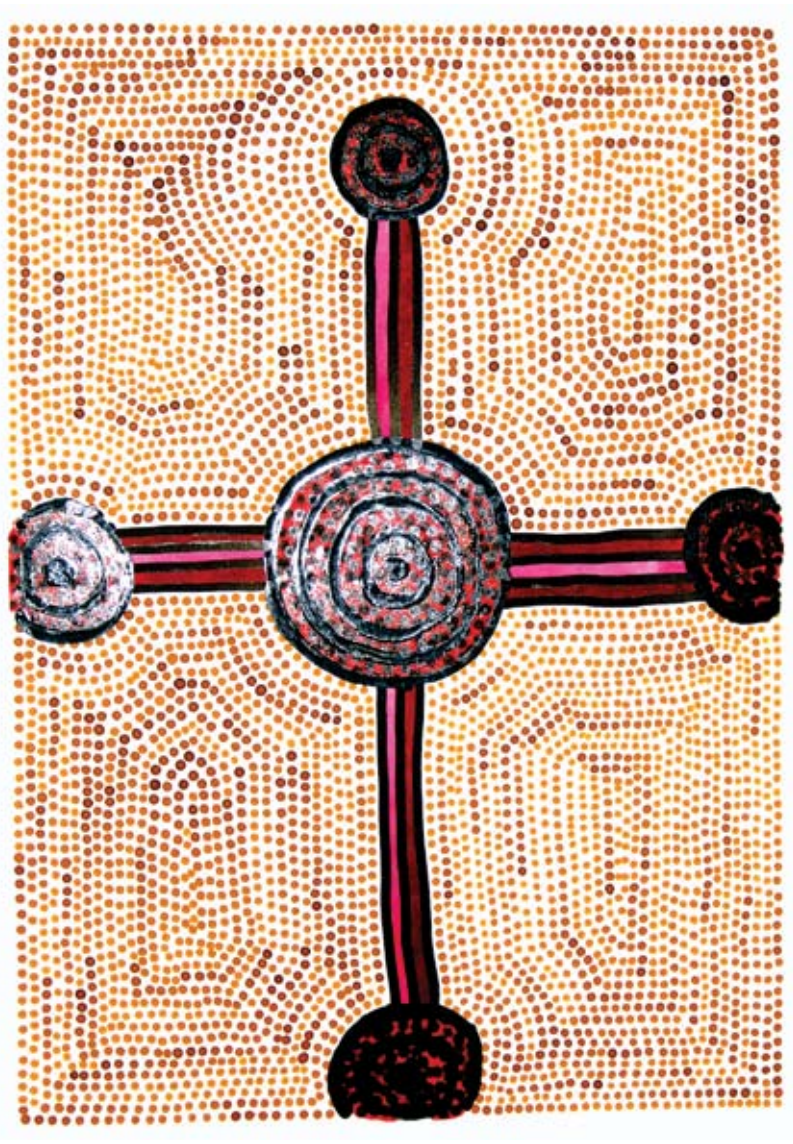
We all share country with Yindinji, both in physical and spiritual form. As we travel across country so too does Yindinji. They live in the hollow logs, trees and about our places of residence.

Living the proper way, as given to Badtjala people by Yindinji, involves committing oneself to creating Indigenous holistic sustainable experiences through supporting being ways, doing ways and living ways cultural lifestyle.

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Yindinji (Carpet Snake) by Shawn Wondunna-Foley, 2007,
ink and synthetic polymer on paper



Spiritual critical mass by Shawn Wondunna-Foley,
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